

# Benjamin Cook

## Curriculum Vitae

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## EDUCATION

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| 2017 | Master of Fine Arts, Studio, College of Fine + Applied Arts, School of Art + Design, Studio Art, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign |
| 2012 | Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting, Hite Art Institute, Department of Fine Arts, University of Louisville                                   |

## EXHIBITIONS

### Solo Exhibitions/Projects

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|------|---|
| 2025 | Polymodal Translations, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL   |
| 2024 | <i>Translations/Transitions</i> , Pique Gallery, Covington, KY  |
| 2023 | <i>Mood Paintings</i> , McClure Gallery, Cincinnati, OH   |
| 2021 | <i>Post Documentation</i> , Wikipedia-based project   |
| 2020 | <i>Social Distance Gallery</i> , @socialdistancegallery, Instagram-based project  |
| 2019 | <i>Some Walls are Made of Bricks</i> , Instagram-based project<br><i>From My Friends (with a little help) 2</i> , Houseguest Gallery, Louisville, KY<br><i>Paper Pulp Painting</i> , Pique Gallery, Covington, KY |
| 2018 | <i>History Abridged</i> , Swanson Contemporary, Louisville, KY<br><i>Optics</i> , Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL   |
| 2017 | <i>Image Construction</i> , Project 1612, Peoria, IL<br><i>From My Friends (with a little help)</i> , IRL Gallery, Cincinnati, OH   |
| 2016 | <i>How Do I Know You</i> , Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL  |
| 2015 | <i>Paintings for the Internet</i> , Rochester Museum of Fine Arts, Rochester, NH  |
| 2014 | <i>Amusing Myself</i> , Swanson Contemporary, Louisville, KY  |
| 2013 | <i>I Give Up: my art is in your hands</i> , Mail project  |

### Collaborative Projects

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|------|--|
| 2022 | <i>4-D Flags</i> (with Lindsey Whittle) Wavepool Gallery, Cincinnati, OH |
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- 2019      *Covington Flag Project* (with neighborhood associations of Covington, KY)
- 2016      *Object Flexibility*, DEMO Projects, Springfield, IL (with Cory Imig)
- 2015-2017      Co-Director of *Say Uncle Artist Residency/Mobile Art Space* (with Dulcee Boehm and Cory Imig)

## Group Exhibitions

- 2024      *MARK: Current Approaches to Drawing*, Auer Center for Arts & Culture, Fort Wayne, IN  
*Art Academy of Cincinnati Faculty Show*, AAC Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 2023      *Summer Group Show*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2022      *Artist-Run Spaces*, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH  
*Vessels*, Hashimoto Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
*20x20*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*75 Year Alumni Exhibition*, Cressman Art Center, Louisville, KY
- 2020      *Art Academy of Cincinnati Faculty Show*, AAC Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 2019      *Work @ Play*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2018      *#*, Cidney Rucker Gallery, New York, NY  
*Is it a Soft Grid or a Net*, James May Gallery, Algoma, WI  
*Friends with Benefits*, George Caleb Bingham Gallery, Columbia, MO  
*Art Academy of Cincinnati Faculty Show*, AAC Gallery, Cincinnati, OH  
*Art Fair*, Porch Gallery, Minneapolis MN  
*I.O.U.A.E.*, Spanish City, Whitely Bay, UK  
*Semi Skimmed*, BSMT Gallery, London, UK
- 2017      *Terrain Biennial*, curated by Richard Medina, Oak Park, IL  
*Spring Group Show*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Thesis Exhibition*, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL  
*Para-Natural World*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2016      *Re-Run*, Mist Gallery, [www.mistgallery.com](http://www.mistgallery.com)  
*Pattern Recognition*, Fort Gondo, St Louis, MO  
*Masterpieces 10*, Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati, OH  
*Emerging Illinois Artists*, Juried by Kelly Shindler, MCAC, Bloomington, IL  
*Temporary Proportions*, C.V. Lloyd, Champaign, IL  
*Space and Weight*, BLDG 5, Champaign, IL  
*Winter Group Show*, Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2015      *MUTE*, Gallery COA, Montreal QC  
*Wet Hot Illinois Summer*, Link Gallery, Champaign, IL  
*Curators Bible*, Edward Day Gallery, Toronto ON

- Boneyard Arts Festival*, Champaign Contemporary, Champaign, IL  
*NEW TERRAINS: The Landscape Reviewed*, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL
- 2014 *Metaphorical Preservation*, Morrison Gallery, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College, Elizabethtown, KY  
*Contemporaneous Commentary*, Clayton Staples Gallery, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS  
*Drowning in a Sea of Information*, Work Gallery, STAMPS School of Art and Design, Ann Arbor, MI  
*Analog/Analogy*, Zephyr Gallery, Louisville, KY  
*Everyone a Mirror*, I.D.E.A.S. 40203, Louisville, KY  
*The Kings Garden*, Nucleus Building, Louisville, KY
- 2013 *I Give Up: my art is in your hands*, Mail Art, Published via website/  
 Installation Magazine

## AWARDS/GRANTS

- 2022 Greater Cincinnati Collegiate Connection Excellence in Teaching Award
- 2020 Young Space Grant
- 2020 Great Meadows Foundation Grant
- 2019 Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile/ U.S. Bank
- 2016 Urbana Arts Grants
- 2016 Conrad Fenwick Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2016 School of Art and Design MFA Creative Research Award

## PUBLICATIONS

### Publications as Author

- 2018 *New American Paintings* (136): p42-45.  
*New American Paintings* (135): p36-29.  
*Art Maze Magazine* (8): p142-143.  
*Lab Zine* (21): Digital Publication.
- 2016 *Expose Art Magazine* (special edition April): p5-8.  
*New American Paintings* (125): p44-47.
- 2015 *Maake Magazine* (1): p9.  
*Paint Pulse Magazine* (4): p8-9  
*Fresh Paint Magazine* (6): p16-17

## Media Coverage

Forbes, *As Art Fairs And Galleries Take Refuge Online To Elude COVID-19, Internet Art Is Emerging To Temper The Lockdown*, 3/26/20, Jonathon Keats

Whitehot Magazine, *Interview with Benjamin Cook, creator of The Social Distance Gallery Project*, April 2020, Amelia Anthony

The Art Newspaper, *'Social Distance Gallery' gives MFA and BFA candidates a chance to exhibit their work*, 3/19/20, Jacoba Urist

Art News, *As Art Schools Cancel Student Shows, One Instagram Account Pledges to Give Them Life*, 3/18/20, Claire Voon

*How Do I Know You*, Show review, 9/6/16, Columbia Chronicle

## Interviews/Digital Publications/Reviews

react/review: a responsive journal for art & architecture, UC Santa Barbara, *EXHIBITION REVIEW: Toward Our Digital Futures*, a review of @socialdistancegallery. Volume 1, 2021, Matthew K. Limb

Commandzine.com 11/15/16

Lab-Zine (21)

*60 WRD/MIN Art Critic at University Galleries*, Lori Waxman review

*Studio Visit*, Freshpaintmagazine.com Featured Artist Interview published 07/10/2015

Maakemagazine.com Featured Artist

Booooooom.com featured Artist posted 10/24/2014

Installation Magazine, (16) Digital Publication.

## PRESENTATIONS AND RESIDENCIES

2021      *Post Documentation: Reexamining Relationships Between Physical Art Objects and Online Image Sharing*, Czong Institute for Contemporary Art  
New Media Art Conference, Gimpo, South Korea

2020      *Talk on Professional Practices*, Grand Valley State University  
*Senior Painting Critiques*, University of Arkansas  
*Conversation about Social Distance Gallery*, Montserrat College of Art

2018      *History Abridged*, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

2017      Project 1612, Peoria, IL

2015      8 to CREATE, Urbana, IL

## COLLECTIONS

## **Public**

University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

## **Private**

Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, IL

21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, KY

McDermott, Will & Emory, Miami, FL

Semper/Exeter Paper Company, Edgewood, KY

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

FATE 2024-Present

North American Vexillological Association, 2019-Present

## **GALLERY AFFILIATION**

2015-Present Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2025-Present Assistant Professor of Painting, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

2024-2025 Visiting Assistant Professor, Indiana University-Bloomington,  
Bloomington, IN

2023-2024 Adjunct Faculty Liaison, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

2017-2024 Adjunct Professor, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

2015-2017 Instructor of Record, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,  
Champaign, IL