

# Samuel L. Dunson Jr.

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## Education

- MFA 1998-2000 Savannah College of Art and Design, (Presidential Fellowship)  
Savannah, Ga.
- BS 1988-1992 Tennessee State University  
Nashville, Tn.
- CE 1997 Adobe Illustrator 6.0-7.0  
Nashville Technical Institute

## Professional Experience

- 2013-Present **Associate Professor of Art**, Tennessee State University Department of Art  
Teaching:  
- Art Appreciation 1010  
- Art Appreciation and History  
- Design I, II  
- Painting I, Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting  
- Advanced Drawing and Pictorial Design  
- Watercolor Painting  
- Independent Studies
- 2004-2012 **Assistant Professor of Art**, Tennessee State University, Department of Art
- 2000- 2004 **Instructor of Art**, Tennessee State University, Department of Art  
(Full Time Annual Contract)  
Teaching:  
- Art Appreciation 1010  
- Art Appreciation and History  
- Design I, II  
- Painting I, Intermediate Painting, Advanced Painting  
- Watercolor Painting
- 2000-2002 **Gallery Director**, Tennessee State University, Hiram Van Gordon Gallery
- 2000 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Savannah College of Art and Design, School of  
Painting, Teaching under the Instruction of Professor Michael Brown  
Narrative Painting
- 1999 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Savannah College of Art and Design, Foundations  
Teaching under the Instruction of Professor Laurie Jackson  
Figure Drawing II

## Invitational Exhibitions: Small Group and Solo

- 2018 **NOELLE NASHVILLE BOUTIQUE**  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Noelle Hotel, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson among 11 Nashville, Tn.
- 2017 **GENESIS**  
*Coop Gallery*, Nashville, Tn  
Participating Artists: Samuel Dunson, Marlos E'van, Brandon Donahue
- 2016 **\_LACK HISTORY** (February 2016)  
*Rymer Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2014 **MEET THE FERGUSONS** (September 2014)  
*Divinity Art Space Gallery*, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2012 **SUPERPOWER** (August 2012)  
*Rymer Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2012 **Coping Mechanisms** (February 2012)  
*John C. Hutcheson Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2011 **Here and Now** (January 2011)  
*Thigpen Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2009 **Trading Stories** (March 2009)  
*Estel Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artists: Samuel Dunson and Tim Hooper, (Mr. Hooper)
- 2008 **Trivial Pursuit**, (October 2008)  
*Divinity Art Space Gallery*, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2008 **Terra Firma**, (March 2008)  
*TAG Art Gallery*, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artists: Samuel Dunson and Jason Lascu
- 2007 **Introducing**, (October 2007)  
*TAG Art Gallery, (Side Gallery)* Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2006 **...Fear Itself**, (August 2006)  
*Brownlee Currey Jr. Gallery*: Watkins College of Art and Design, Nashville, Tn.  
Participating Artists: Samuel Dunson and Alicia Henry
- 2006 **MySpace**, (May 2006)  
*Thigpen Gallery*: Volunteer State Community College, Gallatin, Tn.  
Participating Artist: Samuel Dunson
- 2005 **Appropriate Mythology**,  
*Arnold Gallery*: Shorter College, Rome, Ga.  
Participating Artists: Joel Batey and Samuel Dunson

## Small Group and Solo Exhibitions Prior to 2004

- 2003 **The Watermelon Chronicles**, *The Arts Center*, St. Petersburg, Fl.
- 2003 **Presenting Samuel Dunson**, *Americas Arts Gallery*, Gettysburg, Pa.
- 2002 **Elevators and Icons**, *Thigpen Gallery*, Shorter College, Rome, Ga.
- 2001 **Artist's As**, *The Arts Company*, Nashville, Tn.
- 2000 **New York or Bust**, *Residence Park*, Dayton, Oh.
- 2000 **A Day in the Life**, *Beach Institute*, Savannah, Ga.

## Invitational Exhibitions: Large Group

- 2018 **Art of the South 2018**  
*Crosstown Arts, Memphis, Tn*
- 2018 **Nashville Street Artists: Local Walls to Canvas**  
*The Rymer Gallery, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2017 **Haunted Project**  
*Track One, Nashville, Tn: Samuel Dunson, Marlos E'van and Courtney Johnson*
- 2016 **External Ballistics**  
*Julia Martin Gallery, Nashville, Tn*
- 2016 **#615Streets**  
*The Rymer Gallery, Nashville, Tn*
- 2014 **The First 100 Retrospective**  
*The Rymer Gallery, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2014 **The Kinsey Collection**  
*Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, Ga.*
- 2014 **Personal Best: Works from the collection of Herb Williams**  
*OZ Nashville, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2013 **Creature**  
*Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2011-12 **War and Peace**  
*Gallery F, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2011 **Connecting Cultures, (Teaching Artist in connection with the Sudanese Community)**  
*Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2011 **In The Hands of African American Collectors: The Personal Treasures of Bernard and Shirley Kinsey,**  
*Smithsonian Museum of American Culture, Washington D.C.*
- 2010 **Hands on Nashville,**  
*Rymer Gallery, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2010 **Lamentations,**  
*Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2010 **Art of Protest,**  
*Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, Tn.*

## Art Festivals and Endeavors

- 2018 **Collaboratory: Made In Network and Ad Council Collaboration**  
*The Factory at Franklin, Franklin, Tn.*
- 2016 **Nashville Walls Project: #Hero**  
*Bankers Alley: Nashville, Tn.*
- 2015 **Norf Wall Fest**  
*D.B. Todd Bridge Underpass*
- 2006, '07, '08 **Embrace Atlanta, Arts Festival**  
*Mason Murer Fine Arts, Atlanta, Ga.*
- 2004,'05 **If I Had a Brick, Benefit for the Dan Rudy Cancer Center**  
*LP Field Auditorium, Nashville, Tn.*
- 1999, '03,'04 **National Black Arts Festival**  
*The Puck Center, SOHO New York, NY*
- 1999,'00, '01,'02 **Artists For Oasis**  
*The Finer Things Gallery, Nashville, Tn.*
- 2000, '01 **Fest deVille,**  
*War Memorial Plaza, Nashville, Tn.*

## Bibliography

- 2009 Will Ayers, "Estel Showcases Narrative Paintings...",  
The Tennessean Newspaper: May 5, 2009
- 2008 Eric Brown, "Illustrating a Trivial Pursuit:" Spirituality and the Community",  
The Talented Tenth: November 2008
- "Trivial Pursuit",  
The Tennessean: October 30, 2008
- David Maddox, "Anything But Firm",  
Nashville Scene: March 13, 2008
- 2004 Alan Bostick, "Rhymes, Riddles and Racism",  
The Tennessean Newspaper:
- 2003 Janel Stephens, "Immersed in Art 24 hours a Day",  
St Petersburg Times: March 30, 2003
- "The Big Idea" video created for The Frist Center for the Arts, Nashville, Tn.
- 2003 Ruby Green gallery artist interview (Warhol Initiative), Nashville, Tn
- 2002 Alan Bostick, "Four Artists to Watch",  
The Tennessean Newspaper: Apr. 21, 2002
- "Elevators and Icons, Comes to Shorter",  
Rome News Tribune: Jan. 14 2002
- 2002 Participating artist in an Artist Documentary benefiting the Metro Arts Council  
Nashville, Tn

## Publications

- 2012 Nothing to Hide, The Genius of Samuel Dunson, *Nashville Arts Magazine*, June 2012
- 2009 A Finished Revolution, ZZ Packer, *The Oxford American Magazine*, Jan. 2009
- 2007 The Liberation of Samuel Dunson, Ned Andrew Solomon, *Nashville Arts Magazine*,  
December 2007
- 2006 Creative Expressions, Bi-Annual Publication through Vanderbilt Children's Hospital
- 2005 Mother Goose and Other Revisionist Tales, Susan Knowles , reviews, *Art Papers*
- 2000 New American Paintings, Regional Competitions, MFA Annual
- 1999 State of Mind: The Artistry of Tennessee, 40th anniversary calendar for the Phillips  
Printing Company

**Fellowships/Awards**

- 2012 100 under 100: The New Superstars of Southern Art  
Selected By Peers of Oxford American Magazine
- 2000 Outstanding Achievement Award Recipient (Graduate Painting)  
Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Ga
- 2000 Artlink International Young Artist Auction, Sotheby's  
New York City, NY
- 1999 Presidential Fellowship Recipient  
Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Ga
- 1996 Southern Arts Federation Grant Finalist
- 1990 John Arterberry Art Scholarship Recipient  
Tennessee State University
- 1989 General Motors Honor Scholarship Recipient, Moraine, Oh.

**Visiting Juror/Curator**

- 2018 Middle Tennessee, Scholastic Art Award: Visiting Juror
- 2012 Midstate University Student Exhibition, Cummins Station Gallery, Nashville, Tn.
- 2010 Vanderbilt University, Hamblet Award Juror, Nashville, Tn
- 2009 Metro Nashville Arts Commission Public Arts Program, Artist Designed Bike Racks  
Selection Committee, Nashville, Tn.
- 2008 Volunteer State Community College, Student Art Show Juror, Nashville, Tn.
- 2007 Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Future/Now: Mid-State Majors, Co Juror,, Nashville, Tn.
- 2006 *Brownlee Currey Jr. Gallery*, Watkins College of Art and Design Student Art Show Juror
- 2005 Maplewood High School, Community Roots: Mural Project for the Frist Center  
Frist Center for the Arts.Gordon Contemporary Arts Project Co-Juror, 2007-8 schedule
- 2002 Shorter College, Student Art Show Juror, Rome, Ga.

**Professional Services – Lectures/Presentations/Panel Discussions**

- 2012 Nash-up, Panel Discussion as part of Artober at the Frist, Frist Center for the Visual Arts
- 2009 Has it Really Taken Hold if You Don't Take it Home, Panelist Frist Center for the Visual Arts
- 2008 Trivial Pursuit Lecture, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tn.
- Getting Complex: Complicating the Definition of the Black Male in Art, Panelist, Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tn.
- The Black Male: (Re)Examining Visual Identity, "Play Your Part, Examining the Roles Black Males Play in Order to Find Their Path in Art" Panelist, SECAC, New Orleans, LA.
- 2007 Artist Lecture, Presenting Samuel Dunson Tennessee Arts League, Nashville, Tn.

- 2006      Visiting Artist Lecture University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC  
Exhibiting Artist Lecture Watkins College of Art and Design, Nashville, Tn.
- 2005      Artist Forum..Samuel Dunson and Bryce McCloud Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, Tn  
The Socio-Political Black Male, Panelist Ruby Green Gallery, Nashville, Tn.
- 2004      Visiting Artist Lecture, Fisk University Art Department, Nashville, Tn.

## Commissions

- 2004      Mural Commissioned for Dangure's Cafeteria  
2003      Painting Commissioned for the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital  
1998      Book cover commissioned for "Over the Bridge" by author Brian Egerton  
1997      Painting created for the "Let Freedom Ring" concert series: Commissioned by the Nashville Symphony Orchestra  
1997      Mural Commissioned by the Wharton Arts Magnet School, Nashville, Tn.  
1997      Magazine cover illustration commissioned by the YMCA Youth Mentoring Program  
1994      Jazz South Compilation CD cover Design Winner, Through the Southern Arts Federation

## Professional Organizations

- 2008      SECAC- South Eastern College Arts Conference  
2006-2014      CAA- College Arts Association  
1996      VAAN- Visual Arts Alliance of Nashville  
1994      N4Art- Nashville African American Arts Association  
1992      President of Alpha Gamma Tau Art Guild (Tennessee State University)

## Collections

Tennessee State Museum  
Tennessee Performing Arts Center  
Tennessee Arts Commission  
Vanderbilt University  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Tennessee State University  
Jill Scott (singer)  
Roy Orbison Foundation  
Councilman Ronnie Stein  
Bernard Kinsey  
Ken Morrow  
Vanderbilt University Children's Hospital  
Nia Long (actress)  
Shorter College  
Beech Institute Savannah Georgia