

Andrew Kreps  
Gallery

394 Broadway,  
New York, NY 10013

Tue–Sat, 10 am–6 pm  
andrewkreps.com

Tel. (212)741-8849  
Fax. (212)741-8163

# Barbara T. Smith

## Holy Squash

March 25 - May 7

Opening Reception:

Friday, March 25. 5 -7 pm

Andrew Kreps Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of Barbara T. Smith's seminal 1971 work *Holy Squash* at 394 Broadway.

Belonging to Smith's extensive experiments with resin from the 1970s, the *Holy Squash* is an installation comprised of objects utilized in a durational performance titled *Holy Squash Ceremony*, which was centered around a large Hubbard Squash that Smith adopted as an object of worship. Reported to local newspapers at the time as an authentic religious ceremony, the performance's participants, referred to as disciples or converts, held a mass and baptism as they built a mold to cast the decaying squash over the course of eight days. The resulting resin cast is positioned as a holy relic and displayed alongside its mold, now a reliquary, surround by ephemera, clothing, and objects also utilized in the performance, which Smith describes as containing "miracles, persecutions, and betrayals." Part of a larger inquiry into ritual and community within Smith's practice, *Holy Squash* examines the latent gender hegemony in the Judeo-Christian religious traditions and suggests a female-centered alternative.

Since the 1960s, Barbara T. Smith's work has demonstrated an engagement with issues of spirituality, gender, and power, making vital contributions to both feminist discourse, and the history of West Coast performance art. Smith received her BA from Pomona College in 1953, and MFA in 1971 from the University of California, Irvine where she was a founding member of F-Space with Chris Burden and Nancy Buchanan. She has exhibited widely since the 1960s and was recently included in the exhibitions *Artists and Their Books / Books and Their Artists*, the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles; *Experiments in Electrostatics*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Her work was included in several major exhibitions as part of Pacific Standard Time organized by the Getty, 2011-12, including *State of Mind: New California Art Circa 1970*, Orange County Museum of Art, CA and Bronx Museum, NY; and *Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974 - 1981*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. Additionally, Smith's work was represented in several historic survey exhibitions that include *Whatever Happened to Sex in Scandinavia?*, Office for Contemporary Art, Oslo, Norway, 2009, and *WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, MoCA, Los Angeles, 2007, and *The Radicalization of a 50's Housewife* at University of California, Irvine. In 2005, Smith had a retrospective *The 21st Century Odyssey Part II: The Performances of Barbara T. Smith* at Pomona College Museum of Art, CA.

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BARBARA T. SMITH  
*Holy Squash*, 1971

Digital video transfer, altar  
fiberglass drawing and cast  
test tubes, bag with foam,  
spacing material in bag, plastic  
drop cloth with overspray, 3  
foam sheets with overspray, 4  
foam sheets, reliquary, sound,  
staff with fiberglass hand, old  
shoes used during production,  
miscellaneous items from  
production, shirt used during  
production, The Holy Squash  
and plastic casting of original  
offering flowers  
Dimensions variable  
(BTS15-005)

# Barbara T. Smith

BORN IN 1931, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA  
LIVES AND WORKS IN LOS ANGELES, CA

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *The 21st Century Odyssey*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 *Outside Chance*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, NY
- 2016 *Words, Sentences & Signs*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *The Smell of Almonds: Resin Works, 1968-1982*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 *Xerox: Barbara T. Smith 1965-1966*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 *Old Shoes: Performance Relics 1968-1975*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- Barbara T. Smith – Early Performances: 1969-1976*, Galerie Parisa Kind, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2008-09 *Barbara T. Smith, Early work*, Galerie Parisa Kind, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2008 *Barbara T. Smith 1965-1972*, Maccarone Gallery, New York, NY
- 2007 *Remnants, 1965-72*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 *The 21st Century Odyssey Part II: The Performances of Barbara T. Smith*, Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA
- 2003 *Making Book*, Beyond Baroque, Venice, CA
- 1999 *Blue Shards*, The Living Room, Santa Monica, CA
- 1992 *This Is It*, Glenmoore Guest House, Dharamsala, India
- 1990 *Bottom Line*, Highways, Santa Monica, CA
- 1989 *Ground Zero*, SPARC, Venice, CA
- The Pageant of the Holy Squash: Creche*, Fashion Moda, Bronx, NY
- 1988 *A Meeting Ground*, Peppers Art Gallery, U of Redlands
- 1987 “Hunab Ku” Installation Private Home, San Francisco, CA
- 1985 *Council of Elders*, AAA Gallery, L.A. Michael Salern
- 1984 *Tree, Council, Template*, Capp Street Project, San Francisco, CA
- 1982 *Static Art by Performance Artists*, Espace DBD/Rachel Rosenthal Company, Los Angeles, CA
- 1980 PUBLIC SPIRIT/LIVE ART L.A. exhibitions:  
*The Perpetual Napkin*, Vanguard Gallery
- Piercing the Corporate Veil*, American Hotel Gallery
- 1976 *Dimensions*, Gerard John Hayes Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

- 1974 UCSD Mandeville Gallery, Retrospective exhibition including painting, sculpture, books, documentation, curated by Moira Roth  
*Xerox works*, UCI Art Gallery
- 1971 *Field Piece*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Field Piece*, F-Space Gallery, Santa Ana, CA  
*Celebration of the Holy Squash*, UCI Art Gallery, Irvine, CA
- 1970 *Homage for Mark Rothko*, UCI Art Gallery, Irvine, CA
- 1966 YMCA, Pasadena, Sponsored by the Pasadena Art Museum
- 1965 Auguste Gallery, Pasadena, CA

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *50+50: A Creative Century from Chouinard for CalArts*, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *Impermanence*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Prospect 2017*, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA  
*56 Artillery Lane*, Raven Row, London, UK  
*Physical Mind Restless Hands*, organized by Benedicte Gyldenstjerne Sehested, Micky Schubert, Berlin, Germany  
*Chapters: Book Arts in Southern California*, Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *Still Life with Fish: Photography from the Collection*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
*Impromptu*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *Mommy*, Yale Union, Portland, OR  
*A Performative Trigger: Radicals of Irvine*, curated by Juli Carson and Marilyn Nix, University Art Gallery, University of California, Irvina, CA  
*Drawing in LA.: The 1960s and 70s*, LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), Los Angeles, CA  
*Columbidae*, Cell Project Space, London, UK  
*Independent art fair*, exhibited by The Box, New York, NY  
*In Search of an Exit (or Eight Characters in a Parlor)*, USC Roski School of Art and Design at the Heritage Square Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
University of Bakersfield, CA
- 2014 *A Machinery for Living*, organized by Walead Beshty, Petzel, New York, NY  
*Another Cats Show*, 356 Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 *State of Mind: New California Art Circa 1970*, University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, IL  
*This Side of the 405*, Featuring Hot Peppers, Otis College's Ben Maltz Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Incognito*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA
- 2012 *Painting*, The Box, Los Angeles, CA

- re.act.feminism #2– A Performing Archive*, Museet for Samtidskunst / Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde, Denmark  
*The Historical Box*, Hauser & Wirth, London Print Imprint, Actual Size LA, Los Angeles, CA  
*re.act.feminism #2– A Performing Archive*, Fundacion Antoni Tapies, Barcelona
- 2011 *The Historical Box*, Hauser & Wirth, Zurich, Switzerland  
*Best Kept Secret: UCI and the Development of Contemporary Art in Southern California, 1964-1971*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA  
*Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974-1981*, MOCA Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA  
*Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974-1981*, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, Los Angeles, CA  
*Installations Inside/Out*, Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA
- 2008 *WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
*WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, MoMA PS1, New York City, NY
- 2007 *Whatever Happened to Sex in Scandinavia*, OCA, Oslo, Norway  
*WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC  
*Into Me, Out of Me*, MACRO Testaccio (MACRO Future), Rome, Italy  
*WACK! Art and the Feminist Revolution*, The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, Los Angeles, CA  
*Multiple Vantage Points: Southern California Women Artists, 1980-2006*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG), Los Angeles, CA  
*Art Since the '60': California Experiments*, Orange County Museum of Art, CA  
*Maternal Metaphors*, Kennedy Museum of Art, Ohio University, Athens, OH  
*Passions de l'ete pour l'hiver*, Frac des Pays de la Loire, France
- 2006 *Renegades 25 Years of Performance at Exit Art*, Exit Art, New York, NY  
*Into Me/Out Of Me*, Kunst-Werke Berling – KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin  
*Into me / Out of me*, MoMA PS1, New York, NY  
*Los Angeles 1955-1985: The birth of an art capital*, Centre Pompidou – Musee National d'Art Moderne, Paris
- 2005 CoCA Annual 2005 – CoCA – Center on Contemporary Art, Seattle, WA  
*Incognito*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, CA
- 2003 *Joe Goode's Fire Sale*, Santa Monica Museum of Art, CA  
*Seeking Eden, Crazy Space*, 18th St. Arts Center, Santa Monica  
*High Performance: the First 5 Years, 1978-1982*, LACE, curated by

- 2002 Jenni Sorkin, Los Angeles, CA  
Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna, Austria  
*My brother's image*, Thessaloniki Museum of Photography,  
Thessaloniki, Greece  
*Parallels & Intersections: Art/Women/California 1950-2000*, San  
Jose Museum of Art, CA  
*High Performance: The First 5 Years, 1978-1982*, JACCE, Doizaki  
Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2000 *Made in California: Art/Image & Identity, 1900-2000*, LACMA, Los  
Angeles, CA
- 1999 *Broadcast*, Eagle Rock Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA  
*Radical Past: contemporary art & music in Pasadena, 1960-1974*,  
The Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA  
*To See Again*, 18th Street Arts Complex, Collaboration with Anna  
Pomaska, Santa Monica, CA
- 1998 *Out of Actions: Between Performance & the Object, 1947-1979*,  
MOCA, Los Angeles, CA  
*Out of Actions: Between Performance & the Object*, MAK-Austrian  
Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna, Tours MACBA, Barcelona and  
Tokyo
- 1997 *Better With Age*, Highways Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
*Dreams of Life and Death*, The Living Room, Santa Monica, CA
- 1996 *The Art Embodied*, MAC galleries contemporaines des Musees de  
Marseille, France  
*Photo Odyssey*, Margaret Crow Gallery, Pasadena, CA  
*The Woman's Eye*, Pacific Oaks College, Pasadena, CA
- 1995 *Endurance*, Exit Art, New York, NY
- 1994 *Who Are We? Where Do we Come From? Where Are We Going?*, The  
New Gallery, 18th Street Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA
- 1993 *Go Down Stairs Diagonally*, Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Los  
Angeles, CA  
*The Amazing Decade Revisited*, 18th St. Arts Complex, Los  
Angeles, CA
- 1990 *Modern Buddhist Art II*, Hofheim, West Germany  
Visiting Faculty Show, Hopkins Gallery, Ohio State University, OH  
*Nomadic*, Sullivant Hall, Ohio State University, OH
- 1989 *A Delicate Balance: Technics, Culture & Consequences*, California  
State University, Los Angeles, CA  
*Making Their Mark: Women Artists move into the Mainstream 1970-  
1985*, Cincinnati Art Museum, OH (traveling to New Orleans  
Museum of Art, Denver Art Museum, and the Pennsylvania  
Academy of Fine Arts)
- 1988 *Art at Ponomo 1887-1987*, Montgomery Gallery, Pomona College,  
Claremont, CA  
*The Goddess: Life, Death and Transformation*, SPARC (Social  
Public Art Resource Center), Los Angeles, CA
- 1987 *A Southern California Collection*, Cirrus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*California Book Works: The Last Five Years*, Otis, Los Angeles/

- Parsons, New York, NY  
Pacific Oaks Children's School, Pasadena, CA
- 1983 *LACE Open Studio Tour*, LACE (Los Angeles Contemporary Art Center), CA  
*End of the Rainbow*, SPARC (Social Public Art Resource Center), Los Angeles, CA
- 1982 *Beyond Baroque*, Venice, CA
- 1981 Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Tortue Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1980 *A Decade of Women's Performance*, Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans, LA  
*Dirty Pictures*, Exile, Los Angeles, CA  
*The Art of The Woman's Building*, Artemesia Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*The Art of The Woman's Building*, The Woman's Building, Los Angeles, CA
- 1979-81 *Electroworks*, George Eastman House and Xerox Corporation, Rochester, NY
- 1978 *100+: Current Directions in Contemporary Art*, LAICA, Los Angeles, CA  
*Only Women Bleed*, LACE, Los Angeles, CA
- 1977 *Visions, Dreams, Illusions*, University of California, Davis, CA  
*The Artist's Book*, UCSD, San Diego, CA  
*Bookworks*, Mills College, Oakland, CA  
*Art Stories*, Libra Gallery, Claremont Graduate School, CA
- 1976 *The Great Egg Sale*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, CA
- 1975 *The Irvine Milieu*, La Jolla Museum, San Diego, CA  
*UCI The First Decade*, UCI, Irvine, CA  
Pasadena in L.A. California State University, Los Angeles, CA
- 1974 The Floating Wall Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA  
*Art and Technology*, Cal Tech, CA
- 1973 Newspace Gallery, Costa Mesa, CA  
*Conceptual Art Show*, Libra Gallery, Claremont Graduate School, CA  
*Museum of Drawers*, Berne, Switzerland
- 1972 *Small Image Show*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA  
*Books from Southern California*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, CA  
*The Last Plastics Show*, California Institute of the Arts, Santa Clarita, CA  
*21 Artists, Visible-Invisible*, LBMA, Long Beach, CA  
*New Art from Orange County*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA  
*Survivors '72*, Henry Gallery Graduate Exhibition, UCI, Irvine, CA
- 1971 *How the West was Won*, Fresno State College, Fresno, CA
- 1970 *Drawing and Performance*, E.A.T. SHOW AT U.S.C.  
*Small Image Show*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA  
*Scratch*, Pacific Oaks School Benefit, Pasadena Art Museum, Pasadena, CA  
*F-Space Gallery*, Inaugural Exhibition

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1969 Easter Event, Brookside Park, Pasadena, CA  
1965 People Who Should Be Seen, LACMA Rental Gallery, Los  
Angeles, CA

#### SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Archives of the Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy  
Armand Hammer Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA  
Frac des pays de la Loire, Carquefou, France  
Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Ithaca, NY  
J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Otis College of Art & Design, Los Angeles, CA  
Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA