

**Ms. MEL WATKIN**

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*Condensed resume 1987-Present—full resume available on request*

## **SELECTED SOLO AND TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS**

- 2018 **Mel Watkin: Mighty Chrysanthemum Tree**, (25' drawing installation), entrance to the Haertter Performing Arts Center, John Burroughs School, St. Louis, MO
- 2014 **Mel Watkin: Fallen Trees**, (two person show—works on paper), Quincy Art Center, Quincy, IL
- 2013 **The True Scale of Trees**, (two person show—works on paper), William & Florence Schmidt Gallery, SWIC, Belleville, IL
- 2011 **Fallen Mast**, (38' long work on paper), Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis  
**Trunk Show**, (works on paper), Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis
- 2010 **Mel Watkin: Works on Paper**, (works on paper), Focus 4, Illinois State Museum—Chicago, traveled to Southern Illinois Art Center, Whittington, IL—CATALOG
- 2009 **Cycle**, (a sidewalk drawing—21' x 5'), Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis
- 2007 **New Work**, (works on paper), Phillip Slein Gallery, St. Louis  
**Insurgency**, (works on paper & drawing installation), Sheldon Galleries, St. Louis  
**Reclamation**, (works on paper & drawing installation), Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago
- 2005 **Terrible Beauty**, (works on paper & drawing installation), Salina Art Center, Salina, Kansas
- 2003 **Compass Rose**, (works on paper), Bonsack Gallery, St. Louis
- 2001 **Recent Work**, (drawing installation and works on lace & tea towels), New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, New Harmony, IN
- 1999 **Arsenic and Old Lace**, (drawing installation and works on lace & tea towels), A.D. Brown, St. Louis
- 1997 **A Doll's House**, (drawing installation), commissioned by Artemisia, Chicago  
**A Doll's House: Quiet & Dark**, (drawing installation), Fine Art Gallery, Webster University, St. Louis  
**Domestopia: Books and Cases**, (works on pillow cases, sheets and coverlets), Rose Amarillo, San Antonio
- 1992 **Small Change**, (drawing installation) Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC
- 1991 **Black and Blue: Hearts and Minds**, (drawing installation), Franklin Furnace Archives, New York—documented with Pyramid Atlantic ARTISTS' BOOK  
**Mel Watkin: Works on Paper: 1987–1991**, University of Texas at San Antonio
- 1990 **Black and Blue: Them & Us**, (drawing installation), Montpelier Cultural Art Center, Laurel, MD  
**Black and Blue: Living Room**, (drawing installation), Ellipse Gallery, Arlington, VA
- 1989 **Solo exhibition**, (drawing installation and works on paper), Addison/Ripley Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
**Checkerboard**, (drawing installation), Selected by David Hammons, School 33 Art Center, Baltimore, MD
- 1987 **Solo exhibition**, (works on paper), Addison/Ripley Gallery, Washington, D.C.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 **Topographies of Life: Tracing the Source: Pam Rogers, Lynn Sures, Mel Watkin**, American University Museum of Art, Katzen Center for the Arts, Washington, DC, September 3--December 15, 2019
- 2017 **ArtPrize 9 At Grand Rapids Art Museum**, (large-scale work on paper), Grand Rapids, MI  
**Dispositive Environments**, (works on paper), Cecille R. Hunt Gallery, Webster University, St. Louis, MO  
**Seeking Location: Mapping & Borders in Art**, (works on paper), Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN
- 2016 **Activate Art**, (works on paper) Cortex Innovation Community, St. Louis, MO  
**Not Just Another Pretty Face**, (Commissioned-work on paper), Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL, CATALOG
- 2015 **Critical Mass Creative Stimulus Award Exhibition**, (works on paper) Sheldon Galleries, St. Louis, MO
- 2013 **The River Between Us-Part 1**, (*River Room* installation), Kranzberg Exhibition Artist, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, MO—CATALOG  
**The River Between Us-Part 2**, (*River Campaign* installation), Longue Vue House and Garden, New Orleans, LA  
**Not Just Another Pretty Face**, (Commissioned-work on paper), Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL, CATALOG
- 2012 **Critology: Considering the Works of Artist/Critics**, (works on paper), exhibition traveled to Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles and Fine Art Museum, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC—CATALOG
- 2011 **Art Lab: Work in Progress**, (installation), Metropolitan Gallery, St. Louis
- 2010 **Not Just Another Pretty Face**, (Commissioned-work on paper), Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago
- 2008 **Where Are We Going: Artists Map the World**, (works on paper) Jewish Institute of Religion Museum, Hebrew Union College, NY—CATALOG  
**L(A)TTITUDES: Ten Contemporary Artists Exploring the Borders of Israel and Palestine**, (works on paper), Bronfman Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 2007 **St. Louis Painters 2007 Invitational**, (works on paper), Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedalia, MO—CATALOG
- 2005 **Selections from the Flat files**, (works on paper), Pierogi Gallery, NY
- 2004 **Showcase I: Print and Drawing Invitational**, (works on paper) Sheldon Art Gallery, St. Louis
- 2003 **On and On 'til the Break of Dawn**, (works on paper), Critical Mass for the Visual Arts, St. Louis
- 2002 **Six Artists**, (drawing installation), 1608 Gallery, St. Louis
- 2001 **Exposure 4**, (drawing installation), St. Louis Gallery Association, St. Louis
- 2000 **Art of the Book**, (artists' book show), Gallery FAB, University of Missouri, St. Louis—CATALOG  
**The Summer Show**, (works on lace), Gallery 312, Chicago
- 1999 **Artist's Collect**, (works on paper), Blue Star Exhibitions, San Antonio, TX  
**Laissez Faire**, (artists' book show), Printed Matter, NY
- 1998 **The Reading Room**, (artists' book show), Krannert Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Ars Botanica**, (works on paper), Ida Green Gallery, Austin College, Fort Worth, TX
- 1997 **Mock Future**, (interactive fax installation), "Toward the Millennium," East Lansing Art Commission/Michigan Festival, East Lansing, MI—CATALOG
- 1995 **Messages and Stories from the Everyday World**, (interactive fax installation), Arts

- Festival of Atlanta, curated by Lisa Tuttle and Jane Bickerton, Atlanta, GA—CATALOG
- 1994 **Keepers of Secrets and Truths Otherwise Unknown: An Exhibition of Women Book Artists**, (artists' books), Berman Museum of Art, Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA—CATALOG  
**Bones**, (works on paper), Brody's Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
**The First Ten Years: Selections from the Permanent Collection**, (works on paper), Big Red Gallery, Ucross Foundation, Clearmont, WY
- 1993 **Southern Illinois Biennial**, (works on paper), Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL  
**20 Years of Residency**, (artists' books), Normand T. Dahl Art Gallery, PG Square Art Center, Great Falls, MT
- 1992 **East Side/West Side**, (works on paper), Forum for Contemporary Art, St. Louis
- 1991 **Drawing Time**, (*Black and Blue: Two Views of Progress*, drawing installation), Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, NY
- 1990 **Other Rooms**, (*Black and Blue: Our Four Fathers--drawing installation*), Morgan Annex, Washington, D.C., Curated by Andrea Pollan.  
**Inherited Memories**, (works on paper), Rosenberg Gallery, Goucher College, Baltimore, MD
- 1989 **Approaching the Figure: Focus on the Single Figure**, CATALOG, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.  
**Aspiration**, (works on paper), The Collector, Washington, D.C., curated by J.W. Mahoney  
**Elegies**, (works on paper), Tartt Gallery, Washington, D.C., curated by J.W. Mahoney
- 1988 **Myth, Allegory and Romanticism**, (works on paper), Anton Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1987 **The Figure as Image**, (works on paper), Touchstone Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
**Nightmares**, (works on paper), Gallery 10 LTD., Washington, D.C.  
**Sculptural Installations: Four Visions**, (drawing installation), Lubber Run Park, Arlington Cultural Affairs Division, Arlington, VA  
**Feminism, Politics and Social Commentary**, (works on paper), The New Art Center, Washington, D.C.  
**Narrative Figures**, (works on paper), Addison/Ripley Gallery, Washington, D.C.

## PUBLIC ART

**Lambert St. Louis International Airport**—One of 9 artists selected to create permanent artworks on glass fabricated in collaboration with Franz Meyer of Munich, Germany for the "C" Concourse at Lambert St. Louis International Airport.

**Sound Transit, Seattle**—short listed to public art programs artists' pool

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

**Private collections** in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, and St. Louis, Huntsville, Alabama, Istanbul, Turkey among others

**John Burroughs School**, Collection of Contemporary Art, St. Louis, MO

**Laumeier Sculpture Park**, St. Louis, MO

**Illinois State Museum**, Chicago and Springfield, IL

**Saint Louis Art Museum**, St. Louis, MO

**Spencer Museum of Art**, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

**Ucross Foundation**, Clearmont, W

**Palazzo Rinaldi**, Noepoli, Italy

Art Library, **University of California at Santa Barbara**, Santa Barbara, CA

**Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection**, Flaxman Library, School of the Art Institute, Chicago, IL

Book Art Collection, **Museum of Modern Art Library**, NY  
Special Collections, **New York Public Library**, NY  
Archive, **Franklin Furnace**, NY  
Fine Arts Library, **Fogg Museum of Art**, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Artist's Finalist Award, **Illinois Arts Council**, IL
- 2017 Free Housing Award, **Artprize 9**, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2014 Artist's Residency, **Palazzo Rinaldi**, Noepoli, Italy—July 2014  
Critical Mass **Creative Stimulus Award**, St. Louis, MO
- 2013 **Kranzberg Foundation**, artist's exhibition award, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis  
Artist's Project Grant, **Illinois Arts Council**, IL
- 2011 Artist's Project Grant, **Illinois Arts Council**, IL  
**Pollock-Krasner Foundation** Grant, New York, NY
- 2001 Artist's Residency, **Ragdale Foundation**, Lake Forest, IL
- 2000 Individual Artist's Fellowship, **Illinois Arts Council**, IL
- 1992 Artist's Residency, **Ucross Foundation**, Clearmont, WY
- 1991 Artist's Residency and Artists' book Production grant, **Pyramid Atlantic**, Silver Spring, MD
- 1990 Artist's Grant, **Artist's Space**, New York

## ARTISTS' BOOKS AND MULTIPLES

- 2011 **Emergency Tree**, a personalized multiple, over 50 in the edition to date
- 2009 **Waterfall\$ of New York**, a seven-color T-shirt, edition of 50
- 2001 **Pocket Road Atlas**, Midwest Printing, St. Louis, edition of 250
- 1998 **Ipomoea purpurea: Map of the World**, Print Shop, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, IL
- 1991 **Black and Blue: Hearts and Minds**, artists' book, Pyramid Atlantic, Silver Springs, MD

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2019 **"In the galleries: At American University Museum, a world of atmosphere,"** *Washington Post*, Mark Jenkins, Nov. 28, 2019, (image for article: *Cross-Section:Hophornbeam*) [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-at-american-university-museum-a-world-of-atmosphere/2019/11/27/1f8ddf88-0f9a-11ea-9cd7a1becbc82f5e\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-at-american-university-museum-a-world-of-atmosphere/2019/11/27/1f8ddf88-0f9a-11ea-9cd7a1becbc82f5e_story.html)
- 2018 **"A View from the Easel: Mel Watkin,"** *Hyperallergic*, Oct. 26, 2018, <https://hyperallergic.com/468022/a-view-from-the-easel-103/>  
**"Five Questions,"** *Critical Mass Podcast*, St. Louis, MO
- 2017 **"ArtPrize 9 at the Grand Rapids Art Museum: International Art Event Draws more than 1500 Artists--GRAM Photos,"** Staff writer, *Life & Culture: Grand Rapids Press*, Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017, p. D1  
**"Video: Get a first look at 16 ArtPrize entries at the Grand Rapids Art Museum,"** Kate Carlson, *MLive*, Sept. 12, 2017, [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2017/09/get\\_a\\_first\\_look\\_at\\_16\\_artpriz.html?ath=531ad2477b48f14b389f48faf2d5d058#cmpid=nsltr\\_storyheadline](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2017/09/get_a_first_look_at_16_artpriz.html?ath=531ad2477b48f14b389f48faf2d5d058#cmpid=nsltr_storyheadline)

- "Photos/Video: GRAM Reveals ArtPrize Nine Exhibition,"** Marvis Herring, WOODtv, Sept, 12, 2017, WOODTV -- <http://woodtv.com/2017/09/12/photos-gram-reveals-artprize-nine-exhibition/>
- "Preview at GRAM,"** staff, WZZM TV, Sept. 12, 2017, <http://www.wzzm13.com/news/local/artprize/a-preview-in-the-gram-one-of-artprize-nines-main-venues/474113035>
- "Seeking Locations: Mapping and Borders in Art,"** Emma E. Jensen, *Bad at Sports* (Blog), May 8, 2017
- 2013 **"Laumeier Exhibition Explores Shared History of St. Louis, New Orleans,"** Diane Torian Keaggy, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, April 13, 2013, front art section photo
- "Take Me to the River,"** Liz Miller, *Riverfront Times*, St. Louis, April 11, 2013
- "In the Galleries: River Between Us Closes August 25 at Laumeier Sculpture Park,"** Jessica Baran, *Riverfront Times*, St. Louis, April 25, 2013, featured photo.
- "Laumeier Navigates St. Louis-to-New Orleans River Link,"** Nancy fowler, *St. Louis Beacon*, April 9, 2013, photo featured
- 2011 **"Featured Review,"** Jessica Baran, *Riverfront Times*, St. Louis, Feb. 17, 2011
- 2009 **New American Painters #83,** The Open Studio Press, Boston, p. 160-163
- 2008 **"Time for an Arty Party Weekend,"** Lavanya Ramanathan, *Washington Post*, Feb. 21, 2008, p. C14 (photo)
- 2007 **"2007 St. Louis Painters Invitational,"** Nancy K. Weant, *Review*, September 2007, p. 40
- 2006 **"Current Shows: Mel Watkin: Insurgency,"** Robert Duffy, *Riverfront Times*, St. Louis, Oct. 11, 2006
- "Visual Art Season: Exhibit A (Fall preview),"** David Bonetti, *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, September 10, 2006, p. F3
- 2005 **"Connect the Thoughts,"** Sharon Montague, *Salina Journal*, March 11, 2005, p. D1
- 2000 **"News Briefs: Grants and Awards,"** Lisha Bai and Melanie Dorson, *New Art Examiner*, April 2000, p. 13
- "Mel Watkin Defies Gravity,"** Sam Blackwell, *Southeast Missourian*, Feb. 3, 2000, p.12B
- "Two Local Artists Receive \$7000 Fellowships,"** Tameka L. Hicks, *Southern Illinoisan*, Jan. 27, 2000, p. 4
- 1998 **"RFT: Reviews,"** *Riverfront Times*, Julia, Stevenson, Oct. 21–27, 1998, p. 81
- "This Week,"** *Riverfront Times*, St. Louis, Sept. 16–22, 1998, centerfold
- 1997 **"Skies Bloom at Webster,"** *St. Louis Post-Dispatch-Weekend*, Nov. 6, 1997
- "Drawings on Linen Celebrate Home Life,"** Dan Goddard, *San Antonio Express News*, Feb. 26, 1997
- 1996 **"Artist's Pages,"** River Styx magazine, St. Louis, (Fall issue) 1996
- 1995 **"Works Vibrantly Reflect Community Concerns,"** Catherine Fox, *Atlanta Journal/Constitution*, Sept. 16, 1995
- "Party Line,"** Linda Rush, *Southern Illinoisan*, Sept. 1, 1995
- 1994 **"Changing History,"** Karen Wirth, *The Binnewater Tides, Women's Studio Workshop*, Rosedale, New York, fall 1994
- 1992 **"Art that Bridges the Distance,"** Robert W. Duffy, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Sunday, Feb. 16, 1992
- 1991 **"Report from Washington,"** J. W. Mahoney, *Art in America*, Feb. 1991, p. 62–71
- "Watkin Drawings Dazzle at UTSA,"** Dan Goddard, *San Antonio Express News*, Jan. 27, 1991
- "Sweet Dreams at Newhouse,"** Michael J. Fressola, *Staten Island Advance*, Jan. 25, 1991
- "Showcasing the Diversity of a Studio's Success,"** Mary McCoy, *Washington Post*, September 1991
- "Anatomical Art Figures in Exhibition,"** Marcia G. Weser, *San Antonio Light*, Jan. 27, 1991

- 1990 **"Drawing Installations,"** John Dorsey, *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 23, 1990  
**"Childhood as Artistic Challenge,"** Mary McCoy, *The Washington Post*, Nov. 3, 1990  
**"The Shapes of Blackboard Memories: Installations at the Morgan Annex,"** Paul Richard, *The Washington Post*, June 2, 1990  
**"The Problems and Potentials in Painting Nudes,"** Cathleen McCarthy, *American Artist*, April 1990  
**"Vision and Revision,"** Mocha Laget, *New Art Examiner*, February 1990  
**"Contemporary Art has Ancient Themes,"** John Dorsey, *The Baltimore Sun*, Feb. 20, 1990  
**"Oft-Told Tales: Tapping into the Recurrent Power of Myth,"** Megan Hamilton, *City Paper*, Baltimore, Feb. 9, 1990
- 1989 **"Around Town: Review of Mel Watkin, Solo Exhibition,"** WETA, Dec. 7, 1989  
**"State of the Arts: Good Nudes,"** Cathy McCarthy, *Washington Dossier*, November 1989  
**"Reviews: Maryland,"** Mary McCoy, *New Art Examiner*, Summer Edition  
**"Accent Plus: Galleries,"** Steve Purchase, *The Evening Sun*, Baltimore, June 1, 1989  
**"Galleries Section: Sculpture at School 33,"** John Dorsey, *The Baltimore Sun*, April 18, 1989  
**"Group Show at The Collector,"** Michael Welzenbach, *The Washington Post*, April 15, 1989  
**"Galleries: Photos and Imagination Tell us of Two Worlds,"** Alice Thorson, *Washington Times*, April 6, 1989  
**"Gallery Annual, 1st Annual Arts Yearbook,"** Nancy Sternberg, *Museum and Arts Washington*, January/February 1989
- 1988 **"Washington, D.C. Critic's Poll: Best Emerging Artists,"** J.W. Mahoney, *New Art Examiner*, Washington, D.C., November 1988  
**"Significant Movements,"** Patrick Frank, *New Art Examiner*, Washington, D.C., October 1988  
**"Around Town,"** Florence Gilbard, *Museum and Arts Washington*, Washington, D.C., July/August 1988  
**"Galleries: `Myth, Allegory and Romanticism at Anton,"** Pamela Kessler, *Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., June 25, 1988
- 1987 **"Mel Watkin at Addison/Ripley,"** Henry Allen, *The Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., Nov. 14, 1987  
**"Two Faces of Eve: the Myth, the Object,"** Alice Thorson, *Washington Times*, Washington, D.C., Nov. 5, 1987  
**"Feminism, Politics and Social Commentary,"** Susan Platt, *New Art Examiner*, Washington, D.C., November 1987  
**"In Arlington, Art's Natural Gifts,"** Ben Forgey, *Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., July 18, 1987  
**"Washington Women Artists,"** Florence Gilbard, *Museum and Arts Washington*, Washington, D.C., September/October 1987

## EDUCATION

- 1981 M.F.A., University of Montana, Missoula, MT

1977 B.A., Bennington College, Bennington, VT

**BORN:** Washington, D.C. 1954

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORK AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Below is a brief synopsis of my work background and community involvement.*

*Since graduating from college I've maintained a serious art practice while also working full time and/or free-lance as a curator, art critic or arts director. From 1986-1991 I was a curator at the Washington Project for the Arts under Jock Reynolds in Washington, D.C. After moving to Southern Illinois in 1992 I worked as the curator at the Forum for Contemporary Art (now Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis) until 2003 under Elizabeth Millard. In 2004 I founded the Public Policy Research Center's Photography Project at the University of Missouri St. Louis, a community-based photography program teaching participants to photograph their own lives from their own perspectives. In 2013 I took early retirement and transitioned to full time studio work.*

*I have donated work to many fundraising auctions including:*

Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis

Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago

School of Art & Design, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL

Lambert St. Louis International Airport, Art of Travel Gallery, St. Louis

ArtWorks, St. Louis

*I have served on numerous grant, residency and fellowship panels including:*

Critical Mass Public Art Projects and Creative Awards, St. Louis

Illinois Arts Council, Chicago

Mid-Atlantic States Foundation, Baltimore, MD

National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.

Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis

Ragdale Artist's Residencies, Lake Forest, IL

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