

## HELEN LUNDEBERG (1908 – 1999)

*“Lundeberg’s art as a whole possesses all three legs of the tripod on which most good art rests: It’s good-looking, it gives us something to think about, and it conveys the personality of the artist.” – Peter Plagens*

*“In her thoughtful, lonesome works, [Lundeberg] uses abstraction to intercede with nature, quietly grasping what she can for the organizing, perceptive mind.”  
– Michael Duncan*

Helen Lundeberg was born in Chicago and moved to Pasadena, California with her family in 1912. Though inclined to become a writer, after taking an art class taught by Lorser Feitelson, Lundeberg determined to pursue a career as an artist.

In 1934, Lundeberg, along with Feitelson, founded Subjective Classicism, better known as Post Surrealism. Unlike European Surrealism, Post Surrealism did not rely on random dream imagery. Instead, carefully planned subjects were used to guide the viewer through the painting, gradually revealing a deeper meaning.

Themes of Post Surrealism continued in Lundeberg’s paintings until the 1950s, when she began to explore geometric abstraction. Always based in reality, Lundeberg created mysterious images that exist somewhere between abstraction and figuration. Repeatedly described as formal and lyrical, Lundeberg’s paintings rely on precise compositions that utilize various restricted palettes. This creates images possessed of a unique emotional content.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Lundeberg continued to experiment with abstraction, exploring imagery associated with landscapes, interiors, still life, planetary forms and intuitive compositions she called *enigmas*. In the 1980s, Lundeberg created her final body of work: a confident series of paintings that deal with landscapes and architectural elements.

Work by Helen Lundeberg is housed in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.; the Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, California; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; and numerous other public and private collections.

**Louis Stern Fine Arts is the exclusive representative of  
the estate of Helen Lundeberg.**

## **SELECTED PUBLIC AND CORPORATE COLLECTIONS**

Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN  
Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, CA  
Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA  
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Los Angeles, CA  
Honolulu Academy of Fine Arts, Honolulu, HI  
Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA  
Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, D.C.  
Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Deigo, CA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.  
Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Logan, UT  
Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL  
Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, CA  
Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA  
Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA  
Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, CA  
San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA  
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA  
Security Pacific Corporation, Los Angeles, CA  
Sheldon Memorial Art Museum, Lincoln, NE  
University of Arizona Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ  
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM  
Washington University Gallery of Art, St. Louis, MO  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
Zimmerli Art Musuem, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1933 Stanley Rose Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
Assistance League, Los Angeles, California
- 1935 Stanley Rose Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1949 *A Selected Group of Paintings by Lorser Feitelson and Helen Lundeberg*, The Art Center School Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1952 Felix Landau Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1953 The Pasadena Art Institute, Pasadena, California
- 1959 Paul Rivas Galley, Los Angeles, California  
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California
- 1960 Paul Rivas Galley, Los Angeles, California
- 1961 Paul Rivas Galley, Los Angeles, California
- 1962 Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
Paul Rivas Galley, Los Angeles, California
- 1963 Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- 1964 Ankrum Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1967 David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1970 David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1971 David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California

- 1971-72 *Helen Lundeberg / A Retrospective Exhibition*, La Jolla, California. Catalogue Published.
- 1972 *Lundeberg, Feitelson, First Showing: A Series of New Color Prints*, Los Angeles, California
- 1976 *Helen Lundeberg: Recent Small Paintings*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1977 David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1979 *Helen Lundeberg / A Retrospective Exhibition*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published.
- 1980 *Helen Lundberg: Selected Works*, The North Point Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 1980-81 *Lorser Feitelson and Helen Lundeberg: A Retrospective Exhibition*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California Catalogue published. Also shown at The Frederick S. Wight Art Gallery, University of California, Los Angeles, California
- 1981 *Helen Lunderberg: Painting, Prints, Drawings*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1982 *Helen Lundeberg: Paintings through Five Decades*, Graham Gallery, New York, New York. Catalogue published.
- Helen Lundeberg: Works on Paper*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1983 *Helen Lundeberg Since 1970*, Palm Springs, Desert Museum, Palm Springs, California. Catalogue published.
- Helen Lundeberg: Paintings*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- University Art Museum, Santa Barbara, California
- 1985 *Helen Lundeberg: Still Lifes*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published.

- 1987 *Helen Lunderberg: by Land and By Sea*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles California
- California Contemporary Artist: Helen Lundeberg*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California
- 1987-88 *Two Views: 1970-1987 / Helen Lundeberg & Martha Alf*, Palos Verdes Art Center, Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Catalogue published.
- 1988 *Helen Lundeberg: A Retrospective View*, Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery, University of California, Santa Cruz, California. Catalogue published.
- 1988-89 *80<sup>th</sup> A birthday Salute to Helen Lundeberg*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1989 *Helen Lundeberg: An American Visionary*, Fresno Art Museum, Fresno, California
- 1992 *Helen Lundeberg: The Sunset Years: 1980-1990*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1993 *Lundeberg & Feitelson: Together Again*, Los Angeles Art Association, Los Angeles, California
- 1995 *Helen Lundeberg: Still Lifes and Interiors*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Helen Lundeberg: Then and Now*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1997 *Helen Lundeberg: Still Life Through Five Decades*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1998 *Helen Lundeberg: Post-Surrealism to Hard Edge*. Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1999 *Helen Lundeberg: A Memorial Exhibition*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 2001 *Helen Lundberg: Inner Visions of Outer Space, Paintings, Drawings, Prints*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California

- 2004 *Helen Lundeberg and the Illusory Landscape: Five Decades of Painting*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California. Catalogue published.
- 2006/07 *Fourteen Paintings by Helen Lundeberg*, Residence of the French Consul, Los Angeles, California
- 2007 *Infinite Distance – Architectural Compositions by Helen Lundeberg*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California. Catalogue published.
- 2019 *Helen Lundeberg: Interiors*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 1931 *Sixth Annual Exhibition of Southern California Art*, Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego, San Diego California. Catalogue published.
- 1932 *Thirteenth Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition*, Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1933 *Fourteenth Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture*, Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- Progressive Painters of Southern California*, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, California. Catalogue published.
- Progressive Painters of Southern California*, Fine Art Gallery of San Diego, San Diego, California. Catalogue published.
- 1934 *Eighth Annual Southern California Exhibitions of Painting and Sculpture*, Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego, San Diego, California. Catalogue published.
- Painting by California Modernists*, Foundation of Western Art, Los Angeles, California
- Surrealism and Post-Surrealism (New Classicism)*, Centaur Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1935 *Post Surrealist Exhibition*, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco California. Traveled to the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, 1936, under the title *Post-Surrealism*.
- Post-Surrealists and Other Moderns*, Stanley Rose Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Group Exhibition*, Hollywood Gallery of Modern Art, Los Angeles California
- 1936 *Fantastic Art, Dada, Surrealism*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
- 1938 *Postsurrealism*, Stendahl Galleries, Los Angeles, California

- 1939 *Southern California Art Project*, Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1942 *Americans 1942 / 18 Artists from 9 States*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York. Catalogue published.
- 1944 *Fifth Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture by Artists of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- Third Group Show*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1945 *The First Biennial Exhibition of Drawings by American Artists*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published.
- 1947 *Abstract and Surrealist American Art*, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. Catalogue published.
- 1949 *Ninth Invitational Purchase Prize Art Exhibition*, Chaffey Community Art Association, Ontario, California Catalogue published.
- 1950 *1950 Annual Exhibition / Artist of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles California. Catalogue published.
- 1950 / Sixth Annual Exhibition by the Artists of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, sponsored by Municipal Art Commission, Recreation and Park Commission and Council of the City of Los Angeles; shown at Greek Theater, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- University of Illinois Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.
- 1951 *Annual Exhibition / Contemporary Painting in the United States*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California
- Seventh Annual Exhibition by the Artists of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, sponsored by Municipal Art Commission, Recreation and Park Commission and Council of the City of Los Angeles; shown at Greek Theater, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.



*University of Illinois Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.

- 1952 *Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting*, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Catalogue published.

*University of Illinois Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.

- 1953 *Fourteenth Artists West of the Mississippi*, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Catalogue published.

*1953 Annual Exhibition / Artist of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.

*Group Exhibition*, Pasadena Art Institute, Pasadena, California

- 1954 *Functionists West*, Los Angeles Art Association Galleries, Los Angeles, California

- 1955 *Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.

*III Bienal de Sao Paulo*, Museu de Arte Moderna de Sao Paulo, Brazil. Catalogue published under the title *Pacific Coast Art, United States' Representation at the IIIrd Biennial of Sao Paulo*. Also shown at Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio; Colorado Springs, Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

- 1956 *1956 Annual Exhibition / Artist of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.

*62<sup>nd</sup> Annual for Western Artists*, The Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado. Catalogue published.

- 1957 *Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.

*1957 Annual Exhibition / Artist of Los Angeles and Vicinity*, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.

*16<sup>th</sup> Artists West of the Mississippi*, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Catalogue published.

1958 *Sixth-Eighth Annual Exhibition*, University of Nebraska Art Galleries, Lincoln, Nebraska. Catalogue published.

1959 *Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana, Illinois. Catalogue published.

1960 *Fifty Paintings by Thirty Seven Painters of the Los Angeles Area*, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, California. Catalogue published.

*Paintings From the Pacific: Japan, America, Australia, New Zealand*, Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand. Catalogue published.

1962 *The Artist's Environment: West Coast*, The Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Texas. Catalogue published. Organized by and shown at the UCLA Art Galleries, Los Angeles, California; also shown at Oakland Art Museum, Oakland, California

*Fifty California Artists*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York New York. Catalogue published. Organized by San Francisco Museum of Art with the assistance of Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Also shown at Walker Art Center., Minneapolis Minnesota; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; and Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa

*Geometric Abstraction in America*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York

*30 Friends*, Los Angeles Art Association Galleries, Los Angeles, California

1963 *Arts of Southern California – XIV: Early Moderns*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California

1964 *California Hard-Edge Painting*, Pavilion Gallery, Balboa, California. Catalogue published.

*Of Time and The Image*, Ankrum Gallery Artists Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, Arizona. Catalogue published.

- Early Moderns of Southern California*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- 1965 *1965 Annual Exhibition / Contemporary American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York.
- The San Francisco Collector*, M.H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, California. Catalogue published.
- Twelfth Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting and Sculpture*, Krannert Art Museum, College of Fine and Applied Arts, University Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. Catalogue published.
- 1966 *Contemporary California Art from The Lytton Collection*, Lytton Center of The Visual Arts, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- The Search / Ten Leading California Artists in Pursuit of a Personal Vision*, Lytton Center of The Visual Arts, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1967 *Artists' Artists*, Lytton Center of The Visual Arts, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1967 Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
- Selected Artists – '67*, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, Iowa. Catalogue published.
- 1968 *The California Landscape*, Lytton Center of The Visual Arts, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- 1968 Invitational, West Coast '68 Painters and Sculptors*, E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento, California. Catalogue published.
- 25 California Women of Art*, Lytton Center of The Visual Arts, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1969 *Color in Control*, Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida. Catalogue published. Traveled to The Loch Haven Art Center, Orlando, Florida

- Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California (January)
- Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California (July/August)
- 1970 *Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California (July/August)
- Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California (November)
- 1974 *Nine Senior Southern California Painters*, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California
- 1976 *American Artist '76: A Celebration*, Marion Koogler McNay Art Institute, San Antonio, Texas. Catalogue published.
- New Deal Art: California*, de Saisset Museum, Santa Clara University, California. Catalogue published.
- Painting and Sculpture in California: The Modern Era*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California; National Collection of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- 1977 *Still and Not So Still Lives*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California. Brochure published (biographical information only).
- Surrealism and American Art: 1931-1947*, Rutgers University Art Gallery, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Catalogue published.
- Women in Surrealism*, The Image and The Myth Gallery, Beverly Hills, California
- Group Exhibition*, David Stuart Galleries, Los Angeles, California
- 1979 *The First Western States Biennial Exhibition*, The Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado. Catalogue published. Also shown at National Collection of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California; and Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
- 1980 *Lorser Feitelson and Helen Lundeberg: A Retrospective Exhibition*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California

- 1981 *Art from the Vice President's House*, National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.
- Los Angeles Prints, 1883-1980*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- Painting and Sculpture in Los Angeles, 1900-1945*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- Women of Art: Women's Caucus for Art Honors Exhibition*, North Point Gallery, San Francisco, California. Catalogue published.
- 1982 *The West As Art: Changing Perceptions of Western Art in California Collections*, Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, California. Catalogue published.
- Drawings and Illustrations by Southern California Artists Before 1950*, Laguna Beach Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, California. Catalogue published.
- Realism and Realities, The Other Side of American Painting, 1940-1960*, Rutgers University Art Gallery. New Brunswick, New Jersey. Catalogue published.
- 1983 *Ceci n'est pas le surrealisme: California: Idioms of Surrealism*, Fisher Gallery. University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- American Prints & Drawings from the Federal Arts Project and images of Work & Play: 1920s-1950s*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1984 *Between the Olympics*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 1985 *The Muse as Artist: Women in the Surrealist Movement*, Jeffrey Hoffeld and Co. Gallery, New York, New York
- 1986 *California 1920-1945*, Tobey C. Moss Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Kindred Spirits*, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Aspects of California Modernism 1920-1950*, Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C.

- 1986-87 *Elders of the Tribe*, Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, New York, New York
- 1987-88 *The Artists of California*, Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, California Also shown at Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California; Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California
- The Artist's Mother: Portraits and Hommages*. National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C. Catalogue published. Also shown at the Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, New York
- Two Views: 1970-1987, Helen Lundeberg and Martha Alf*, Palos Verdes Art Center, California
- 1988-89 *80<sup>th</sup>: A Birthday Salute to Helen Lundeberg*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- Women Artists of the New Deal Era: A Selection of Prints and Drawings*, National Museum of Women in the Arts. Washington, D.C. Catalogue published.
- 1989 *Art in The Public Eye: Selected Developments*. Security Pacific Gallery, South Coast Metro Center, Costa Mesa, California. Catalogue published.
- 1990 *Functionists High*, The American Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- Heroes, Heroines, Idols & Icons*, Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Fullerton, California
- 1990-92 *Turning The Tide: Early Los Angeles Modernists 1920-1956*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California Catalogue published. Also shown at Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California; Oakland Museum of Art, Oakland, California; Marion Koogler McNay Art Institute, San Antonio, Texas; Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University, Logan Utah; Palm Springs Desert Museum, Palm Springs, California
- 1991 *Greater Years, Greater Visions*, Irvine Fine Arts Center, Irvine, California
- 1992 *Choice Encounters*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California

- 1992-93 *California Painting: The Essential Modernist Framework*, University Art Gallery, California State University, San Bernardino. Also shown at Fine Art Gallery, California State University, Redlands, California
- 1993 *75 Years: 75 Works Collecting the Art of California*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California Catalogue published.
- 1994 *Independent Visions: California Modernism 1940-1970*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- 1994-95 *A Generation of Mentors*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.. Catalogue published. Also shown at Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno, California; Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles, California
- Washington Print Club: 30th Anniversary Exhibition: Graphic Legacy*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.. Catalogue published.
- Pacific Dreams: Currents of Surrealism and Fantasy in California Art, 1934-1957*, UCLA/Hammer Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- 1995-96 *Independent Spirits: Women painters of the American West, 1890-1945*, Autry Museum of Western Heritage, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published. Also shown at the Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, New Mexico; Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Museum of Art, Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 1996 *American Paintings in Southern California Collections: From Gilbert Stuart to Georgia O'Keefe*. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California. Catalogue published.
- California Focus*. Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- Grounded: Suburban Landscapes*. Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, California
- Imaginary Realities: Surrealism Then and Now*. Louis Stern Fine Arts, Los Angeles, California
- 1997 *Sensuality in the Abstract*. Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published.

- Made in California*, City of Brea Gallery, City of Brea, California
- 2000 *Made in California*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California Catalogue published.
- Rooms with a View*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- Pure de(Sign)*, Otis College of Art and Design - Ben Maltz Gallery, Los Angeles, California
- 2002 *The Art of Giving: Recent Acquisitions of the Norton Simon Museum*, Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, California. Brochure published
- 2002-03 *On Ramps / Post Surrealism: Genesis and Equilibrium / Pictures From the Cerebral World*, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, California Catalogue published. Also shown at Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University, Logan, Utah
- 2003-04 *The Not So Still Life*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, California Catalogue published. Also shown at Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena, California
- Into the Woods*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California
- 2004 *The LA That Influenced My Eye (curated by Barry Berkus)*, Sullivan Goss, Santa Barbara, California, July 22-September 22
- 2005 *Surrealism USA*, National Academy Museum, New York, New York
- The First 80 Years*, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, California
- 2006 *Masters, Mentors, & Metamorphosis*, Fullerton College, Fullerton, California
- 2006-07 *Married 2 Art: Exciting Works by Famous Couples in the Arts*, Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara, California



- 2007-09 *Birth of the Cool: California Art, Design and Culture at Mid-century*, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, California, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts; Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, California; Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri; The Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas at Austin
- 2007-08 *Burgoyne Diller and Hard-Edge Abstraction: Underpinnings and Continuity*, Spanierman Modern, New York, New York
- 2009 *Modern Parallels: The Paintings of Mary Henry and Helen Lundeberg*, Sun Valley Center for the Arts. Sun Valley, Idaho
- 2010 *Abstraction X3: June Harwood, Helen Lundeberg, Anita Payro*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California
- Afterglow: New Light and Space Art from the West Coast*, Wiegand Gallery, Notre Dame De Namur University, Belmont, California
- 2011 *Kindred Vision: Lorser Feitelson / Helen Lundeberg*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California
- 2011-12 *Real/Surreal*, Whitney Museum of Art, New York, New York
- Pacific Standard Time, Crosscurrents in L.A. Painting and Sculpture 1950 – 1970*, J. Paul Getty Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- 2012 *In Wonderland: The Surrealist Adventures of Artists in Mexico and The United States*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- Pasadena to Santa Barbara A Selected History of Art in Southern California, 1951 – 1969*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California
- 2016 *Helen Lundeberg: A Retrospective*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California
- Helen Lundeberg and the Four Abstract Classicists*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, California
- 2016-18 *Montgomery Meets Modernism: Two Americas*, Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, California

2018 *Time and Space: Abstractions from the Permanent Collection*, Long Beach  
Museum of Art, Long Beach, California

*1960s California Hard-Edge*, Flowers Gallery, London, England.

## CHRONOLOGY

- 1908 Born June 24 in Chicago, IL to second-generation Swedish parents.
- 1911 Younger sister Inez Selma is born.
- 1912 Family moves to Pasadena, California, where her father works for a real estate and stock brokerage company.
- 1914 Attends Longfellow Grammar School after having learned to read at home.
- 1921 Graduates from grammar school; enrolls at Pasadena High School.

Participates in a program conducted by Stanford University entitled "Study of Gifted Children," which analyzes the characteristics and development of children who ranked in the top 1% in California schools. Follow-up continues through 1945.

- 1925 Graduates high school in June of 1925, but remains at home to aid her sick mother until the Fall of 1927. Reads extensively during this time, including novels, poetry, and travel books. Attends Sunday school and church, primarily for the music and the peaceful ambience.
- 1927 Begins attending Pasadena City College. Spends an extra semester catching up on Algebra and Geometry, which she had not taken in high school. Enjoys studying both subjects.
- 1930 Graduates from Pasadena City College in the spring.

A family friend sponsors her tuition for three months at Stickney Memorial School of Art in Pasadena. Studies with Lawrence Murphy, who teaches Bridgman style figure construction and composition.

Summer: Lorser Feitelson takes over classes for Murphy, and ceases teaching the Bridgman style. Feitelson instead emphasizes discussion and graphic analyses of the structural principles of early and late Renaissance masters as well as Moderns. Lundeborg learns to distinguish art from illustration.

1931 June: Encouraged by Lorser Feitelson, submits and exhibits her first figure painting entitled *Apple Harvest* in the “Sixth Annual Exhibition of Southern California Art” at the Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego.

1933 *The Mountain* is selected for the “Fourteenth Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture” at the Los Angeles Museum.

June: First solo exhibition at the Stanley Rose Gallery on Vine Street in Hollywood.

September: Solo exhibition at the Assistance League of Los Angeles.

December: Exhibits *Self-Portrait* in the invitational “Exhibition by Progressive Painters of Southern California” at the Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego.

Commissioned to create easel paintings for the Federal Public Works Art Project (PWAP). Relocates to Los Angeles, the headquarters of PWAP.

Becomes involved in the formulation of Feitelson’s theory of New Classicism (a.k.a. Subjective Classicism), later known as Post-Surrealism.

1934 June: Exhibits first Post-Surrealist painting, *Persephone*, at the Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego in the “Eighth Annual Southern California Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture.”

November: Along with Feitelson, participates in the first group showing of Post-Surrealist work at the Centaur Gallery in Hollywood.

Authors and publishes first theoretical manifesto entitled “New Classicism.”

A loose association of artists who support the New Classicism movement forms. Members include Lucien Labaudt and Knud Merrild. Later exhibitions include Grace Clements, Philip Guston, and Reuben Kadish.

1935 May: Exhibits an important early work entitled *Double Portrait of the Artist in Time* in “Post-Surrealists and Other Moderns” at the Stanley Rose Gallery on Hollywood Boulevard. The piece ranks as one of her outstanding achievements despite her mere five years of painting experience.

Participates in a group exhibition of Post-Surrealists at the Hollywood Gallery of Modern Art on Hollywood Boulevard.

- The Post-Surrealists mount a group exhibition at the San Francisco Museum of Art. The following Spring the exhibition travels to the Brooklyn Museum, marking the first East Coast presentation of Post-Surrealism.
- 1936 December: Recognition of the Post-Surrealism movement on the East Coast prompts an invitation for Lundeberg, Feitelson and Merrild to participate in the exhibition “Fantastic Art, Dada, Surrealism” at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Lundeberg is represented by her 1935 painting *Cosmicide*.
- Completes two murals in the Los Angeles County Hall of Records for the California Works Progress Administration Federal Art Projects (WPA/FAP).
- 1937 Works as assistant on Feitelson’s murals for Thomas A. Edison High School.
- Produces four lithographs at the WPA/FAP Print Division: *Enigma, The Planets, Arabesque, and Ruins*.
- 1938-42 Designs and executes several murals throughout the greater Los Angeles area for the WPA/FAP. Paints oil vignettes on acoustic plaster and petrachrome materials. Select murals are still intact at Los Angeles Patriotic Hall, Venice High School Library, George Washington High School, Canoga Park High School, Fullerton Police Station, and Centinela Park.
- 1939 Executes the mural *History of Transportation* for the City of Inglewood.
- 1942 Participates in a group exhibition of Post-Surrealists entitled “Americans 1942: 18 Artists from Nine States” at the Museum of Modern Art of New York.
- Begins to paint postcard size paintings, including the *Abandoned Easel* series, as a reaction to the scale and impersonality of her work executed on mural projects.
- 1942-58 Continues to explore Post-Surrealism themes in her work, painting landscapes, interiors, and still-lives that draw from memory, imagination, and observation rather than from reality.
- 1949 Awarded First Purchase Prize for *The Clouds* in the “Ninth Invitational Purchase Prize Art Exhibition,” sponsored by the Chaffey Community Art Association of California.

1950 Receives \$1000 First Purchase Award for *Spring* in the “1950 Annual Exhibition: Artists of Los Angeles and Vicinity” at the Los Angeles County Museum.

Executes *A Quiet Place*, which presages later paintings such as *The Road* (1958) in which un-modulated geometric areas suggest three-dimensional space and perspective.

1950-58 Work shifts towards depicting “mindscapes.” Increasingly uses flat geometric areas and cast shadows to create spatial environment. Objects such as shells and fruits are depicted three-dimensionally.

1952 Exhibits *The Wind That Blew the Sky Away* in “The Pittsburgh International Exhibition of Contemporary Painting” at the Carnegie Institute of Pennsylvania.

1953 Solo retrospective at The Pasadena Art Institute.

1957 Awarded \$400 prize for *Selma* in the “1957 Annual Exhibition: Artists of Los Angeles and Vicinity” at the Los Angeles County Museum.

1958 Exhibits in joint retrospective with Feitelson at Scripps College. The exhibition demarcates major turning points in their respective painting careers, revealing the distinct contrast between the two artists’ work during the period of 1933 to 1958.

1959 Begins series of paintings composed entirely of flat geometric areas that suggest landscapes, interiors, and streets, utilizing the effects of perspective, light, and shadow. The works refer to three-dimensional reality, but their subjects remain ambiguous.

1962 Participates in “Geometric Abstraction in America” at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; an important group exhibition that reaffirms her national recognition.

Executes the first work in her *Arches* series, introducing curved shapes. Utilizes for the first time white primed canvas as form in compositions.

- 1963 Completes one of her most important paintings of the post-1958 period, *Triptych*. Depicting three thin ribbons of complementary colors that extend across the entire width of three canvases, *Triptych* is significant because of a shift in color palette from restrained tones to stronger contrasts of value and tonality. Develops a technical innovation of using masking tape to render hard edges, which in turn encourages Feitelson to begin his series of “line” paintings.
- 1964 Continues developing arch motif in her work by rendering arch shapes in black or white to create encapsulated frames within the canvases, exemplified by the works *Desert Light* and *Desert View*.
- Participates in group exhibition “California Hard-Edge Painting” at the Pavilion Gallery of Balboa California, marking the first official inclusion of her work in the Hard-Edge movement.
- 1965 After solely using oil paint for thirty-five years, transitions to painting in acrylics with the piece *Planet #1*. Continues *Planet* series, returning to the Post-Surrealist subject matter of the cosmos that fascinated her as a student. The works of the series feature a circular “planet” centered on the canvas and surrounded by a solid color, allowing for a variety of pattern variations that suggest rather than model a sphere in space.
- 1971 Retrospective exhibition of works from 1933 to 1971 at the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art. Traces the development of works from early paintings based on a Renaissance organizational plan through Post-Surrealist pieces and finally hard-edge works. The paintings are ultimately described as “Classicist” because of the continual emphasis on aesthetic structure.
- 1973-76 Develops second series of small paintings.
- 1974 Exhibits in “Nine Senior Southern California Painters,” the opening exhibition of the Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, mounted as a tribute to artists integral to the historical development of Modernism in Southern California.
- 1979 Develops a series of land and seascapes based on variations of a single hue, exemplified by works like *Blue Calm*.
- August: Returns to “interiors” and “painting-within-painting” themes with closely related grey tones, such as *Grey Interior I* and *Grey Interior II*.

Retrospective exhibition of works from 1933 to 1978 at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery. Focuses on Lundeberg's exploration of the dimensions of space in early Post-Surrealist paintings, as well as her more abstract works of the sixties and seventies.

1980-81 Joint retrospective exhibition with Feitelson at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. The show travels to the Frederick S. Wight Art Gallery at UCLA.

1981 Honored with the Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Visual Arts by the College Arts Association and Women's Caucus for Art.

1982 Retrospective exhibition of works from 1933 to 1982 at the Graham Gallery of New York.

1983 Retrospective exhibition "Helen Lundeberg Since 1970" at the Palm Springs Desert Museum.

1987 Restoration of the Fullerton Police Station mural *History of Southern California*.

Tobey C. Moss Gallery of Los Angeles produces documentary entitled "Helen Lundeberg: American Painter."

Honored with the Vesta Award by the Woman's Building Art Center of Los Angeles.

1988 Solo exhibition entitled "80th: A Birthday Salute to Helen Lundeberg" at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Honored with the Palm Springs Desert Museum's Woman of the Year Award.

Retrospective exhibition at the Mary Porter Sesnon Art Gallery at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Preservation and conservation interest is raised for the mural *History of Transportation* in Inglewood.



- 1990 Honored with an Honorary Doctorate Degree from the Otis-Parsons College of Art.
- Honored with a grant from the Richard A. Florsheim Art Fund for American Artists of Merit.
- 1993 Honored with the Purchase Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.
- 1994 The Venice High School Library opens its doors to the public to view the mural *History of California*.
- 1999 Dies in Los Angeles on April 19. Memorial exhibition held at the Tobey C. Moss Gallery of Los Angeles.
- May: Memorial exhibition held at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.
- 2000-01 Exhibited in “Made in California” at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.
- 2000 The J. Paul Getty Grant Program “Preserve L.A.” Initiative awards the City of Inglewood a grant for the restoration and re-siting of the *History of Transportation* mural.
- 2001 *History of Transportation* is accepted into the California Register of Historical Resources.
- 2002 Additional grant funds for the restoration of *History of Transportation* are contributed by the California Heritage Fund Grant, the Park Bond 2000 Act, and the Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers (URCC).
- 2004 Solo exhibition “Helen Lundeberg and the Illusory Landscape” at Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, CA.
- 2007 Rededication of the City of Inglewood’s *History of Transportation* mural at its new location in Grevillea Art Park, near City Hall.
- Solo exhibition “Infinite Distance: Architectural Compositions by Helen Lundeberg” at Louis Stern Fine Arts, West Hollywood, CA.

2007-09 Exhibited in traveling exhibition “Birth of the Cool: California Art, Design and Culture at Mid-Century” at the Orange County Museum of Art, in Newport Beach, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy of Andover, Massachusetts, Oakland Museum of California, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum of St. Louis, Missouri, and The Blanton Museum of Art at University of Texas, Austin.

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