

Mel Watkin

Short Bio

5/21/25

My work has been shown nationally with **solo exhibitions** at Franklin Furnace Archives, New York, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Laumeier Sculpture Park, St. Louis, and A.I.R. Gallery in Brooklyn. The most recent solo exhibition took place at ARC Gallery in Chicago in February 2025. Recent **group exhibitions** include the American University Museum of Art, Washington, D.C., the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Michigan and Longue Vue House and Garden, New Orleans. In 2023, the Hyde Park Art Center in Chicago exhibited three **commissioned** map-based works and the Southern Illinois Cancer Institute commissioned eight small works on paper. My artwork is represented in the **collections** of the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Illinois State Museum, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas at Lawrence, the Book Art Collection of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Franklin Furnace Archives, among other institutions. I created a **permanent public artwork** fabricated in collaboration with Franz Mayer of Munich, Germany for the “C” Concourse at St. Louis International Airport. **Grant awards** include a 2024 Franklin Furnace/Xeno Artists Book Prize, 2000 and 2022 Illinois Arts Council Fellowships, a Critical Mass grant, a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Fellowship, and a Pyramid Atlantic artist’s book award. **Residencies** including the Ucross Foundation in Wyoming, Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois, and Palazzo Rinaldi, Noepoli, Italy.