ERNIE BARNES

Born 1938 in Durham, North Carolina
Died 2009 in Los Angeles, California
BFA, North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina, 1960
National Football League, 1960–1966
Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina, 1990

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026
"Ernie Barnes: Good Times – The Artistic Journey of Ernie Barnes," Canton Museum of Art, Canton, Ohio

2024
"Ernie Barnes: In Rapture," Ortuzar Projects, New York
"Ernie Barnes: Two Shots," Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

2023
"Ernie Barnes: Where Music and Soul Live," UTA Artist Space, Los Angeles

2021
"Ernie Barnes," Andrew Kreps Gallery, organized with Ortuzar Projects, New York

2020
"Liberating Humanity From Within," UTA Artist Space, Los Angeles

2019
"Ernie Barnes: A Retrospective," California African American Museum, Los Angeles

2018
"The North Carolina Roots of Artist Ernie Barnes," North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, North Carolina

2007
"A Tribute to Artist & NFL Alumni Ernie Barnes: His Art & Inspiration," Time Warner Center, New York

2002
"Masterworks in the Community," Samuel's Gallery, Oakland, California

1992
"Ernie Barnes," Heritage Gallery, Los Angeles

1990
"The Victor's Crown," Grand Central Art Galleries, New York
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Grand Central Art Galleries, New York

1984
"The Victor's Crown," Calvert Collection, Washington, D.C.

1983
"The Victor's Crown," Heritage Gallery, Los Angeles
"Ernie Barnes," Spectrum Fine Art Gallery, Los Angeles

1979
"Ten Who Remember," The Seagram Building, New York
"Recent Paintings by Ernie Barnes," North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina

1978
"Athlete as an Artist," Spectrum Fine Art Gallery, New York

1977
"Ernie Barnes," Heritage Gallery, Los Angeles
"The Backstretch," Hollywood Park, Los Angeles

1976
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

1975
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Center, Brooklyn, New York

1974
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Orr's Gallery, San Diego, California
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," California Museum of Science and Industry, Los Angeles
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.

1973
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," High Museum of Art, Atlanta

1972
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," Heritage Gallery, Los Angeles
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," North Carolina Central University Art Museum, Durham, North Carolina
"The Beauty of the Ghetto," California Museum of Science and Industry, Los Angeles

1971
"Ernie Barnes," Agra Gallery, Washington, D.C.
"Ernie Barnes," Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, North Carolina
"Ernie Barnes," National Press Club, Washington, D.C.

1970
"Ernie Barnes," The McKenzie Gallery, Los Angeles

1969
"Ernie Barnes," The McKenzie Gallery, Los Angeles

1968
"The Sports Art of Ernie Barnes," The McKenzie Gallery, Los Angeles

1966
"Football in Action," Grand Central Art Galleries, New York

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026
"Continuing Resistance: A Century of Black Liberation (1925–2025)," Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago

2025
"Black Artists in America: From the Bicentennial to September 11," Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California
"Mapping Resistance: The Legacy of Black Liberation (1925-1975)," Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago
"American Made: Paintings and Sculpture from the DeMell Jacobsen Collection," The Columbus Museum, Columbus, Georgia
"Last Night I Dreamt of Manderley," Alison Jacques Gallery, London
"2025 Exhibition," The Campus, Hudson, New York

2024
"Giants: Art from the Dean Collection of Swiss Beatz and Alicia Keys," Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York; traveled to High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Virginia Museum of Fine Art, Richmond, Virginia.
"Get in the Game: Sports Art, Culture," San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; traveled to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Alabama.
"Twentieth Century Stories," Forum Gallery, New York

2023
"Pictures Girls Make: Portraitures," Blum&Poe, Los Angeles
"Dix and the Present," Deichtorhallen Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
"Return to Parrish Street: A Dream Realized," Ella West Gallery, Durham, North Carolina
"From Andy Warhol to Kara Walker: Scenes from the Collection," Museum Brandhorst, Munich, Germany

2016
"Visual Voice," Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, California

"2015
"I Got Rhythm: Art & Jazz Since 1920," Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany
"Scrimmage: Football in American Art from Civil War to The Present," University Art Museum at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado; traveled to Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Eugene, Oregon; Figge Museum of Art, Davenport, Iowa; Canton Museum of Art, Canton, Ohio.

2005
"Back to Black: Art, Cinema and the Racial Imaginary," Whitechapel Gallery, London

1995
"African-American Art: 20th Century Masterworks, II," Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, New York

1986
"Visions/Reflections," Museum of African American Art, Los Angeles

1976
"NCCU Artists: The Past 50 Years", North Carolina Central University Art Museum, Durham, North Carolina

1969
The McKenzie Gallery, Los Angeles

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

American Sport Art Museum and Archives, Daphne, Alabama
Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland
Brigham Young University Museum of Art, Provo, Utah
California African American Museum, Los Angeles
Canton Museum of Art, Canton, Ohio
The Morgan Library & Museum, New York
North Carolina Central University Art Museum, Durham, North Carolina
North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina