

Malcolm Morley, Genre-Crossing Artist, Is Dead at 86

By [Neil Genzlinger](#)

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Malcolm Morley, an artist who helped foster Photorealism in the 1960s, then did the same in the late '70s for the more sensuous style of painting known as Neo-Expressionism, died on June 1 in Bellport, N.Y. He was 86.

His death was announced by the Sperone Westwater gallery in New York, which represented him. No cause was given.

Mr. Morley was a skilled and prolific painter with an exploratory spirit, moving through an assortment of styles and techniques after discovering art in an unusual place: prison, where he landed as a teenager on burglary convictions.

By the mid-1960s he was established in New York arts circles, working in a Photorealist style (he preferred the term “super-realist”), often making his paintings from images on postcards of cruise ships. Another work, “Queen of Opera” (1971), was simply a 48-by-60-inch oil painting of a Time magazine cover featuring Beverly Sills.

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