

EDUCATION

- 2016 Skowhegan School Of Painting & Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
- 2012 Masters of Fine Arts, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2009 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bowling Green State University
- 2008 Studio Art Centers International (SACI), Florence, Italy

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *DREAM ON*, Mel Cook + Kailyn Perry, Belong Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2020 *TORRENTIAL HAG*, Mel Cook + Kelly Reaves, Cleaner Gallery + Projects, Chicago, IL
- 2019 *I NEED A VOICE NOT A BODY*, Vital Signs MKE, Milwaukee, WI
- 2018 *Mother of The Clown*, Mel Cook + Molly Colleen O'Connell, Roots & Culture, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *We Have a Back Room With Other Things: Mel Cook + Megan Stroech*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *Things Will Be Fine*, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2014 *Between The Void*, Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, IL
- 2013 *Still Life Revisited*, Morton College, Cicero, IL
- Mel Cook: Recent Monotypes*, Manneken Press, Bloomington, IL
- 2012 *Sincerely, With Love*, Illinois State University Galleries, Normal, IL

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Lost Intimacies*, Adds Donna Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Dance to Anything*, Drama Club, Chicago, IL
- 2019 *Somebody Told Me You People Were Crazy*, Hathaway Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
- Painting The Figure Now*, Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Wausau, WI
- Some Kind of (M)Other, 31*, Yeah Maybe, Minneapolis, MN
- Living for Love*, Oklahoma, Chicago, IL
- Manneken Press, EXPO, Chicago, IL
- 2018 *Lumpen Drawing Rally*, Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, IL
- Local Comfort*, LVL3, Chicago, IL
- LtdWear3*, LVL3 and Tusk, Chicago, IL
- Women Painting Men*, Riverside Arts Center, Riverside, IL
- The Chicago Show*, 56 Downing St., Brooklyn, New York
- Continental Breakfast*, Condo Association, Chicago, IL
- Winter Romance*, Andrew Rafacz Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Nothing Is Ours But Time*, Ukrainian Modern Institute of Art, Chicago, IL
- 2017 *Eyes, Nose, Lips, Etc.*, Left Field Gallery, San Luis Obispo, CA
- El Sol Sale Para Todxs*, Chicago, IL
- Milestones*, The Fine Arts Center Galleries, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH
- Unfurnished*, Demo Projects, Springfield, IL
- Close To Me*, Roots & Culture, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *New American Paintings*, curated by Steven Zevitas, stARTup Art Fair, Chicago, IL
- New Business*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- For Sale By Owner*, Hilltop Antiques, Skowhegan, ME
- 2015 *US*, Comfort Station, Chicago, IL
- Time Share*, Figure One Gallery, Champaign, IL
- 2014 *2014 Faculty Biennial*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2013 *Prime*, Heavy Brow Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- Faculty Biennial*, ICC Art Gallery, Illinois Central College, East Peoria, IL
- 2012 *In Your Neighborhood*, McLean County Arts Center, Bloomington, IL
- Spookeh*, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2012 Student Annual*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- The Eye That Sees The Possible*, Transpace Gallery, Normal, IL

RESIDENCIES

- 2019 Lazuli Residency, Corinth, VT
Artist in Residence, Ace Hotel, Chicago, IL
- 2018 Artist in Residence, Illinois Sate University, Normal, IL
- 2017 ACRE, Steuben, WI
- 2016 Skowhegan School Of Painting & Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
- 2016 The Center Program, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2013 Visiting Artist, Manneken Press, Bloomington, IL

GUEST LECTURES

- 2022 Art, Theory, & Practice, Northwestern University
Early College Program Summer Institute, Painting, School of The Art Institute of Chicago
- 2020 Wonsook Kim School of Fine Arts, Illinois State University
Duke Creates, Duke University
- 2019 Art, Theory, & Practice, Northwestern University
- 2018 Contemporary Practices, School of The Art Institute Chicago
Art, Theory, & Practice, Northwestern University
- 2017 Contemporary Practices, School of The Art Institute of Chicago
Art & Architecture, Harold Washington College
Art & Design, Harper College
- 2016 Arts Administration, School of The Art Institute of Chicago

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2021 Chicago Creative Worker Grant, DCASE, Chicago, IL
Artist Relief Grant, United States Artists
- 2013 Studio Break MFA Competition Winner
- 2012 Irving S. Tick Award in Painting, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2009 Full Graduate Tuition Scholarship, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2008 Undergraduate Research Grant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 "Torrential Hag" at Cleaner Gallery Projects, Sixty Inches From Center, 11-26-2020
- 2019 *Artist Lends Irreverent Touch to Hathaway Group Show*, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 7-11-2019
Cullum's July Notebook: Disparate Parts Make a Whole at Hathaway, ARTS ATL, 7-03-2019
Cult Classics: A Conversation with Craig Drennen, Burnaway, 6-4-2019
- 2018 *Conversations With The Inspiring Mel Cook*, Voyage Chicago, 7-24-18
Artist of The Week: Mel Cook, LVL3, 6-5-2018
Crushing The Patriarchy With One Look; Molly Colleen O'Connell and Mel Cook Clown Around With The Femme Abject, Chicago Tribune, 5-25-2018
1960s Chicago Gave Birth to a Colorful, Frenetic Art Scene That Is Still Gathering Steam, Artsy, 5-17-2018
Plunge Into the Madcap Delirium of Chicago Imagists at a Brooklyn Brownstone with These Photos, Artnet News, 5-16-2018
- 2017 *Artist Spotlight: Mel Cook*, Chicago Woman, 12-18-2017
- 2016 *Nicole Lane Interviews Mel Cook*, Vagabond City Lit, Nov 3, 2016
New American Paintings, No. 125, Midwest Issue
- 2015 *Mel Cook/Erin Hayden*, Studio Break, Podcast Interview, Episode 147, 8-14-2015
- 2014 *Mel Cook*, Studio Break, Podcast interview, Episode 103, 3-20-2014
- 2013 *Studio Visit*, Volume 24, Page 35
- 2013 *Art In Print*, Volume 3, Number 1, Page 43

MEL COOK

melissajcook386@gmail.com
www.melcookart.com

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021 Visual Arts Instructor, Middle School Summer Camp, Chicago High School for The Arts
2020-21 Drawing II Instructor, Chicago High School for The Arts
2020 Teaching Artist Liaison, College & Careers, Marwen
2019-20 Lecturer, *Intro to Painting*, Art, Theory, Practice, Northwestern University
2016-20 Teaching Artist, *Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, and Building College Portfolios*, Marwen
2016-17 Lab Teaching Artist, *Advanced College Portfolio*, Marwen
2016-17 Studio Facilitator, *Drawing, Painting, & Sculpture*, Marwen
2015 Intern in Education: School & Teacher Programs, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
2013-14 Instructional Assistant Professor, *Art Appreciation, 2D Design*, Illinois Central College
2013 Instructional Assistant Professor, *Philosophy of Aesthetics*, Lincoln Community College
2012-13 Instructional Assistant Professor, *Drawing Foundations, Life Drawing, Intro to Painting*, Illinois State University
2007-08 Teaching Artist, *Mural Painting*, Sofia Quintero Cultural Center

SERVICE

2008-09 Visual Arts Service-Learning Liaison, Civic Action Leader, Bowling Green State University Service Corps, AmeriCorps