

EDRA SOTO

(b. Puerto Rico) Living in Chicago since 1998

edrasoto.com

Co-Founder, The Franklin, est. 2012

thefranklinoutdoor.tumblr.com

EDUCATION

2000

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Master of Fine Arts, Chicago, IL

1997

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, Chicago, IL

1995

Alfonso Arana's Foundation, One-year Painting Fellowship, Paris, FR

1994

Escuela de Artes Plasticas de Puerto Rico, Bachelor of Fine Arts., San Juan, PR

SELECTED AWARDS & COMMISSIONS

2020

Facebook Public Art commission, Victoria, Fremont, CA (forthcoming)

CTA Public Art commission Blue Line Western Station, with Dan Sullivan, Chicago, IL (forthcoming)

Arts for Illinois Relief Fund (AIRF) Grant in partnership with 3 Arts, IL

Perto de Lá <> Close To There, MacArthur International Connections Fund, CH & BR

2019

Foundwork Artist Prize Winner, National

Millennium Park Foundation & DCASE, Boeing North Park, Screenhouse, IL

Illinois Arts Council Agency 2019 Fellowship Award, IL

Google Artists in Residence, Mountain View, CA

Poetry Foundation, On Visiting the Franklin Park Conservatory & Botanical Gardens, IL

Repatriacion, MacArthur International Connections Fund, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, CH & PR

Fashion Outlets Chicago, curated by Johanna Projects, Open 24 Hours, Chicago, IL

2018

Cross Currents Artists Exchange, MacArthur International Connections Fund, CH & CU

2017

3Arts Make A Wave Grant, Chicago, IL

2:2:2 Exchange, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX

DCASE Individual Artists Award, Chicago, IL

2016

Efroymsen Contemporary Arts Fellowship, Indianapolis, IN

Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant, New York, NY

2015

No Coast Editions, Chicago, IL

2014

ArtSlant Prize 2014, Grand Prize winner, Aqua Art Fair, Miami Beach, FL

2008

New American Paintings, Midwest, curated by Raphaela Platow, National

SELECTED LECTURES

2020

State of the Art 2020: The Aesthetics of Place, The Momentary, via Zoom

Open 24 Hours: Virtual Artist Talk, Heaven Gallery, via Zoom

The Open Practice Committee lecture series, DoVA, University of Chicago, via Zoom
Vanderbilt University Visiting Artist, via Zoom
Mount Royal School of Art Visiting Artist, Maryland Institute College of Art, Via Zoom
Monuments without Heroes, College Art Association Conference, IL
Transnational Feminisms for The Feminist Art Project, College Art Association Conference, IL
Locate Projects, Visiting Speaker: Edra Soto, University of Tennessee, TN
Art Beyond Gallery Walls, Anna Cerniglia, Edra Soto and Chad Kouri, The Hoxton, IL

2019

Creative Chicago: Interview Marathon Book Launch, Dialogues, EXPOChicago, IL
The Cosmos: Possibilities of a Structure, Edra Soto, Eduardo Terrazas, Dialogues, EXPOChicago, IL
College of DuPage, Visiting Artists Series, Cleve Carney Art Gallery, Glen Ellyn, IL
Chicago Artists Coalition, Field Work, Guest Speaker, Chicago, IL

2018

Creative Chicago: An Interview Marathon, lead by Hans Ulrich Obrist, EXPO Chicago, Chicago, IL
FIELD/WORK: Art Business Models, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL
Sculpture Dialogues, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Illinois State University, in conversation with William Cordova and Luis Gispert, Normal, IL
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA
Loyola University Museum of Art, moderator for Victoria Martinez, Chicago, IL
Indiana University, Grunwald Gallery, Out of Easy Reach symposium, Bloomington, IN,
Association of Midwest Museum, Chicago Creative Community Flash Talks, Chicago, IL
UIC Gallery 400 Voices, Chicago, IL
Brown University, Providence, RI
Chicago High School for the Arts, Chicago, IL
Chicago Artists Coalition, Field Work, Guest Speaker, Chicago, IL

2017

University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Illinois State University, Normal, IL
Chicago Artists Coalition, Field Work, Guest Speaker, Chicago, IL

2016

Hanes Visiting Artist Lecture Series, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL
University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign, IL
University of Illinois Springfield Visual Arts Gallery, Springfield, IL

2015

DePaul University, Art, Media & Design, Chicago, IL
Threewalls, SAIC Low-Res MFA Studio Seminar, Chicago, IL
DePaul University, Contemporary Practices Seminar, Chicago, IL

SELECTED RESIDENCIES

2021

Abrons Arts Center Residency in partnership with Pública, La Residencia, NY & PR

2020

Montalvo Arts Center, 3Arts Foundation Fellow, CA (postponed)

2019

Ragdale Foundation Residency, Lake Forest, IL

2018

Ox-Bow, Special Topics: Supermodel (instructor), Saugatuck, MI
Art OMI International Arts Center, Cecily Brown Honorary Fellowship, Ghent, NY

2017

Headlands Center for the Arts - and commissioned exhibition - Sausalito, CA
Arts/Industry residency, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI

Project Row Houses, 2:2:2 Exchange in partnership with Hyde Park Art Center, Houston, TX

2014

Rauschenberg Artist Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, 3Arts Fellow, Captiva, FL

2011

Beta-Local, Lecture and residency, San Juan, PR

2000

Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, SAIC Trustee's Scholarship, Skowhegan, ME

SELECTED SOLO AND TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2021

TBD, Cleve Carney Museum of Art, Glen Ellyn, IL (forthcoming)

2020

Forgotten Forms, Edra Soto and Yhelena Hall, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, IL

Open 24 Hours, Heaven Gallery, IL

2019

Forgotten Forms, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL

2018

OPEN 24 HOURS, Chicago Athletic Association, Chicago IL

OPEN 24 HOURS, Fashion Outlets Chicago, Chicago, IL

OPEN 24 HOURS, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2017

OPEN 24 HOURS, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA

OPEN 24 HOURS, The Ski Club, Milwaukee, WI

Screenhouse, curated by Janine Mileaf, The Arts Club of Chicago, Chicago IL

Manual GRAFT, curated by Kendra Paitz, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL

GRAFT, curated by Albert Stabler, Sector 2337, Chicago, IL

2016

It's Been A Very Good Year, Waubensee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL

It's Been A Very Good Year, Outhaus, Champaign, IL

GRAFT, curated by Albert Stabler, Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space, New York, NY

2015

I IN THE SKY, Pedestrian Projects, Harold Washington College, Chicago, IL

Bernard Williams & Edra Soto, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN

DOMINODOMINO, with Dan Sullivan, EXPO CHGO, Chicago, IL

DOMINODOMINO, with Dan Sullivan, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020

(Re)Visions of Chicago Public Schools, CPS Lives, IL (online)

Temporal, Museum of Contemporary Photography, IL (postponed)

TBD, Weinberg Newton Gallery, IL (postponed)

Artists Run Chicago 2.0, The Franklin, Hyde Park Art Center, IL (postponed)

State of the Art 2020, curated by Lauren Hayes, Alejo Benedetti and Allison Glenn, The Momentary, AK

Stilleven, Morgan Lehman Gallery, NY

The Petty Biennial 2, Heaven Gallery & Glass Curtain Gallery, IL

Open House: Domestic Thresholds, curated by Aaron Ott, Albright-Knox Northland, IL

2019

Cross Currents, Smart Museum, Chicago, IL

CNL Projects, Willis Tower, Chicago IL

Repatriacion, Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico, PR

Monarchs, curated by Risa Puleo, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, KS

2018

High Desert Test Sites, curated by The Ski Club, Joshua Tree, CA
Monarchs, crated by Risa Puleo, Southwest School of Art and Blue Star Contemporary, Austin, TX
Local Comfort, LVL3, Chicago, IL
Corrosive Like Salt Water, curated by Sharmyn Cruz Rivera, Glass Curtain Gallery, Chicago, IL
ISLA, curated by Jacqueline Milad, Center for the Arts, Towson University, Towson, MD
GOLD, Aspect/Ratio, Chicago, IL
Out of Easy Reach, curated by Allison Gleen, Grunwald Gallery of Art, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Dock 6 Design & Art #11, Chicago, IL
On Visiting...by Khaty Xiong, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center and Poetry Foundation, Chicago IL
Out of Easy Reach, curated by Allison Glenn, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL
Isla Imaginaria, curated by Natalia Viera Salgado, SVA, NYC, NY
Cross Currents, Smart Museum, Chicago, IL

2017

Monarchs, curated by Risa Puleo, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Traduttore, Traditore, curated by Karen Greenwalt and Katja Rivera, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL
Infinite Games, organized by John Preus, Open House Contemporary, Chicago, IL
The Poor Connection, curated by Lise Baggesen and Yvette Brackman, Krabbesholm Exhibitions, Skive, DK
Terrain Biennial, Chicago, IL
Summer on the River, The Floating Museum, Chicago, IL
Spots, Dots, Pips and Tiles, curated by Arden Sherman and Maria Elena Ortiz, Perez Art Museum, Miami, FL
Personals, Skowhegan, New York, NY
Mind's I, curated by Anne Harris, Ed Paschke Art Center, Chicago, IL
Beyond Printmaking, curated by Patricia Villalobos, TexasTech University, Lubbock, TX
Ida y vuelta, curated by Laura Bravo, Museo de Historia, Antropologia y Arte de la UPR, San Juan, PR

2016

Spots, Dots, Pips and Tiles, curated by Arden Sherman and Maria Elena Ortiz, Hunter East Harlem Gallery, NY
RENBEN 2016, The Renaissance Society, Chicago, IL
Connect, curated by Allison Glenn, Hyde Park, IL
Minimum Requirement, Silent Funny, Chicago, IL
The Arts Club Centennial Celebration (performance), Chicago IL
New Age Now: Art Auction, 2016 Green Lantern Press Fundraiser, Sector 2337, Chicago, IL
The Suffragette Social, Spudnik Press, Chicago, IL
I Am Prepared, curated by Charlotte Street Foundation, La Esquina, Kansas City, KS
The International Printmaking Alliance, Imperial Ancestral Temple Art Museum, Beijing, CN
Great Poor Farm Experiment, curated by Lise Baggesen and Yvette Brackman, Manama, WI
This room is a work made of people curated by Alberto Aguilar, The Art Institute of Chicago, IL
There was no joy in the brilliance of sunshine curated by Ruslana Lichtzier, Efrain Lopez Gallery, Chicago, IL
Manual GRAFT, Rapid Pulse International Performance Festival, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, IL
White Feelings, curated by Albert Stabler, Figure One Gallery, Champaign, IL

2015

IV Trienal Poli/Graifca de San Juan, Latinoamerica y el Caribe, San Juan, PR
Know Yourself, The Luminary, St. Louise, MO
Terrain Biennial, Oak Park, IL
SPECTRA, UNO St. Claude, University of New Orleans, LA
Material Normal Monumental, Riverside Arts Center, Riverside, IL
DUCKS SHOW LA, Minotaur Projects, Los Angeles, CA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2013-Present

Contemporary Practices Department, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Lecturer, Chicago, IL

2018-2019

Art Department, Socially engaged Art course, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL
2018
Ox-Bow, Summer Course Instructor, Saugatuck, MI
2015
The Bridge Program, Professional Development Program, Hyde Park Art Center, Facilitator, Chicago, IL
2013-2015
Art and Street Culture, Early College Program, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Instructor, Chicago, IL
2013
Inside Innovative Minds, Early College Program (Summer Institute), School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Instructor,
Chicago, IL
2005-12
Noble Street College Prep (OC), High School, Art Teacher, Chicago, IL
2001-05
Kelvyn Park High School, High School, Art Teacher, Chicago, IL

SELECTED CURATORIAL WORK

2020

The Franklin takeover COVIDtv, 25 artists, LIVE streaming, Instagram

2019

Entrelazar, The Arts of Life, Chicago, IL

2018

Under the Influence, Ralph Arnold Gallery, Loyola University, Chicago, IL

Expansive Threads, Latino Arts Inc, Milwaukee, WI

2017

Home Feelings, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX

Dock 6 Collective, Design & Art 10, Chicago, IL

2016

Y, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, MFA 2016 Selection, EXPO CHGO, Chicago, IL

The Annual, SHOWROOM, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL

Everything Must Go! Art Fair (for THE FRANKLIN), Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL

41L, Revival Food Hall, Chicago, IL

DOCK 6 Collective Design & Art Series #9, Chicago, IL

Present Standard, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago IL

2015

SPECTRA, with Maria Gaspar and Damon Locks, UNO St. Claude, LA

2012 - present, multiple exhibitions at The Franklin, Chicago, IL

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

2020

Roldan Soto, Camile, La Residencia: un proyecto de colaboración, El Nuevo Dia (May)

Cahill, Zachary, Volume 3, Number 1, Portable Gray (Spring 2020)

Lucero, Jorge and Shaeffer, Laura, The Compound Yellow Manual (publication)

Cardoza, Kerry, Counting for Culture, Chicago Reader (May)

Kim, Patricia Eunji, Shifting Public Spaces, Monument Lab (April)

Radley, Jack, Crystal Bridges's New Space the Momentary, Artsy (February)

Gomez, Guisell, Meet the Boricua Artist Edra Soto, BeLatina (January)

2019

Elbaor, Caroline, 6 Breakout Artists from Across America, Artnet News (November)

Indrisek, Scott, Edra Soto interview, Foundwork Dialogues (November)

Resende Santos, Marina, Tanto and Edra Soto in Conversation, Sixty (August)

Ar, Manisha, Mixed Media and a Clear Messaging, South Side Weekly (July)

Guerrero, Esperanza M., The Franklin, El corazón artístico de Chicago, Contratiempo (Summer)
Reilly, Alison, Mining Personal History to Create Artistic Engagement - cover - CGN (May)
Snodgrass, Susan, Forgotten Forms: Edra Soto and Yhelena Hall, THE SEEN (April)
Landwehr, Amanda, Forgotten Forms: A Celebration of Neighborhood Identity, The Torch (February)
Hieggelke, Brian, The Chicago of Tomorrow: : Thirty-three visions for the next city, Newcity (February)
Roldan Soto, Camile, "Repatriación": un puente entre Chicago y Puerto Rico, El Nuevo Dia (January)
Hayes, Jeffreen, Artists of Color Take Charge of Art Spotlight, New Art Examiner (Jan/Feb)
Nafziger, Christina, Creating Community Through Artistic Practice, Create Magazine, (Winter)

2018

Artspace Editors, Untitled Art, Preview: Creative Time's Justine Ludwig Picks Her Favorites, (December)
Farley, Anthony Michael, Beauty and the Beach, B'More Art, (December)
Reichert, Elliot J., Art 50 2018: Chicago's Artists' Artists, (August)
Waxman, Lori, Abstraction, Explained, Chicago Tribune, (May)
Lax, Matthew, Snap Reviews, Contemporary Art Review Los Angeles (March)
Dambrot, Shana Nys, Soul Recordings, Artillery Magazine (March)
Madlangsakay, Kim, Meet Edra Soto, Voyage Chicago Magazine (February)
Ingrassia, Emma, ...the Relationship Between Mentor and Student, Loyola Phoenix (February)
Nafziger, Christina, Collected Histories: 'Open 24 Hours', Sixty Inches From Center (February)
Salaam, Rahim, What About Chicago? podcast (February)
Editorial, Monarchs at Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Contemporary Art Daily (February)
Lee Ann Norman, Poppin'Bottles, Newcity Art, (February)
Arvia, Janet, There's Nothing Common About MCA's the Commons..., Rebellious Magazine (January)
KT Hawbaker, Edra Soto uses glass bottles to resurrect history..., Chicago Tribune (January)

2017

Uner Yilmaz, Pinar, The Traitorous Translator, Artslant (December)
KT Hawbaker, Crossing the Paseo and globe in one show, Chicago Tribune (December)
LVL3, Artist of the Week, LVL3 Gallery (November)
Teruya, Weston, Un-Making interview for Art Practical (November)
My Chicago, School of the Art Institute of Chicago magazine (Fall)
Foumberg, Jason, Cut out the middle man, Chicago Magazine (September)
Kogan, Rick, Do we love Picasso now?, Chicago Tribune (September)
Voon, Claire, 50th Anniversary of Its Picasso Sculpture, Hyperallergic (August)
Shabaka, Onajide, Dominoes: Bones of Miami, Sugarcane Magazine (July)
Art Viewer, Home Feelings curated by Edra Soto (June)
Bad at Sports, Episode 582: Edra Soto, (March)
O'Farrill, Zorian, Arte boricua en Chicago, Indice Puerto Rico, PR (March)
Tsapovsky, Flora, Feature: Reflective Retreat, Pacific Sun (March)
Forst, Morgan, Artist of the Week: Edra Soto, Chicago Woman Magazine (March)
Luna, Mev, Edra Soto, artist and co-director of The Franklin, Emerge / SAIC (Fall 2016 / Spring 2017)
Davis, Laura, Edra Soto & Danny Giles at Sector 2337, Bad at Sports (February)
Chinn, McKenzie, #INFLUENCERS 2017, VAM Studio (February)

2016

Reichert, Elliot J., Top Five of Everything 2016, Newcity Art (December)
Lam, Jenny, What Comes Next, Sixty Inches From Center (November)
Dluzen, Robin, Report: Chicago, Art Ltd. (November)
Fiore, Brad, 3 Shows, Palliate (October)
Reichert, Elliot J., Edra Soto's Really Good Year, Newcity Art (September)
Taub, Kelly, Three Ways to do Expo Chicago, Chicago Reader (September)
McGrath Carrie, Check Out Highlights From Chicago's Premier Art Fair, Chicagoist (September)
Lennard, Angee, Edra Soto at Spudnik Press, Spudnik Press website (September)
Lam, Jenny, 9 art gallery exhibitions to see in September, Time Out Chicago (August)
Yeapanis, Stacia, Interview, Other Peoples Pixels (July)
Knaur, Rebecca, Figure One to talk about White Feelings, Smile Politely (June)
Lane, Nicole, Sangria and Meryl Streep, Third Coast Review (May)

Meier, Allison, Grafting Puerto Rican Architecture onto the Lower East Side, Hyperallergic (April)
Oliver de la Cruz, Jimena, Outhaus, Smile Politely (April)
Munro, Tim, What I'm Doing This Weekend, Chicago Magazine (April)
MacKenzie, Duncan, Present Standard, Bad At Sports (March)
Arruza, Eddie, Latino Art Now, WTTW Chicago Tonight (April)
Quiles Daniel, Critiques Pick "Present Standard", Artforum (March)
Aguilar, Alberto, Formative Work Series (March)
PBS The Art Assignment, Art Trip: Chicago (March)
Gomez, Sergio, Next Level podcast, (March)
Knaur, Rebecca, It's been a Very Good Year at the Outhaus, Smile Politely (March)
Waxman, Lori, Good Looking: A survey of contemporary Latino art, Chicago Tribune (March)
Hanna, Noah, Present Standard, Newcity (February)
Stumeier, Daniel, Know Yourself at the Luminary, Daily Serving (February)
Urchick, Stephen, Gripping Art, South Side Weekly (February)
Cruz, Brenda, Un Tsunami a Destiempo (February)
Schmutz, Trevor, Present Standard preview, Third Coast Review (January)
Potter, Melissa, I In The Sky,: An Interview with Edra Soto, Gender Assignment (January)
Waxman, Lori, All Together Now: A new biennial in Elmhurst, Chicago Tribune (January)
Lane, S. Nicole, In Profile: Edra Soto, Newcity (January)
Foumberg, Jason, Art & Design, Chicago Magazine (January)

2015

Srivastava, Jyoti, EXPO 2015: EXPO Projects, Public Art in Chicago (September)
Roscoe Mayo, Amanda, EXPO Chicago: Projects, SFAQ (September)
Behar, Ionit, Highlights and Surprises, ARTslant Chicago (September)
Munice, Amy, EXPO Chicago 2015 Review, Splash Magazines (September)
Foumberg, Jason, Your Ultimate Guide to EXPO Chicago, Chicago Magazine (September)
Nitkin, Alex, Everyone Feels Welcome, DNAinfo, (August)
Alamo-Costello, Chester, Soto & Sullivan, The Franklin, COMP Art&Design (February)
Grabner, Michelle, Westward Homes, Art in American (January)
Jan, Eytan, CRIBS, I Heart, Chicago edition (January)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2020

Mentor, Programa de Estudios Independientes, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico, PR

2019-2020

Art on theMART Board Member, Chicago, IL

2018

Arts Alliance Illinois, Expression Subcommittee Co-Chair, IL

2013 - Ongoing

Ragdale Foundation curatorial board, Lake Forest, IL

2015

Chicago Architecture Biennial: The Franklin / Affiliate Program Partner

2014 - 2015

ACRE Residency

SELECTED JURYING EXPERIENCE

2020

Vanderbilt University, Hamlet Award lecturer and juror, via Zoom
Student Annual at University Galleries of Illinois State University, via Zoom
48.24.12, Art Bash SAIC Contemporary Practices Department, via Zoom

2019

Illinois Arts Council Agency 2020 jury committee for Fellowship Award, IL
Chicago Artists Coalition, Office Hours, Portfolio Review
Arts/Industry residency, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI

2018

Root & Culture jury committee, Chicago, IL

2016

University of Illinois at Urbana (BFA exhibition juror and lecturer), Champaign, IL

COLLECTIONS

Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico

Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Puerto Rico

The Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection

Google Art Collection

Berezdivin Collection, Espacio 1414

Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

Private collections