

Benjamin Cook
www.benjamincookart.com
benjamincook.art@gmail.com

BFA University of Louisville
MFA University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Solo/2 Person Exhibitions/Projects

2020

Social Distance Gallery, @socialdistancegallery, Instagram based project

2019

"Some Walls Are Made Of Bricks" Instagram based project

"Paper Pulp Painting" Pique Gallery, Covington, KY

"From My Friends (with a little help)" Houseguest Gallery, Louisville, KY

2018

"History Abridged" Swanson Contemporary, Louisville, KY

"Optics" Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL

2017

"Image Construction" Project 1612, Peoria, IL

"From My Friends (with a little help)" IRL Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

2016

"How Do I Know You" Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL

"Object Flexibility" DEMO Projects, Springfield, IL

2015

"Paintings for the Internet" Rochester Museum of Fine Arts, Rochester,
NH

2014

"Amusing Myself" Swanson Contemporary, Louisville, KY

Selected Group Exhibitions

2019

"Work @ Play" Zg Gallery, Chicago, IL

2018

"#" Curated by Markus Linnenbrink, 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
"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. Loyde, 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
"Art [Squared]" Public Gallery, Louisville, KY

2013

"Good as Gold" Public Gallery, Louisville, KY

"I Give Up: my art is in your hands" Mail Art, Published via website/
Installation Magazine

"By-Buy-Bye" Public Gallery, Louisville, KY

"Paintings, Paintings, Paintings" Pacific Art League Gallery, Palo Alto, CA

2012

"On the SoFA: State of Fine Arts" Anne Wright Wilson Gallery,
Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY

"The Human Condition" Pyro Gallery, Louisville, KY

"Rites of Passage 8" Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

"Millennials" Morlan Gallery, Transylvania University, Lexington, KY

2011

"International Painting Annual 2" Manifest Gallery, In Print

Gallery

Zg Gallery, Chicago

Awards/Grants

2019 Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile/ U.S. Bank Foundation in support of
community lead, "Covington Flag Project"

2016 Urbana Arts Grants, in support of "Say Uncle" project space

2016 Conrad Fenwick Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2016 School of Art and Design MFA Creative Research Award

Spring 2016 Teacher Ranked as Excellent, University of Illinois Urbana
Champaign

Fall 2015 Teacher Ranked as Excellent, University of Illinois Urbana
Champaign

Short Term Engagements

2020

Invited speaker, Montserrat College of Art

Invited speaker, University of Arkansas

2018

2017 Visiting Artist Lecture, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY
Project 1612 Residency, Peoria, IL
2015 8 to CREATE, Urbana, IL

Bibliography/Interviews/Digital Publications

Whitehot Magazine, "Interview with Benjamin Cook, creator of The Social Distance Gallery Project," April 2020, Amelia Anthony
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
Artnews, "As Art Schools Cancel Student Shows, One Instagram Account Pledges to Give Them Life," 3/18/20, Claire Voon
The Art Newspaper, "'Social Distance Gallery' gives MFA and BFA candidates a chance to exhibit their work," 3/19/20, Jacoba Urist
Art Maze Magazine Issue 8
New American Painting, Issue 136
New American Painting, Issue 135
Lab-Zine, Issue 21
Commandzine.com 11/15/16
How Do I Know You - show review, Columbia Chronicle
New American Painting Issue #125
Expose Art Magazine, 05/2016
60 WRD/MIN Art Critic at University Galleries, Lori Waxman review
Paint Pulse Magazine, Issue 4
"Studio Visit" Freshpaintmagazine.com Featured Artist published 07/10/2015
Maakemagazine.com Featured Artist
Saatchi Art "One to Watch"
Booooooom.com featured Artist posted 10/24/2014
Installation Magazine, Issue 16
Pure Uncut Candy, Volume 2 Issue 11
"Rights of Passage 8" Exhibition catalog
"Millenials" Exhibition catalog
"International Painting Annual 2"

Collections

Blackstone Hotel
21c Museum Hotels
University of Louisville
McDermott, Will & Emory
Semper/Exeter Paper Co.

Professional Experience

2017 - Present

Adjunct Professor: Art Academy of Cincinnati
Classes:
Digital Literacy
Discovery
Painting and Drawing: Voice and Vision
Digital Drawing
Contemporary Practice
Analytical Drawing
Color Theory

2015 - 2017

Instructor of Record: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign,
Classes:
Foundations Drawing 1
Intro to Painting
Painting 2

2014

Teaching Assistant: Foundations Drawing 2
Teaching Assistant: Curatorial Studies

Founding member and Co-Director of "Say Uncle" (2015-present)
Founding member and Co-Curator of on-campus gallery space "East Wall Gallery" (2015-present)
Preparator: Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL
Preparator: Figure One Gallery, Champaign, IL
Gallery Internship: Swanson Contemporary Gallery, Louisville, KY
Art Handler: Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY

