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John Begley Biography

John Begley is an artist and curator in Louisville, Kentucky. He currently heads the University of Louisville's Hite Art Institute galleries and critical and curatorial studies program. The founding director of the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, and an 18-year director of the Louisville Visual Art Association (LVAA), Begley has produced hundreds of exhibitions, including shows that have toured the Midwest and South, as well as internationally. Begley received Louis Comfort Tiffany and Getty Museum Management Institute Fellowships, and he oversaw the growth of the LVAA. He also has been an active advocate for the visual arts; he helped found co-operative galleries (Zephyr) and a citywide art dealers and presenters organization (LOOK), and he worked on establishing a city public art program (MCOPA). He serves on numerous community and regional arts advisory boards and panels and is an adjudicator for state, regional and national arts granting agencies, including the IMLS as well as individual visual art organizations. Begley maintains an active individual studio practice that combines a variety of his interests and training, including drawing, printmaking, book arts, installation and intermedia combinations. He has a B.F.A. with Distinction, University of New Mexico, 1969 and an M.F.A., Indiana University, 1975.