

Condensed Biography:

Leslie Saar was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. Until recently, was best known for her bookworks, but due to a series of highly regarded museum exhibitions we now know the full range of her expression. Those exhibitions include shows at the Contemporary Art Center in Cincinnati (2000), the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art and Design in Kansas City, Missouri (1999) and the Fresno Museum of Art in California (1999). She has also had personal exhibitions at Jan Baum Gallery in Los Angeles and David Beitzel in New York. Her work has been included in important group exhibitions such as *The Next Wave: New Painting in Southern California* at the Center for the Arts in Escondido (2000), *Re/Righting History: Counter-narratives by Contemporary African American Artists* at the Katonah Museum of Art in New York (1999), *L.A. Current: The Female Perspective* at the Armand Hammer Museum in Los Angeles (1996). She has recently been selected for the 2001 California State Senate Contemporary Art Collection and was awarded a J. Paul Getty Mid-career grant in 1996 and a Seagram's Perspective in African American Art Fellowship in 1995. Lowry Simms selected Lesley Saar for inclusion in *New American Paintings*, Volume 24, published in 1999 by Open Studio Press.