

Gretchen B. Hasse

Artist, Curator, Educator • Co-founder, [Agitator Artist Collective](#) • [gretchenhasse.com](#)

EDUCATION

- 2002 MFA Film, Video, and New Media. School of the Art Institute of Chicago
1991 BA (with honors) Northern IL University, DeKalb, IL Major: Anthropology; Minors: Studio Art, Art History

PERFORMANCE AND PUPPETRY

- La Monstresse**, Puppet Designer, Fabricator, Writer, and Performer
2026 Trinacria Arts Festival Performance Residency, Pezzolo, Sicily, Italy
The Thing with Wings, Puppet Designer, Fabricator, Writer, Director, and Performer
2025 Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
2023 Chopin Theatre, Chicago, IL
Defense and Display, Puppet Designer, Fabricator, Writer, and Performer
2025 People's Puppet Festival, Chicago, IL; Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago, IL
History and Time, Puppet Designer, Fabricator, Writer, Director, and Performer
2025 Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL; Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL
The Knee Play, Writer and Performer
2025 International Museum of Surgical Science, Chicago, IL Nasty, Brutish, and Short, Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival
2024 Scratch Night / Physical Theatre Festival at Theater Wit, Chicago, IL
2023 Puppets in Progress, Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, IL
With Their Very Bones, Puppet Designer, Fabricator, Writer, and Performer
2025 People's Puppet Festival, Chicago, IL; 2024 Aloft Circus Arts, Chicago, IL

SELECT INSTALLATIONS AND MURALS

- 2026 *Living Things*, Czong Institute for Contemporary Art, South Korea
2023 *All the Gifts*, Installation for *We Are Tech and Tech Are Us*, Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
2022 *Mindscape / Landscape*, Installation in *Além da repetição*, resident exhibition at Buinho Residency, Messejana, Portugal
2017 *Resilience*, 88' w x 12' h Mural Commission for Rogers Park Mile of Murals, Chicago IL
Storytime, Series of Three 6' x 6' Outdoor Canvases for Lifeline Theatre, Chicago IL
2016 *Displacement*, 40' w x 16' h. Mural with Project Logan, Chicago, IL
Hazel and Zorro, 20' w x 20' h, part of the Logan Square Dog Park Mural with AnySquared Projects, Chicago, IL
2014 *That's Not A Neighborhood*, Two 5' w x 11' h Banners Created for ACTIVATE: Art in Alleys, Pop Up Installation organized by Chicago Loop Alliance and King Art Collective
2012 *Fix It Yourself*, 11' x 8.75', Chicago Women In Trade Training Facility, Chicago, IL

SELECT COMICS AND WRITTEN WORK

- 2025 (Work In Progress) *Recovery*, workshopped at Internationale Sommerakademie für Bildende Kunst, Salzburg, Austria
2024 *This Body*, published in *Body Positive Zine*, Coin Operated Press, Edinburgh, Scotland. Edited by Chloe Henderson
2024 *Nancy's House*, Pile Press, Portland, Oregon. Edited by Sarahann Harvey, April Hernandez, and Tripp Watson
2021 Short Story *Friday*, self published in *And Then, Stories About What Happens Next*, distributed by Agitator Gallery, Chicago IL. The Collection is an invited contribution to *Documenting Contemporary Social Life Shaped by the Covid-Covid-19 Pandemic and Racial Justice Movements*, an ongoing collections initiative of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago
2020 – 23 *Freaks' Progress*, Monthly series in *Activator Magazine*, independent music periodical, Springfield, IL
2020 *It Is Okay*, published in *Activator Magazine*, independent music periodical, Springfield, IL

SELECT EXHIBITS OF PAINTING AND DRAWING

- 2025 *Body Work*, Solo Figure Retrospective at Lemmings Tavern, Chicago IL
2021 *Instruct et Construct: Art Practice as Pedagogy*, Union Street Gallery, Chicago Heights, IL
2018 *A Story I Need to Tell: Three Comics Artists in Chicago*. Agitator Co-operative Gallery, Chicago, IL
2016 *Transatlantic Rumors: Chicago to Liverpool 2016*. Rose Howey Cooperative Gallery, Liverpool, England

SELECT TIME-BASED WORKS

- 2020 Animator: *We Are Fighting You Now*, music video for Ami Saraiya & The Outcome
2015 Camera, Editor: *The Air We Breathe: Petcoke Pollution in South East Chicago*, with Rising Tide Chicago
Editor: *Marktown is Earthalujahville!*, with Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Choir
2014 Writer, Director, Camera, Editor: *Mojo Hobo*, music video for Chicago punk band Silver Abuse
Writer, Animator: *storm*, hand drawn animation, digitally remastered
2012 Editor: *Jon Burge: Case History*, Compilation by The Chicago Torture Justice Memorial Project

SELECT SCREENINGS

- 2024 Comfort Station, Chicago IL
- 2020 Collage in Motion, 516 ARTS, Albuquerque, NM
Film Girl Film Festival, Milwaukee, WI
- 2016 North Portland Unknown Film Festival, Portland, OR
Comfort Station, Chicago, IL
Young Camelot, Chicago, IL
48-Stunden-Neukölln, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 THAW, Links Hall Annual Benefit, Chicago, IL 2014 Streetlight, Roman Susan Gallery, Chicago, IL
Summer Shorts, Chicago, IL
Hairpin Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2014 Streetlight, Roman Susan Gallery, Chicago, IL
Summer Shorts, Chicago, IL

CURATION

- 2026 *Narratives of Flesh: Embodying Grief*, curated with Genevieve Ramos and Barbara Little, International Museum of Surgical Science, Chicago, IL
- 2025 *Narratives of Flesh*, curated with Genevieve Ramos, International Museum of Surgical Science, Chicago, IL
- 2024 *And Now: Stories from the Edge*, Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
Marching Wolf's America: Photography by itinerant Polish artist Marcin Wilk, Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
Comics On the Radio, live radio play interpretation for *Agitator Comics! Vol 4*. Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
- 2023 *We Are Tech and Tech Are Us*, Agitator Artist Collective, Chicago, IL
- 2022 Visual Gallery Curatorial Resident at Elastic Arts Foundation, 9/21 - 8/22. Artists included: Nathan Peck, Hali Palombo, Anahi Velazquez, and Alonso Galué, Chicago, IL
- 2021 - 26 *Agitator Comics!*, Digital and Printed Comics Compilation, Agitator Co-operative Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2020 *And Then: Stories About What Happens Next*, Agitator – A Co-operative Gallery, Chicago IL
Invited contribution to *Documenting Contemporary Social Life Shaped by the Covid-19 Pandemic and Racial Justice Movements*, an ongoing collections initiative of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago
- 2019 *Everything Has Changed: Life Altering Health Care Experiences in 21st Century USA*, Agitator Co-operative Gallery, Chicago IL

GRANTS, RESIDENCIES, AND RECOGNITIONS

- 2026 Trinacria Arts Festival Performance Residency, Pezzolo, Sicily
DISQUIET International Literary Program, Generative Writing with Diana Khoi Nguyen, Flash Fiction with D/Annie Liontas, Lisbon, Portugal
Artist in Residence at Csong Institute for Contemporary Art, South Korea
- 2025 Production Grant, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL
DISQUIET International Literary Program, Creative Nonfiction with T Kira Madden, Sound Shaping with Erica Dawson, Lisbon, Portugal
Comics: Narrative Art, Humor and Dramaturgy with Elizabeth Pich, Internationale Sommerakademie für Bildende Kunst, Salzburg, Austria
Novel in a Year with Juan Martinez, Story Studio Chicago
- 2023 Atlantic Center for the Arts, residency #188, mentored by comics creator Dean Haspiel, New Smyrna Beach, FL
- 2022 Chicago Puppet Lab, 8 month residency to develop works in progress; facilitated by Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival
VIDA: Women in Literary Arts Fellowship for Writing Residency at Sundress Academy for the Arts, Knoxville, TN
Esteemed Artist Grant, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), Chicago, IL
Collage Artist Lab, Kolaj Institute, New Orleans, LA
Buinho Fab Lab and Creative Residency, Messejana, Portugal
- 2021 3Arts Make A Wave Grant, Chicago, IL
- 2016 Field/Work Residency, Chicago Artists Coalition

SELECT PRESS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2025 WGN TV, Spotlight Segment, Gretchen Hasse Uses Puppetry to Build Worlds
Chicago Reader, Raptor rapture: In The Dinosaur Opera, Gretchen Hasse uses puppetry to explore “time, purpose, and meaning”
The Regional News, Chicago artist Gretchen Hasse inspires through teaching, puppetry, and storytelling
- 2024 OtherPeople'sPixels featured artist interview, by Lillian Heredia
- 2021 SXU News, SXU Art Professor Awarded 3Arts Make A Wave Grant
- 2020 Chicago Reader, Interview on behalf of Agitator Gallery: 'I'm Still In Shock': How Chicagoans, from creatives to nonprofit staff, are being affected by the novel coronavirus – and what we can all do to help
- 2019 Kilter Magazine, Freaks, Punks and the Fragility of Community: Interview with Gretchen Hasse on her comic Freaks' Progress
- 2018 Packingtown Review, A Blog of Literature and the Arts, Review of Gretchen Hasse's Freaks' Progress

TEACHING

2022 – Present	Films About Paintings Online survey course for undergraduates, coursework focuses on observations written by students. Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL
2021 – Present	Writing for Artists Course developed by Gretchen Hasse. Builds vocabulary and verbiage for students to talk about their own artwork. Projects include artist statements and bios, and final projects designed around student goals. Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL
2020	The Body as Expression Advanced online course for undergraduates, focus on developing individual work. Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL
2019 – 2024	Figure Drawing Advanced course for undergraduates, drawing from live model and developing individual work. Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL
2019 – 2021	Drawing 1 Fundamentals course for art majors, elective for all undergraduate majors. Focus on basic skills. Saint Xavier University, Chicago, IL

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023 – 2025	Director, Agitator Artist Collective
2000 – 2023	Freelance Videographer
2007 – 2010	Video Producer, Gearwire.com, Chicago, IL
2000 – 2018	Freelance Graphic Designer