

RONALD LEAX

Current Position

Halsey C. Ives Professor of Art Emeritus
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts
Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, MO

Education

Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI, M.F.A. in Sculpture 1980
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, Culture Shock Studies. 1969 (VISTA Volunteer Training Program)
Brown University, Providence, RI, B.A. in Art 1969

One and Two Artist Exhibitions

- 2014 Word/Image: John Leax and Ronald Leax, Ortlip Gallery, Houghton College, Houghton, NY
Natural History of Georgetown, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport, ME
- 2013 Cell Drawings, Tavern of Fine Arts, St. Louis, MO
- 2011 Selected Drawings, Thomas Jefferson School, St. Louis, MO
- 2009 Flatworks, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO (catalogue)
- 2006 Anatomisms, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Nature Rehearsed: Richard Krueger and Ronald Leax, Purdue University Galleries, West Lafayette, IN
Anatomisms, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport ME
- 2005 New Laboratories, Johnson Gallery, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN
- 2004 Laboratories or Last Suppers, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2002 wondercabinet, Historic Lemp Brewery, St. Louis, MO
- 2001 Ontological Library. Chapters 1-26, Center for Book and Paper Arts, Chicago, IL
- 2000 Science Disturbs/Art Reassures, Gallery Michael Williams' Closet, St. Louis, MO
Codon Series, Gallery Michael Williams' Closet, University City, MO
- 1999 Inside/Outside: The Art of Caring, Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, Detroit Zoological Society, Detroit MI
Billboard Project, Revolution: A Gallery, Project, Detroit, MI
- 1998 New Drawings, Mike Javernick and Ronald Leax, MOSSA, St. Louis, MO
- 1997 Strange Attractors, Revolution: A Gallery Project, Ferndale, MI (brochure)
- 1993 Ontological Library. Chapters 1-22, Forum for Contemporary Art, St. Louis, MO
Ronald Leax and Jane Lander Birdsall, Kansas City Writers Center, Kansas City, MO
The Mind Is A Muscle, Ronald Leax and Celeste Roberge, Farnsworth Museum, Rockland, ME (brochure)
- 1992 Ontological Library. Chapter 6, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME
- 1991 Tidebrook Project, Tidebrook Conservation Trust, South Freeport, ME
Ontological Library, Maine Coast Artists Gallery, Rockport, ME
Ontological Library. Chapter 4, Benton Park Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Oasis, John Burroughs School, St. Louis, MO
- 1990 Sculpture & Drawings, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 1989 Corporeal/Conceptual Curiosities, Benton Park Gallery, St. Louis, MO

- Universe Drawing, Nevertheless Press Gallery, St. Louis, MO
 1988 Time Stratigraphic Relationships, Benton Park Gallery, St. Louis, MO
 1987 Zoofari Project, St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO
 1986 Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI (catalog)
Duets, Ronald Leax and Carol Jurgens, Buckham Fine Arts Center, Flint, MI
 1985 Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
Science, Image, Metaphor: Ronald Leax/Marvin Lowe, Center Court Gallery, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
 1984 Marygrove College, Detroit, MI (catalog)
 1983 Studio 23 Gallery, Bay City, MI (catalog)
 1982 C.A.D.E. Gallery, Detroit, MI
 1980 Helen Shlein Gallery, Boston, MA
 1978 Two Artists, Flag Gallery, Jamaica Plain, MA
 1977 Two Massachusetts Artists: Ronald Allen Leax/Leon Schulman, George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, Springfield, MA (catalog)
 1973 Two Artists, Heaney Gallery, Holden, MA
 1972 Two Artists, Adam Reed Gallery, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI
 1969 Lane Center Gallery, Gordon College, Wenham, MA
 Faunce House Gallery, Brown University, Providence, RI

Group Exhibitions

- 2018 Tidal, Waterfall Arts Center, Belfast, ME
 2017 The Ontology of Influence: Ronald Leax and Thirty-Seven Alumni, Des Lee Gallery, St. Louis, MO (catalogue)
 2016 X Exhibition, Insurance Gallery, Granite City, IL
Read Image, See Text, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Exposure: Ten Years, Gallery 210, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
 2014 Odd Volumes, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT (catalogue)
 2011 Exposure 14: Brigham Dimick, Greg Edmonson, Ronald Leax, Gallery 210, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
 2009 Re(Search): Exploring the Relationship between Art and Science, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN
 2008 40 Small Scale Works, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
 2007 Body Parts, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Portland venue, Portland, ME
Exchange, Bradley University Art Galleries, Peoria, IL
 Small Scale Work, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Truckin', White Flag Gallery Exchange at La Esquina, Kansas City, MO
 2006 Symbiosis, Perkinson Galleries, Kirkland Fine Arts Center, Milliken University, Decatur, IL
Transulcent, Des Lee Gallery, St. Louis, Mo
 2004 Some Things Happening, Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN
3rd Annual School of Medicine Sculpture Exhibition, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis Mo
 Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
 2003 Inaugural Exhibition, Philip Slein Gallery, St. Louis, MO
 2002 5 Sculptors, Innsbrook Conference Center, Innsbrook, MO
Cache, Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO

- 2001 Achromatic, Revolution: A Gallery Project, Detroit, MI
A Collision of Cool II, Pontiac, MI
- 2000 In Form 6, Historic Lemp Brewery, St. Louis, MO
A Collision of Cool, Pontiac, MI
Pages, The Center for Book and Paper Arts, Chicago, IL
- 1999 Revolution: A Gallery Project, Detroit, MI
Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL
Agitating Utopia, Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 1998 Rethinking Artists' Books, University Art Gallery, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI
The Book Transformed, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
The Artist Book -Story and Structure, Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, IL, Logan College, Carterville, IL (catalog)
St. Louis Artists, The City Series, G. B. Brown Building, St. Louis, MO
In Form 5, Lemp Street Brewery, St. Louis, MO (catalog)
- 1997 Book Arts Fair, Bixby Gallery, St. Louis, MO
UNBOUND: art in bookform/book as art form, Herron Gallery of Art, Indianapolis, IN
Site as Context, Kemper Museum, (formerly Steinberg Gallery of Art), St. Louis, MO
Maine Debuts Since 1979, Maine Coast Artists, Rockport, ME
Contents under pressure, Gallery B, Memphis, TN
St. Louis Artists, Cedar Rapids Museum, Cedar Rapids, IA (catalog)
Revolution, Chicago Art Fair, Chicago, IL
- 1996 Exposition Collective, Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, France
Nature/Culture, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow, Scotland
- 1995 On Beyond the Book, Forum for Contemporary Art, St. Louis, MO (catalog)
Revolutions, A Gallery Project, Ferndale, MI
Taxonomies and Their Problems, St. Louis Design Center, St. Louis, MO
Wild and Wooley, Lewis Center Installation Room, University City, MO
- 1994 Building a Collection, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Nature, Revolution: A Gallery Project, Ferndale, MI.
The Lure of the Local, University of Colorado Art Galleries, Boulder, CO
Sketchbooks, Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
Private Libraries: Watershed Colloquy, Art Gallery, University of Southern Maine, Gorham, ME (brochure)
History and Memory: Objects and Images, Foster Gallery, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, WI
- 1993 Cranbrook Convergence: Donoghue, Leax Nicholson, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
The Nature of the Machine, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL (catalog)
Earth, Air, Fire, and Water, Selections from the Permanent Collection, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1992 Artful Nature, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL (catalog)
Ode to the Book, Danforth Gallery, Portland, ME
In Form III, Lemp Street Brewery, St. Louis, MO
New and Notable Acquisitions, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI

- 1991 Missouri Biennial, Museum of Art & Archaeology, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO; Albrecht Art Museum, St. Joseph, MO; Gallery at the Center of Contemporary Art, St. Louis, MO
Springfield Art Museum, Springfield, MO; Margaret Harwell Art Museum, Poplar Bluff, MO (catalog)
- 1990 Maine Coast Artists Annual, Maine Coast Artist Gallery, Rockport, ME; Barn Gallery, Ogunquit, ME
St. Louis Connections: Three St. Louis Artist, Mitchell Art Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL
Seven Million Inches, Center for Contemporary Art, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
In Form II, Lemp Brewery, St. Louis, MO
Blue Moon Gallery, St. Louis, MO
St. Louis Artist Guild Invitational, St. Louis, MO
- 1989 Mask Invitational, Pro-Art Gallery, St. Louis, MO
New Harmony Gallery, New Harmony, IN
10 Sculptors, Anne Weber Gallery, Georgetown, ME
Benton Park Gallery, St. Louis, MO
Recent Acquisitions, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1988 Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN
The MCA Gallery, Detroit, MI (catalog)
Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
Benton Park Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 1987 Endangered Species, Alternative Museum, New York, NY (catalog)
A-Z, Detroit Artist Market, Detroit, MI
Art Over The Sofa, Bixby Gallery, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Part to Part, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
- 1986 Made in America, Alternative Museum, New York, NY; Spaces Gallery, Cleveland, OH (catalog)
Works on Paper, Hamburg House Gallery, Hamburg University, Hamburg, Germany. Traveling exhibition to Koln/Bonn, Frankfurt, Munich, Stuttgart, West Berlin, and Purdue University, IN (catalog)
Whirlpool Sculpture Competition, Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI; Evansville Museum of Art and Science, Evansville, IN; Fort Smith Art Center, Fort Smith, AR; Metropolitan Museum and Art Center, Coral Gables, FL
Five Sculptors, Ford Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
New Drawings by Sculptors, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
Update: Detroit Artists, Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1985 Image and Mystery, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
Ninth Annual Michigan Biennial, Kresge Art Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (catalog)
A Road Show, Jesse Besser Museum, Alpena, MI; Race Street Gallery, Grand Rapids, MI; Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI; Midland Center for the Arts, Midland, MI; McCune Art Center, Petosky, MI;
Artemesia Gallery, Chicago, IL (catalog)
- 1984 Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI
In Tandem, Michigan Council for the Arts Awards Exhibition, Pontiac Art Center, Pontiac, MI (catalog)

- 1983 Michigan Sculpture Faculty, Muskegon College, Muskegon, MI
1 x 1 x 1: Twenty-five Cranbrook Academy of Art Alumni, Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI;
 Converse College, Spartansburg, SC; Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI (catalog)
Michigan Artist-in-Residence, University-Liggett School, Grosse Pointe, MI
Annual Area Awards Show, Studio 23, Bay City, MI
 C.A.D.E. Gallery, Detroit, MI
Artist-In-Schools Exhibition, Studio 23, Bay City, MI
- 1981 C.A.D.E. Gallery, Detroit, MI
Annual Area Show, Studio 23, Bay City, MI
- 1980 Sculptors' Collages, Willis Gallery, Detroit, MI
Collage, Watson Gallery, Wheaton College, Norton, MA (catalog)
- 1979 Helen Shlein Gallery, Boston, MA
Mid-West Sculpture Exchange, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (catalog)
Cranbrook Painting and Sculpture, Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI (catalog)
- 1978 Four Artists, Westfield State College, Westfield, MA
- 1975 Magic Spaces, B.V.A.U. Gallery, Boston, MA
B.V.A.U. Open Show, Cyclorama Building, Boston, MA
- 1974 American Images, Goethe Institute, Boston, MA
Annual Invitational Exhibition, Framingham State College, Framingham, MA
- 1973 New England, New Talent, DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA (catalog)
Inaugural Exhibition, Nashua Arts and Science Center, Nashua, NH
Contemporary Art for Young Collectors, Brown University, Providence, RI
- 1972 61st Annual American Art Exhibition, Art Association of Newport, RI
Three Artists, Lane Art Gallery, Gordon College, Wenham, MA
Small Sculpture, Providence Art Club, Providence, RI

Grants and Awards

- 2017 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 2014 Teacher of the Year Award, Sam Fox School of Art and Design, Washington University
- 2011 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 2008 Distinguished Teacher of Art Award, College Art Association
- 2006 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 2004 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 2002 Halsey C. Ives Distinguished Professorship, Washington University
 Distinguished Faculty Award, Washington University Alumni Association
- 2001 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 1996 Cité Internationale des Arts, Residency, Paris, France
- 1992 Visual Artists Sea Grant, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- 1990 Missouri Visual Artist Biennial Award, Missouri Arts Commission
- 1986 Creative Artists Grant, Michigan Council for the Arts
- 1984 Creative Artists Grant, Michigan Council for the Arts
- 1983 Mellon Foundation Grant
- 1982 Artist-in-Residence Grant, Michigan Council for the Arts
- 1981 Artist-in-Residence Grant, Michigan Council for the Arts
- 1980 Artist-in-Residence Grant, Michigan Council for the Arts
- 1974 Blanche E. Colman Foundation, Grant for Creative Research