

Bill Thelen

www.billthelen.com

Born: 1966, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Education

- 2000 **MFA** University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
1993 **BFA** University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
1988 **Study Abroad Program** University of Wisconsin at Aarhus University, Denmark

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 **Ghost Records** (A Day without Art), All Day Records, Carrboro, NC
2023 **you never needed anything from a fake wizard anyway**, Pilgrim, Paris
Drawings from Covid, Rebus Works, Raleigh, NC
2021 **until it wasn't**, Over/Under Gallery, NYC, NY
2020 **forest floor: side a/b**, Slug, Carrboro, NC
2019 **sad_support_4_vr_gang**, Raleigh Denim Workshop, Raleigh NC
2018 **Hotel Theory**, 21c, Durham, NC
Biscuit Station, The Rubenstein, Duke University, Durham, NC
homesick, Off-White Columns, New York, NY
2014 **low hanging fruit**, Spectre Arts, Durham, NC
2013 **nobody's home** Dirty Looks: On Location, Le Petit Versailles, NYC, NY
2012 **nobody's home**, The Niche, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Suicide & Death, Green Gallery West, Milwaukee, WI
Andro//pause, Andre, UNCG, Greensboro, NC
2010 **Connect Up To Me**, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA
2007 **Minor Character** Branch Gallery, Durham, NC
2005 **Hands Off My Viagra!!** Allcott Gallery, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC
2004 **Ballbuster** Rebus Works, Raleigh, NC
2003 **nobody's home** Allston Skirt Gallery, Boston, MA
1999 **eliminator** Allcott Gallery, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC
1998 **Klub Fuckt** Modern Museum, Durham, NC

Group Exhibitions

- 2025 **Illustrating a Point**, Stove Works, Chattanooga, TN
2024 **sLump**, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA
2023 **True Likeness**, Gregg Museum, Raleigh, NC
2020 **True Likeness**, Davidson College, Davidson, NC (traveling exhibition, catalog)
2019 **Floor to Ceiling**, Off-White Columns, New York, NY
2018 **Anti-Nostalgia**, The Carrack, Durham, NC
The Contemporaries: Hot Takes, Light Gallery, Chapel Hill, NC
2017 **Southern Accent**, Speed Museum, Louisville, KY (catalog)
2016 **Southern Accent**, Nasher Art Museum, Duke University, Durham, NC (catalog)
Bill Thelen / Jack Ziemann, Pig & Pony Gallery, Austin, TX
2015 **The Nothing That Is** (curator, artist), Contemporary Art Museum, Raleigh, NC
Area (919), Nasher Art Museum, Duke University, Durham, NC
2013 **At Home with Little Joe**, Galeria Zé dos Bois, Lisbon, Portugal
2012 **Sired by A Creep**, Good Citizen, St. Louis, MO
2011 **Drop City**, Lump, Raleigh, NC
Heads on Poles, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
2010 **Black Gold**, The Front, New Orleans, LA
2009 **Accessing the Artist's Brain: Drawing as Metaphor** AVA, Chattanooga, TN
In That Golden Land Heaven Gallery, Chicago

Cool, Collected and In Context Weatherspoon Museum, Greensboro, NC
DIY Rapture Cell Projects, London, UK
2007 **Glad To See You!** Space 1026, Philadelphia, PA
Heroes Bryce's Barber Shop, Olympia, WA
Home & Away Space Pittsburgh, PA
The Building Show Exit Art, New York, NY
2006 **LP's or Cassettes** Cinders Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Fortress Artscape, Baltimore, MD
Pleased To Meet You Branch Gallery, Durham, NC
Deaths UVA Offgrounds Gallery, Charlottesville, VA
Good & Thuggy Lumpwest, Eugene, OR
Bunker Than Thou Bemis Center, Omaha, NE
2005 **Two For The Seesaw** Branch Gallery, Carrboro, NC
Living Room Cinders Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Four-squared Motel Gallery, Portland, OR
Art Cologne New Contemporaries, Cologne, Germany
The General's Jamboree Guild and Greyshkul, New York, NY
Homegrown Southeast Southeastern Center for Contemporary
A to Z New Image Art, Los Angeles, CA (catalog)
2004 **NADA** art fair, Miami, FL (Allston Skirt and Branch Gallery booths)
Goodbye Says It All Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA (catalog)
Lost Weekend Lump Gallery/Projects, Raleigh, NC
Bunker The Clean Room, Chapel Hill, NC
Bad Touch v6 Beaker Gallery, Tampa, FL
Lucky Day Branch Gallery, Carrboro, NC
Fred Was Here Issue Project Room, New York, NY
Labeler Loom, Pittsboro, NC
2003 **Beggars and Thieves** Plus/Ultra Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
NADA art fair, Miami, FL (Allston Skirt booth)
Bad Touch v5 Rose Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
Homegrown Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC
Violent Violence Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, Netherlands
New American Talent 18 Texas Fine Art Association, Austin, TX (catalog)
Bad Touch v4 Keith Talent Gallery, London, U.K.
2002 **Stray Show** art fair, Chicago, IL (Monique Meloche booth)
Bad Touch v3 Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL
Art Point art fair, Miami, FL (Janet Phelps, curator) (catalog)
Artissimo Young Artists Fair, Turin, Italy (Monique Meloche booth)
Grand Arts at Greenhill Greenhill Center for Art, Greensboro, NC
Mixer 02 Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, IL
Plush Space 1026, Philadelphia, PA
2001 **FFWD Miami** art fair at the Hotel Nash, Miami, FL
Bad Touch v2 Space 1026, Philadelphia, PA
2000 **Achieving Failure – Gym Culture 2000** Threadwaxing Space, New York, NY and
Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH (catalog)
Deep Cover/Bald Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, NC (thesis exhibition)
yesyesyesyesyes Suitable Gallery, Chicago, IL
Hot & Sticky ...Team Lump at 1708 1708 Gallery, Richmond, VA
Bad Touch Lump Gallery/Projects, Raleigh, NC
1999 **Team Lump: Carry On** Milky World Gallery, Seattle, WA
Just Racin': Artists Look at NASCAR Greenhill Center for Art, Greensboro
The Soft Museum Lump Gallery/Projects, Raleigh, NC
1998 **Art on Paper 34** Weatherspoon Museum, Greensboro, NC

1997 **When Toys Bite Back!!** Lump Gallery/Projects, Raleigh, NC
Graduate Invitational Allcott Gallery, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC
Potluck Allcott Gallery, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC
Yellow Lump Gallery/Projects, Raleigh, NC

Residencies

2022 **Kessa Residency**, Helsinki, Finland, June - July
2018 **The Rubenstein**, Artist in Residence, Duke University, January-February
2016 **Obracodobra**, Oaxaca, Mexico, June - July
2005 **UNC – Art Department**, Visiting Artist, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC, January - May

Selected Press

Britton, Maria, **Studio Visit with Bill Thelen**, *The Coastal Post*, May 17, 2018

Bell, Jeff and Warren Hicks, **Podcast #13 – Bill Thelen, Don't You Lie to Me!**, May 2018

Howe, Brian, **Hotel Theory**, *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, February 2018

Luse, Mimi, **The Nothing That Is** review, *Frieze*, London, UK, Issue 175, November/December 2015

Vitiello, Chris, **Lump director Bill Thelen makes his mark at CAM Raleigh with a high-concept drawing show**, *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, July 22, 2015

White, Amy, **Look Twice**, *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, November 5, 2014

Herbert, Martin, **DIY Rapture** review, *Time Out: London*, London, UK, July 29, 2009

Vucannon, Douglas, **The Decaying Universe and Fervent Obsessions of Bill Thelen**, *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, October 3, 2007

Natale, Michele, **Critic's Picks: Best in Art**, *News & Observer*, Raleigh, NC, September 21, 2007

Olson, Kristina, **The Building Show** review, *Art Papers*, Atlanta, GA, July/August, 2007

Krainak, Michael Joe, **Gimme Shelter**. *City Weekly*, Omaha, NB, February 3, 2006

Speasmaker, Joel, **A to Z**. *The Drama*, Richmond, VA, Issue #5, April, 2005

Feaster, Felicia, **Strange Love**. *Creative Loafing*, Atlanta, GA, November 25, 2004

Tanquy, Sarah, **Model Home** review. *Sculpture Magazine*, Washington, DC, July/August 2004

Cleary, Caitlin, **Bald Man Has His Day**. *News and Observer*, Raleigh, NC, March 19, 2004, p.39

Cotter, Holland, **Team Lump** review. *New York Times*, New York, NY, December 19, 2003, p. B38

Patterson, Tom, **Speaking in Symbols**. *The Winston-Salem Journal*, Winston-Salem, NC, December 7, 2003

Robinson, Walter, **More From Miami**. *Artnet*, New York, NY, December, 2002 (reproduction)

Patterson, Tom, **Stunning**. *The Winston-Salem Journal*, Winston-Salem, NC, November 3, 2002

Platow, Raphaela, **Bad Touch** review. *Art Papers*, Atlanta, GA, May/June, 2002

Fjelsted, Todd, **En Garde!** *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, September 5, 2001 pp.24-26 (cover, reproduction)

Rush, Michael, **So They're Muscular; Want to Make Something of It?** *New York Times*, New York, NY, March 19, 2000, p.41

Dougherty, Linda Johnson, *Art Papers*, Atlanta, GA, November/December 1999, p.46

Rose, Cynthia, **Milky World Gallery: An animated art gallery.** *Seattle Times*, Seattle, WA, March 19, 1999, pp. E1-2

Holliman, Woody, **Team Lump: Group Show Number One.** *Art Papers*, Atlanta, GA, September/October 1998, p.52

Ariail, Kate Dobbs, **Room to experiment: 1998 Indies Arts Awards.** *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, June 17, 1998, pp.22-23

Dougherty, Linda Johnson, **Alternative Nation: North Carolina's Triple Play,** *Art Papers*, Atlanta, GA, March/April 1998, p.21

Twardy, Chuck. **Alternart.** *The News and Observer*, Raleigh, NC, September 7, 1997, p.G7

Mann, Karen. **Best Bets...in the galleries.** *The Independent Weekly*, Durham, NC, July 2, 1997, p.23