

# Heather Mekkelson

## Education

- 2008 MFA, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 1999 BFA, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)
- 1998 Ox-Bow Summer Arts Program
- 1993-1995 Purdue University

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 **65GRAND** *What It Is We're Measuring*, Chicago, IL  
**4th Ward Project Space** *In Absentia Luci*, Chicago, IL
- 2014 **65GRAND** *Now Slices*, Chicago, IL
- 2013 **Medicine Cabinet** *Heather Mekkelson*, Chicago, IL
- 2012 **Roots and Culture** *Invisible Apocalypse* (with Bill Berger), Chicago, IL
- 2008 **Old Gold** *Limited Entry*, Chicago, IL  
**threewalls** *Debris Field*, Chicago, IL
- 2003 **STANDARD** *Out Land*, Chicago, IL

## Group Exhibitions

- 2017 **Chicago Artists Coalition** *The ANNUAL*, Chicago, IL
- 2016 **Governors State University Visual Arts Gallery** *Pitchpoling*, University Park, IL
- 2015 **Terraformer** *Keep Your Mind in Hell and Despair Not*, Chicago, IL
- 2014 **Whitaker Gallery, Hood College** *Warmer*, Frederick, MD  
**Heaven Gallery** *Here Lies Space*, Chicago, IL  
**A&D Gallery, Columbia College** *Cargo Space*, Chicago, IL  
**INOVA, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee** *Cargo Space*, Milwaukee, WI  
**Sector 2337** *The New [New] Corpse*, Chicago, IL (catalog)  
**Glass Curtain Gallery, Columbia College** *Division of Labor*, Chicago, IL (catalog)
- 2013 **A&D Gallery, Columbia College** *Wood Works*, Chicago, IL
- 2012 **Hyde Park Art Center** *EPIC SOMETHING*, Chicago, IL (catalog)  
**Glass Curtain Gallery, Columbia College** *Embracing the Farb*, Chicago, IL (catalog)  
**Hyde Park Art Center** *Two Histories*, Chicago, IL  
**Possible Projects** *Concept Plus Object*, online project, <http://conceptplusobject.net/>  
**Co-Prosperity Sphere** *Field Static*, Chicago, IL  
**Southside Hub of Production** *This House Is Not a Home*, Chicago, IL
- 2011 **NADA Hudson** *A Philip von Zweck Project* hosted by *Invisible Exports*, Hudson, NY  
**Performa** *A Philip von Zweck Project* hosted by *Invisible Exports*, New York, NY  
**MDW Fair** *Sculpture Garden*, Chicago, IL  
**MDW Fair** *A Philip von Zweck Project*, Chicago, IL
- 2010 **Possible Press** *Artist Project*, Vol. 1 Issue 3, Philadelphia, PA  
**Hungryman** *landscape/portrait/still life*, Chicago, IL
- 2009 **O'Conner Art Gallery, Dominican University** *Site Unspecific*, River Forest, IL  
**The Poor Farm** *The Great Poor Farm Experiment*, Manawa, WI  
**Hyde Park Art Center** *Artists Run Chicago*, Chicago, IL  
**Museum of Contemporary Photography** *PhotoDimensional*, Chicago, IL (catalog)
- 2008 **Alternator** *Bellwether*, Kelowna, BC, Canada (traveling)  
**Vox Populi** *Bellwether*, Philadelphia, PA  
**Gallery 400** *MFA Thesis Exhibition*, Chicago, IL (catalog)  
**NEXT Fair** *5 Artists*, Old Gold at Art Chicago, Chicago, IL  
**Green Lantern** *Useless Weaponry*, Chicago, IL
- 2007 **Hyde Park Art Center** *Clothesline*, Chicago, IL

- Gallery 400** *Benefit Exhibition*, Chicago, IL
- 2006 **40000 Vomitorium**, Chicago, IL
- artLedge @ i-cabin** *To London from Chicago, with Great Love*, London, UK
- 40000 Versus**, a Mekkelson/Walters collaborative project, Chicago, IL
- 2005 **The Figge Art Museum** *41/90: Contemporary Landscape at The Figge Art Museum*, inaugural exhibition, Davenport, IA (catalog)
- Gallery 400** *Temporary Allegiance*, Chicago, IL
- 2004 **Gardenfresh** *Paring Down*, Chicago, IL
- Modest Contemporary Art Gallery** *Small Victories*, Chicago, IL
- RAID Projects** *Chicago in LA*, Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 **1/Quarterly** *Fast Track 2003*, Chicago, IL
- Guenzel Gallery** *Here and There*, with SAIC's 1926 Exhibition Studies Program, Fish Creek, WI
- The Stray Show** *Metabolism*, Chicago, IL
- Sioux City Art Center** *...you sure about this place?*, traveling exhibition, Sioux City, IA (catalog)
- 2002 **The Pond** *...you sure about this place?*, Chicago, IL
- Apt. 1R** *Variations*, Chicago, IL
- 2001 **Gallery 2, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago** *Installations 2001: Alumni Exhibition*, Chicago, IL

## Awards

- 2016 **Recipient:** Individual Artist Award, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events
- 2012 **Recipient:** Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue, Chicago 2012 Award
- 2010 **Nominee:** 3Arts Artist Award
- 2009 **Recipient:** Community Arts Assistance Program Grant; provided by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council
- Nominee:** 3Arts Artist Award
- Finalist:** The Cartier Award 2009
- 2008 **Nominee:** 3Arts Artist Award
- 2007 **Recipient:** Navona Research Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2006 **Recipient:** Navona Research Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Nominee:** The Dreihaus Foundation's Emerging Artist Award
- 2003 **Recipient:** Community Arts Assistance Program Grant; provided by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council

## Professional Activities

- 2018 **Visiting Artist:** "Introduction to Sculpture" Instructor: Kelly Kaczynski, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2017 **Instructor:** "Rewilding" Ox-Bow School of Art, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Saugatuck, MI
- 2015 **Instructor:** "Rewilding" Ox-Bow School of Art, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Saugatuck, MI
- Workshop Presenter:** "Encrustation" Shop Talks Series, University of Chicago
- Visiting Artist:** "Exploratory Media" Instructor: Jason Lazarus, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2014 **Visiting Artist:** "Professional Practices" Instructor: Jeff Carter, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- Visiting Artist:** "Contemporary Issues in Sculpture" Instructor: Philip von Zweck, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
- Guest Critic:** "Foundations" Instructors: Duncan MacKenzie, Brandon Alvendia, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

- 2013 Artist Lecture:** “Much Much More Lecture Series” A Philip von Zweck project, Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL  
**Co-Instructor:** “Stillness” Ox-Bow School of Art, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Saugatuck, MI  
**Visiting Artist:** “Photography Topic: Voice Lessons” Instructor: Jason Lazarus, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Artist Lecture:** “Two Histories of the World” Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2011 Visiting Artist:** “Research Topics” Instructor: Kirsten Leenars, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2010 Co-Curator:** Twelve Galleries Project: *MinimumixaM*, Pentagon Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Artist Lecture:** “PhotoDimensional” Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL  
**Visiting Artist:** “Graduate Photography Seminar” Instructor: Karen Irvine, Columbia College, Chicago, IL  
**Visiting Artist:** “Photo Series, Sequence and Structure” Instructor: Jason Lazarus, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
**Visiting Artist:** “Photography I” Instructor: Jose Velazco, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2008 Visiting Artist:** “Art and Discourse” Instructor: Mirella Tanta, Columbia College, Chicago, IL  
**Artist Lecture:** “Debris Field” threewalls, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Graduate Representative:** Gallery 400 Advisory Committee, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL  
**Visiting Artist:** “Undergraduate Photography” Instructor: Jenny Walters, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- 2005 Artist Lecture:** “41/90 Contemporary Landscape at The Figge” Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA
- 2003 Symposium Panelist:** “Not Just Another Pretty Face” Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2002 Founder and Co-director:** 1/Quarterly Exhibition Space (2002-2004), Chicago, IL

## Bibliography

- 2018** Alamo-Costello, Chester. *Heather Mekkelson – Crepuscular Beam and Other Works*; The COMP Magazine, July 11<sup>th</sup>
- 2017** Picard, Caroline. *What It Is We’re Measuring*; 65GRAND exhibition catalog, limited edition  
 Wasney, Michael. *Gallery Review: 4th Ward Project Space*; South Side Weekly, Arts Issue 2017, March 8<sup>th</sup>
- 2016** Picard, Caroline. *How Does When: An Interview with Heather Mekkelson*; Sector2337.com, Sector Daily, November
- 2014** Linneweh, David. *Studio Break: Heather Mekkelson*; Audio Interview, Episode 97, February 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Dluzen, Robin. *Editorial Feature: Heather Mekkelson*; VisualArtSource.com, January 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Roscoe Mayo, Amanda. *SFAQ Review: “Here Lies Space”*; SFAQonline.com, April 20<sup>th</sup>
- 2013** Foumberg, Jason. *Eye Exam: Strategies Against History*; Newcity, January 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Picard, Caroline. *Heather Mekkelson and the Flood That Never Came*; Art21 Magazine, May/June
- 2012** Hartigan, Philip A.. *Reenacting History through Artistic Performance*; Hyperallergic.com, November  
 Karpova, Anastasia. *Portrait of the Artist: Heather Mekkelson*; Newcity, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Karpova Tinari, Anastasia. *Review: Epic Something/ Hyde Park Art Center*; Newcity, December 11<sup>th</sup>  
 King, Devin and Caroline Picard. “Field Static.” *Field Static: A Collection of Essays Dedicated to the Object and its Various Interpretations*. Eds. Devin King and Caroline Picard. Chicago, IL: Holon Press, 2012.

- Weinbeg, Lauren. **Quarterly Site #12—Epic Something at Hyde Park Art Center**; Time Out Chicago, December 6<sup>th</sup>
- 2011 Abe, Stanley. “Locating World Art.” **The Migrant’s Time: Rethinking Art History and Diaspora**. Ed. Saloni Mathur. Williamstown, MA: Sterling and Francine Clark Institute and MIT Press, 2011.
- 2009 Kinkley, Jonathan. **PhotoDimensional**; Time Out Chicago, March 5<sup>th</sup>
- 2008 Gunn, Dan. **Review: Heather Mekkelson/ Old Gold**; Newcity, September 9<sup>th</sup>
- Lowry, Sean. **Monuments to Heroic Failure**; Broadsheet: Contemporary Visual Art + Culture (The Contemporary Art Center of South Australia), vol. 37, no. 3, October 2008
- Lund, Karsten. **Heather Mekkelson: Limited Entry**; Flavorpill.com
- Relyea, Lane. **Debris and Immobility**; Introduction to featured artist portfolio: Heather Mekkelson, “Debris Field” Art Journal, vol. 67, no. 1, Spring 2008. Pgs. 6-23
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- Stratton, Shannon. **In No Particular Order**; MFA Catalog, University of Illinois at Chicago,
- Ward, Jeff M.. **Brave and Crazy: The Disaster-Model Construction of Meaning in the Work of Heather Mekkelson**; “Debris Field” limited edition catalog
- Waxman, Lori. **Critics Picks**; Artforum.com
- 2005 Ignatius, Jeff. **The Lay of The Land**; River Cities’ Reader, October 12<sup>th</sup>
- Yau, John, Pete Schulte, Leslie Bell and Linda Downs. **41/90 Contemporary Landscape at The Figge** (catalog)
- 2003 Cole, Kevin. **Artboat**; Dialogue, Summer 2003
- Cook, Christopher. **...you sure about this place?**; Sioux City Art Center museum exhibition catalog
- 2002 Hixson, Kathryn. **...you sure about this place?**; The Pond exhibition catalog
- Robinson, Walter. **Chicago Diary**; Artnet.com, May 2002
- Speh, Scott. **Sex in Chicago**; Artnet.com, October 2002