

Leslie Sobel

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Education

- 2020 MFA, Nomad Interdisciplinary MFA University of Hartford, Hartford, CT
- 1997 Completed coursework towards Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Technology, Eastern Michigan University, College of Technology, Ypsilanti, MI
- 1983 B.F.A. cum laude, University of Michigan (now Stamps) School of Art, Ann Arbor

Teaching experience

Taught numerous workshops & classes, primarily in encaustic & collage/assemblage at Loomis Chafee School, BBAC - Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Kalamazoo Education for the Arts, Two Twelve Art Center Saline, Yourist Studio Gallery in Ann Arbor, Milan Art Center, Ann Arbor Women Artists and my studio.

Work Experience

- 1998-present Full time artist producing exhibitions, writing grants, producing work, curating, framing and installing exhibitions, giving artist talks, and organizing additional programming.
- 2000-2005 Artist-owner partner at WSG Gallery, Ann Arbor As one of the artist-owners I was involved in all aspects of running the gallery - curating, installing exhibitions, maintaining client database, working shifts staffing gallery, promoting the business.
- 1989-1998 Arroyo Software Partner in Software consultancy focused on biologically derived computing and machine learning; responsible for business development, administration, book-keeping, project management.

Curatorial Projects/ other professional

- 2021 **Curating** *Envisioning, Artists Responses to All We Can Save* - climate centric traveling exhibition in Ypsilanti, Detroit and Pennsylvania.
- 2020 **Co-curated** [Yeah, What Lester Said](#), moderated artist panel on climate resilience, Detroit Center for Design and Technology, Lawrence Tech University, Detroit MI
- 2018 **Juror**, State Street Art Fair, Ann Arbor
Talks given at UCLA's Art-Sci Center & University of Michigan
- 2017 **Outrage! The Art of Protest** - co-curated with Susan Fecteau and John Gutoskey at 22 North
Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA) Grant panel reviewer
- 2014 **Judge**, Guild Common Ground Art Fair, Birmingham, MI
- 2012-13 MCACA **Grant panel reviewer**
- 2011 **Juror**, Crooked Tree Arts Center Annual Fine Arts Exhibition, Petoskey MI
- 2010-2013 **Board member, Arts Alliance.**
- 2010-2013 **Member, curatorial committee** Art on the House, rotating exhibitions in State Representative Pam Byrnes' offices under auspices of Arts Alliance
Co-organizer, Sustainable centerpieces fundraiser for the Ecology Center
- 2010 **Curator**, *Waxing Lyrical* at The Sue and Eugene Mercy, Jr. Gallery, Windsor CT
- 2010 **Co-founder, Board President** Milan Art Center in Milan, MI
- 2009 **Co-organizer**, *Home: Loving It, Losing It, Leaving It* - Women's Caucus for Art at UM
- 2008 **Juror** (with Lynda Cole), *One planet, one experiment*, at WomanMade Gallery, Chicago
- 2007 **Co-curated** *Venus of Willendorf - Redefining the Goddess-* National feminist art project
Curator, *water works-* group exhibition at Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center
- 2005-16 **Portfolio reviewer** Stamps School of Art & Design, University of Michigan

Grants & Awards

- 2022 **Artist-in -residence** on the Eclipse Icefield, Kluane National Park, Canada with University of Maine climate scientists.
- 2021 **Artist-in-residence** at The Arctic Circle - tall ship based residency - Svalbard
- 2018 **Professional Development Grant** to study with master printmaker David A Clark from Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA)
- 2017 Qualified for **Fiscal Sponsorship** from Fractured Atlas - **crowdfunded** Kluane artist-in-residence Artist in residence, Eclipse Icefield, Kluane National Park, Canada with climate scientists
- 2014 **Professional Development Grant** to attend International Encaustic Conference from Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA)
- 2013 **Artist in residence** Canyons of the Ancients National Monument - via Colorado Art Ranch & Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute.
- 2010 **Artist in residence** at the Loomis Chaffee School, Windsor, CT
- 2009 3rd place award, Embedded Light, Grosse Pointe Art Center
- 2009 Sky River” - public art workshop and proposal sponsored by the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair
- 2008 Where we live - the ecology of place, **public art project** funded by Ann Arbor Street Art Fair and the Legacy (formerly Washtenaw) Land Trust
- 2005 **Artist in residence** at Greenhills School, Ann Arbor
- 2002 Solo show, juried award by DigitalArtMuseum.com
- 2001 Robert Bosch Corporation Award, Michigan Finearts Competition
Merit Awards Ann Arbor Women Artists Exhibitions
Second prize in Abstract Odyssey at the Scarab Club, Detroit
- 2000 Residency & exhibition -48 Hours of Making Art - at Lake Erie College, Painesville, OH.
- 1999 Exhibition funded by the Arts Council of Lake Erie West, Toledo

Publications

- 2020 [Review](#) of Confluence, Artists and Climate blog
[Article](#) about Yeah, What Lester Said in Great Lakes Echo
Catalog ecoconsciousness 2020
- 2018 [Article](#) about my work in The Ecology Center newsletter
[Article](#) about Eclipse residency in the Ann Arbor Observer

Publications, cont.

- 2017 [Review](#) of Outrage! in Rustbelt Arts
- 2017 [Profiled](#) in Rustbelt Arts - online arts publication by K.A. Letts
- 2015 On the Horizon - article about landscape in ProWax Journal by Deborah Winiarski
- 2015 In Catalog for Chaos
- 2014 In Catalog for Reaching for the Light.
- 2014 Inclusion in review in Ann Arbor News of Reaching for the Light
- 2013 Inclusion in ebook Contemporary Paper and Encaustic: International Trends Catherine Nash
- 2009 Inclusion in catalogs for Encaustic Works 09 & Metamorphosis

Bibliography

- 2018 Authored article about the Eclipse residency in 1st issue of NatureVolve.com
Authored Article in ProWax Journal on Kluane residency

Solo Exhibitions & Public Art

- 2021 solo exhibition *There is no Other*, 22 North Gallery
- 2020 *Shrines & Reliquaries: Memorializing Climate* University of Michigan Taubman Gallery, Gifts of Art program, Ann Arbor, MI
Earthforms - 2 person show with Jane Michalski at the Center for Visual & Performing Art, Munster, IN
- 2018 *Icefield Memories* at Ann Arbor JCC
shifting terrain- my sojourn on the ice at 22 North, Ypsilanti MI
- 2016 *Field of Vision Part II* - Dexter Public Library
Field of Vision Part I - Ann Arbor District Library main branch
- 2016 *Power Art* - public art piece on power box in Ann Arbor selected by jury and public vote
- 2015 *Sky/Ground*, solo exhibition at Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Canton MI.
Solo exhibition at MIX Ypsilanti
- 2012 *Water Ways* - Solo exhibition at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor
[Watershed Moments](#) - Solo exhibition at Art & Environment Gallery at the School for Environment and Sustainability, University of Michigan Ann Arbor.

Solo Exhibitions & Public Art, cont.

- 2011 *CommuniTree*- community based public art project using recycled materials co-sponsored by Street Art Fair and AnnArbor.com.
- 2010 *Invader/Invasive* community based public art piece on invasive species sponsored by Street Art Fair Ann Arbor and donated by sponsor to Leslie Science & Nature Center.
Earth & Air - solo exhibition, Susan Hensel Gallery, Minneapolis
- 2009 *Sky River*, community based public art workshop sponsored by Street Art Fair Ann Arbor
- 2008 *phase change* solo show at WomanMade Gallery, Chicago, Yourist Gallery Ann Arbor
Where We Live: the ecology of place, community based public art piece sponsored by Street Art Fair and permanently installed in Washtenaw County Library.
- 2005 *life cycles* at Susan Hensel Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2004 *New Encaustic Works* at Washington Street Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2003 *Recent work*, curated exhibition at Pfizer Worldwide headquarters, Ann Arbor
- 2002 *evolution of moment* at Washington Street Gallery, Ann Arbor MI
- 1999 *recent works* at the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments.
Inside, Outside - at Clare Spitler Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI

Selected Exhibitions

- 2021 *Viral Collaboration*, exhibition at Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago
- 2020 *ecoconsciousness 2020*- online exhibition juried by Eleanor Heartney for ecoartspace
- 2020 *Confluence* - MFA thesis exhibition at Joseloff Gallery, University of Hartford
Drawdown, 22 North Gallery, Ypsilanti MI
Yeah, What Lester Said, Detroit Center for Design and Technology, Lawrence Tech University, Detroit MI
- 2015 *Mapping - Finding a Way*, online exhibition curated by Hylla Evans
Chaos, River Gallery curated at Rackham
- 2014 *Reaching for the Light*, River Gallery curated at Rackham Building UM
The Print '14, Ann Arbor Art Center
- 2012 2 person exhibition with Judith Jacobs at Dexter Library, curated by Distinct Designs

Selected Exhibitions, cont.

- 2011 *Immersed*, 2 person show w/Kathi Reister at UM Duderstadt Gallery
Game Show, Macy Gallery, New York, NY - "Climate Change Game"
- 2010 *Contemporary Landscapes and Cityscapes*, Terra Gallery, Columbus
- 2009 *From Our Perspective*, Oakland Community College Womencenter, juror Gilda Snowden
Waxing Lyrical, group exhibition, Mercy Gallery, Windsor, CT
Nano, Micro, Macro - a Matter of Scale - 3 person exhibition at UM
Actual Size Biennial, CAID, curated by Aaron Timlin
Hydrology juried exhibition at Chelsea Center for the Arts, juror Cathy Barry
Art in the House, curated exhibition, offices of MI State Representative Pam Byrnes
(re)mapping, work gallery, Ann Arbor - UM School of Art juried exhibition
- 2009 *Embedded Light* - national encaustic exhibition, Grosse Pointe Art Center, MI, juror, Chris McCauley
The Print '09, Ann Arbor Art Center, juror Richard Fairfield
Encaustic Works '09, Castle Gallery, New Rochelle, NY, juror Heather Hutchison
Metamorphosis, National juried exhibition, Haydon Art Center, Lincoln, NE
3 artists...3 generations invitational exhibition through AAWA Ann Arbor
- 2008 *Aging with Attitude*, Slusser Gallery, University of Michigan
- 2007 *Environments* - Annual Fall Show, Space 237, Toledo, OH
Annual All Media exhibition , Ann Arbor Art Center
- 2007 *Allegories of the Genome*, traveling exhibition Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 2006 *Nature Reperceived*, Gallery Project, Ann Arbor
- 2006 & 7 *SYNC 06 & 07*- a digital arts festival - Duderstadt Gallery, U of Michigan
Animate Object - Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit
- 2002 *All Media exhibition* Ann Arbor Art Center, juror Marsha Miro, art critic Detroit Free Press
About Vision Competition, - juried digital show at The Global Café, London, UK.
- 2001 *SIGGRAPH* - Art Gallery Los Angeles Convention Center, CA. Inclusion in international traveling exhibition for next 5 years to South Africa, France, Italy, China, Australia and USA.