

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY



Christina Ramberg (1946-1995) was a Chicago artist and educator. Ramberg was a dynamic presence in the Chicago artistic community from the 1960s to her death in 1995. She was traditionally associated with the Chicago Imagists, and shared their practice of quoting liberally from popular culture. Her fascinating imagery may be understood and appreciated for both its formal strength and its subjective iconography. Her work reveals a wide range of visual influences, including printed advertisements, fashion layouts, medical illustrations, costume history, and quilting. Ramberg was concerned with the implications of mass culture, as well as vernacular representations of femininity and the body. Initially produced during the rise of the feminist movement, Ramberg's drawings continue to speak to contemporary gender concerns, as well as perceptions of gender identity and objectification of the female body. She is widely regarded as a central figure in the history of contemporary art in Chicago and in the history of feminist art. In light of her significant contributions, the compelling aesthetic and psychological qualities of Ramberg's work are particularly relevant for today's audiences.

Ramberg's work has been exhibited and collected widely around the United States and Europe. Solo exhibitions of Ramberg's work include *Corset Urns and Other Inventions*, David Nolan Gallery, 2011; *Christina Ramberg: Drawings*, Gallery 400 and numerous other venues, 2001; and *Christina Ramberg: A Retrospective, 1968-1988*, The Renaissance Society, 1988. Her work was included in group exhibitions such as *Girls and Company: Feminist Works from MMoCA's Permanent Collection*, The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI, 2008; *Art in Chicago, 1945-1995*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, 1996; *Surfaces: Two Decades of Painting in Chicago*, Terra Museum of American Art, 1987; *Drawings from the Chicago Imagists*, The Renaissance Society, 1987; *Who Chicago? An Exhibition of Contemporary Imagists*, 1980, traveling to Sunderland Arts Center and Camden Arts Centre, London, Third Eye Centre, Glasgow, The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, the Ulster Museum, Belfast, the Institute of Contemporary Arts, Boston, and the Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans. Ramberg's work is included in the public collection of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum

of Contemporary Art Chicago, the DePaul University Art Museum, the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, the Illinois State Museum, the Museum Moderner Kunst in Vienna, the Koffler Foundation Collection at the Smithsonian Institute, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Ramberg received an MFA (1973) and a BFA (1968) from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She was a faculty member of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Hyde Park Art Center.