

ZOLLA/LIEBERMAN GALLERY INC.

RIVA LEHRER

EDUCATION

1982-1996 School of the Art Institute of Chicago

1976-80 University of Cincinnati, OH

Note: No terminal degree, due to multiple health issues resulting from disability; these required that I leave school on more than six occasions.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2020 Riva Lehrer: A Retrospective, LUX Center for the Arts, Lincoln, Nebraska

2017 *Solo Show Biennial Award*, Evanston Art Center, August 2017

2017 *The Shape of Self*, Kendall College of Art, Grand Rapids, MI

2016 *Consent to Be Seen*, Haverford College, Philadelphia, PA

2016 *Exquisite Radical*, Riverside Art Center, Riverside, IL

2016 *The Risk Pictures* Printworks Gallery, Chicago, IL (May 2016)

2011 *Mirror Shards*, Printworks Gallery, Chicago, IL

2009 State of Illinois Museum at Chicago

2008 *Totems and Familiars*, Printworks Gallery

2005 *Next in The Gallery*, Herron Museum, Indianapolis, IN

2005 Lafayette Museum of Art, Lafayette, IN

2004 *Circle Stories*, Chicago Cultural Center

2001 *Bella Incognita*, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, CA

1999 *Circle Stories*, Lyons Wier Gallery, Chicago

1999 *Then & Now*, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL

1996 *Patterns*, Isis Gallery, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

1995 *Trace Marks*, Lyons Wier Gallery, Chicago

1993 *Embodied Memory*, Sazama Gallery, Chicago

1992 *The Transparent Bed*, A.I.R. Gallery, NYC, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018 *RE/Configurations*, Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, NYC, NY

Chicago Disability Activism, Arts and Design: 1970s to Today, Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago

Mirror Mirror, Paul Robeson Gallery of Rutgers University, Newark, NJ

2017 *The Artist Revealed: Two Centuries of Portraits from Cezanne to Dylan*,

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- Dubuque Museum of Art
The Outwin 2016: Portraiture Today, Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX
The Outwin 2016: Portraiture Today, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
- 2016 *Things That Kill*, Prographica Gallery, Seattle, WA
23rd Evanston and Vicinity Biennial, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
The Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition Triennial, National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Museum, Washington DC
Chicago Paints, Ohio University, Athens, OH
- 2015 *Return of the Exquisite Corpse*, Printworks Gallery, Chicago
Chances Dances, Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago
Body Utopia, Trestle Gallery, Brooklyn NY
Cripfest, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn NY
Side Show, Yale Gallery of Art, Yale University, New Haven CT
Transforming Community, Westbeth Gallery, NYC
Immortality and Vulnerability, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago
- 2014 *Summer Show*, Printworks Gallery, Chicago IL
- 2013 *Bodies of Work*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago
Figure it Out, Noyes Cultural Center, Evanston, IL
- 2012 *Self Portraits*, Printworks Gallery
Figurism, Illinois State Museum at Chicago Gallery
- 2011 *Tribute to George Tooker*, North Park University, Chicago
- 2010 *Revealing Culture*, Smithsonian Museum, International Gallery. Washington DC.
Zora: How I Understand, Connie Gillock Gallery, Evanston, IL
Book Covers, Printworks Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *A Dog's Life*, Memphis College of Art Gallery, Memphis, TN
- 2008 *eMotion Pictures*, The Presidio, San Francisco, CA, & the Chicago Cultural Center,
- 2007 *Girl on Guy*, A + D Gallery, Columbia College, Chicago.
Curators Anniversary Exhibit, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago.
The Exquisite Snake, Mary and Leigh Bloch Museum, NW University, Evanston, IL
- 2006 *The Tullman Collection*, the Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, AL
Spirit and Psyche, Highland Park Art Center, Highland Park, IL
Humans Being: Disability in Contemporary Art, Chicago Cultural Center
Navigation/Negotiation, Gene Siskel Center, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
The Art of the Bookplate, Printworks Gallery

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2005 *Representing Representation*, Arnot Museum, Elmira, NY
Gescheidle Gallery, Los Angeles Art Fair, LA, CA
National Biennial Watercolor Invitational, Parkland College, Champaign, IL

2004 *Figurative Drawing Biennial 2004*, Koplín Del Río, Los Angeles, CA
Protect, Belloc Lowndes, Chicago, IL

2000 to 2003

To Kiss the Spirits: Homage to Hollis Sigler, Artemesia, Chicago
Contemporary Drawing Salon, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago
The Perception of Appearances: A Decade of American Contemporary Figurative Drawing, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA
eMotion Pictures, Chicago Cultural Center & United Nations
Moments of Grace: New Regional Painting, Muskegon Museum of Art, MI
Self Portraits 2000, Printworks Gallery, Chicago

1996 to 1999

Illinois Women Artists: The New Millennium, The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., and museum venues around Illinois
Treatment: Women's Bodies and Medical Science, Dinnerware Gallery, Tucson, AZ
Portrait Show, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
Artists of the Midwest, Northern Michigan University Art Museum, MI
A Game of Chance, Printworks Gallery, Chicago, traveling exhibition
Art That Heals, Metropolitan State College of Denver, CO
Narrative Flow, Columbia College Center for Book and Paper Arts, Chicago
Inside Out: Psychological Self-Portraiture, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, CT
Body and Soul: Contemporary Art & Healing, DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
Inside Out: Psychological Self-Portraiture, Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, CT

AWARDS

2020 Gala Honoree for the Association of University Centers on Disability, Washington DC
2019 Effing Award for Portraiture
2017 Society for Disability Studies Senior Scholar Award
2017 Joan Mitchell Foundation 2017 Painters and Sculptors Grant
2017 Peggy Goodall Award for Social Justice, Cincinnati, OH
2017 3Arts Fellowship, MacDowell Colony Residency Award for Writing
2015 3Arts Residency Fellowship at the University of Illinois
2014 Mellon Residency Fellowship Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, PA
2014 2014 NewCity Chicago Artists Top 50
2014 Special Mention Award, *Pushcart Prize Anthology 2015*
2010 Critical Fierceness Award, Chances Dances, Chicago, IL

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- 2009 Chandler Prairie Fellowship, Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL
- 2008 Three Arts Foundation, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Chicago Artist's Month, Selected Artist Chicago, IL
- 2007 The Wynn Newhouse Award, Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, NYC.
- 2002 The Carol J. Gill Award for Disability Culture, The Progress Center, Chicago
- 1999 Chicago Artist's Assistance Program Grant, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs
- 1999 Special Assistance Grant, Illinois Arts Council
- 1997 Regional Visual Arts Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts

SELECTED PROJECTS: CURATORIAL & VISITING ARTIST

2018 *Golem Girl: a Memoir*, acquired by the One World imprint of Penguin/Random House.

2016 Featured subject in the "Working in America" traveling exhibit, photographs of Americans at work. Curated interviews by Jane Saks, images by Lynsey Addario.

2015 3Arts Residency Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago.

2014 Carnegie Mellon Creative Resident at Haverford/Bryn Mawr Colleges.

2014 Guest curator, *500th Anniversary of Vesalius: Anatomy and Identity* Festival, New York Academy of Medicine, NYC, NY

2013 Co-chair, *Bodies of Work*, Festival of Disability Culture, Chicago.
Curator, *Humans Being II: Disability in Contemporary Art*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago.

2006-2010 Created the first permanent collection of art by professional artists dealing with issues of disabilities in the United States, at Access Living of Chicago.

2006 Co-Curator, *Humans Being: Disability in Contemporary Art*, Chicago Cultural Center
Humans Being: Disability in Contemporary Art, Exhibit Catalogue, co-writer.
Curator, *Navigation/Negotiation*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Siskel Center Gallery.
Co-Curator, *The Chicago Disability History Exhibit*, National Vietnam Veterans Museum.

1995 Curator, *The View from the Bed*, International Museum of Surgical Science, Chicago.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

The National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Museum, Washington, DC
The Mary and Leigh Block Museum, Evanston, IL
The State of Illinois Museum, Springfield, Illinois
The Access Living Collection, Chicago,

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The Howard and Judith Tullman Collection, Chicago
Multiple Private Collections

VIDEOS

Ted Talks Grand Rapids 2015: *Valuable Bodies*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjAzDqDRyK4>

Chicago Humanities Festival 2014: *Jarred: Self Portrait in Formaldehyde*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obJaZtu3Ams>

CIVA Conference 2013 *Beauty in Exile*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBITalk11ZM>

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

The Paper Mirror, by Charissa King-O'Brien. 2012. Portrait collaboration with cartoonist Alison Bechdel. <https://vimeo.com/50499923>

Variations, by Anuradha Rana and Laurie Little. 2013. Profiles of dancer Kris Lenzo, musician Chris Foreman, and artist Riva Lehrer. <https://variationsdoc.com/>

Self-Preservation: The Art of Riva Lehrer. By David Mitchell and Sharon Snyder, 2006.
PART I <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVkvCaEDm5o>
PART II <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmtxQmtFd2k>

Code of the Freaks, by Salome Chasnoff, Susan Nussbaum, Laurie Little and Carrie Sandahl.
<https://vimeo.com/55730170>

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Adjunct Professor, 2000-14. Returning 2018
Northwestern University, Medical Humanities. 2012-current.
University of Illinois at Chicago, Medical Humanities. 2006-2010 Returning 2018
Evanston Art Center, 1993-2000

SELECTED VISITING ARTIST / LECTURER 2000-2017

Some listings represent multiple appearances

Art Academy of Cincinnati
Art Institute of Chicago

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Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA
Chicago Cultural Center
Chicago Humanities Festival, 2008 and 2014
City University of New York, NYC College of Marin, Marin County, California
Columbia College, Chicago
Columbia University, NYC NY
Cornell Medical School, NYC NY
DisArt Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Emory University, Atlanta, GA
George Washington University, Washington DC
Graphic Medicine Conference, Toronto, Ontario
Haverford College, Philadelphia, PA
Kendall College, Michigan
Modern Language Association, Seattle
National Endowment for the Arts Keynote speaker, Washington DC. Circa 2008
National Film Theater of London, London, England
New York Academy of Medicine, NYC NY
North Park University, Chicago
Northeastern University, Chicago
Northern Illinois University, Chicago
Northern Michigan University
Northwestern University, Chicago
Notre Dame University, Indiana
Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Queerness and Disability Conference, San Francisco, CA
Rush-St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago
San Francisco State University, CA
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Smith College, Northampton, MA
Society for Disability Studies International Conference, many presentations, 2000-2015
Society for Photographic Education, Washington, DC
TEDx Talk, Civic Theater, Grand Rapids 2015
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX
University of California at Berkeley
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Connecticut
University of Illinois at Chicago & at Champaign/Urbana
University of Indiana Northwest
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Washington at Seattle
Yale University, New Haven, CT

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Wheaton College, IL
Whitney Museum of Art, NYC NY

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY: AS AUTHOR

Upcoming: *Golem Girl, a memoir*. One World imprint, Penguin/Random House, 2020

"Where All Bodies Are Exquisite," in *About Us: Essays from the Disability Series of the New York Times*, Peter Catapano and Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, eds. 2019

"Presence and Absence: The Paradox of Disability and Portraiture," in *Contemporary Art and Disability Studies*, Routledge Press, Alice Wexler and John Derby, eds. 2019.

"Where All Bodies Are Exquisite." New York Times, August 9, 2017

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/09/opinion/where-all-bodies-are-exquisite.html>

"Golem Girl" *Story Club Magazine*, 2015.

"The Surface of Soles." *TriQuarterly Journal*, Northwestern University. January 2015

"Beauty in Exile," *Criptiques*. ed. by Caitlin Wood, May Day Press, 2014. "Beauty in Exile (for Tim Lowly)," *Trying to Get A Sense of Scale*. CIVA press, 2014

Sex and Disability, ed. Robert McRuer and Anna Mollow, Duke University Press, 2011

"The Moving Face". *TriQuarterly Journal*, Northwestern University, Evanston IL. April 2013

Lehrer, Riva and Zutautas, Sofia. *Humans Being: Disability in Contemporary Art*. Cultural Center Press, 2006.

"Surgery" and "Frida Kahlo" *Encyclopedia of Disability*. G. L. Albrecht, ed. Sage Publications, 2005.

"Circle Stories." *Feminist Studies*, Vol. 26(2). 2000.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY: AS SUBJECT

Hsu, Hua. "Affect Theory and the New Age of Anxiety." *The New Yorker*, 03.18.19

Watlington, Emily. "Golem Girl: An Interview with Riva Lehrer" *ART PAPERS*, Winter 2018/2019

Stahl, Devan. *Imaging and Imagining Illness: Becoming Whole in a Broken Body*. Cascade Press, 2018

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The Cambridge Companion to Literature and Disability. Clare Barker and Stuart Murray eds. Cambridge University Press, 2018.

The Routledge Handbook of Disability Arts, Culture, and Media. Bree Hadley and Donna McDonald eds. Taylor & Francis, 2018

Celebration review at Zoo, Edinburgh – ‘eccentric and intelligent’ THESTAGE.CO.UK. 8.21.17
<https://www.thestage.co.uk/reviews/2017/celebration-review-zoo-edinburgh/>

Dery, Mark. “Monster Imagery taught Me I Was A Monster.” Boingboing.net, 8.10.17
<http://boingboing.net/2017/08/10/monster-imagery-taught-me-i.html>

Lindgren, Kristin and Carter, Courtney. *Consent To Be Seen: Work by Riva Lehrer.* Solo show catalogue. Haverford College, Haverford, PA. 2016

Harris, Anne. *Exquisite Radical: Work by Riva Lehrer.* Solo show catalogue. Riverside Arts Center, Riverside, IL. 2016

Bellamy, Dodie. “What Can’t Be Seen.” Frieze.com, 12.29.16 <https://frieze.com/article/what-cant-be-seen>

Petlicki, Myrna. “Artwork talks at Evanston + Vicinity Biennial exhibit.” *Chicago Tribune*, 7.25.16

Walker, Jonelle. “Queer is Beautiful in Outwin Exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery.” Tagg Magazine, 8.2.16

James, Damien. “Statement of Purpose for Equality among Humans.” *NewCity*, 6.13.16

Baudler, Liz. “Riva Lehrer and the Evolution of Risk.” *Windy City Times*, 5. 11. 16.

Foumberg, Jason. “What is Extreme Consent? Portraitist Riva Lehrer Explains.” *Chicago Magazine*, 7.21.15.

Frank, Priscilla. “‘Body Utopia’ Explores The Explosive Beauty Of Nonconforming Bodies.” *Huffington Post*, 9.4.15.

Kuppers, Petra. *Studying Disability Arts and Culture: An Introduction.* Palgrave Press, 2014.

“Art 50 2014: Chicago’s Artists’ Artists” *NewCity*, 9.18.14

Morris, Matt. “Riva Lehrer Chosen for New 3Arts and UIC Artist Fellowship.” *NewCity*, 9.5.2014

Wiseman, Emma. “Anatomist of Influence.” *Hyperallergic*, 10.27.14

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Bobadilla, Suzanna. "Riva Lehrer", *Feministing Five*, 1.4.14

You Laugh With Your Whole Face, a video by Cleo Mees, based on Lehrer's "Golem Girl Gets Lucky." 2013

Bergquist, Kathie. "Meet A Ms Fit: Artist Riva Lehrer." *Ms. Fit Magazine*, 5.2.13

Meier, Allison. "Repatriation Through Portraiture." *Hyperallergic*, 10.17.13

Brueggermann, Brenda Jo. *Arts and Humanities*. Sage, 2012

Berlant, Lauren. *Cruel Optimism*. Duke University Press, 2011.

Millett-Gallant, Ann. *The Disabled Body in Contemporary Art*. Palgrave-Macmillan, 2010

Garland-Thomson, Rosemarie. *Staring: How We Look*, Oxford University Press, 2009

Maxwell, Carrie. "Riva Lehrer's 'Mirror Shards' debuts at Printworks". *Windy City Times*, 12.12.11

James, Damien. "Eye Exam: The Skin She Lives In". *New City Art*, 10.29.11

"Riva Lehrer Exhibited at Printworks Gallery." *Chicago.Broadwayworld.com*, 11.9.11

Smart: Riva Lehrer's Body of Art. *Bitch Media*, June 2010

Davis, Andrew. "A Gay in the Life: Riva Lehrer". *Windy City Times*, 10.6.10

"Zen, Riva Lehrer, and the Art of Disability." *Irked Magazine*, 12.8.07

Nance, Kevin. "Artistic Passions Turn to Girl on Guy." *Chicago Sun Times*, 10.5.07

Czerwiec, MK. "A Conversation with Riva Lehrer". *Graphic Medicine*. 5.30.12

Artnet, Alan G. "Girl on Guy Puts Cold Logic to Hot Buttons." *Chicago Tribune*, 10.4.07

The Tullman Collection, The Mobile Museum of Art, exhibition catalogue

Welte, Ruth. "Body Art." *Time Out Chicago*. April 20-27, 2006

Gray, P.J. "Circling a Monster." *Pink Pages*. May 2004

Thodos, Diane. "Riva Lehrer: Circle Stories." *ArtCritical.com*. May 2004

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Hawkins, Margaret. "Lehrer's paintings disable common notions of beauty," *Chicago Sun-Times*. 4.16.04

Meyer, Karen "Artist with disability displays portraits in Chicago," *ABC 7 News Chicago*, 4.9.04

Stein, Lisa. "Artist depicts the disabled with no punches pulled." *Chicago Tribune*. 3.13.03

Hackett, Regina. "Frye's exhibit of figurative artists is cluttered but compelling." *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. 6.27.02

eMotion Pictures: An Exhibition of Orthopedics in Art, AAOS Press, 2001

Fries, Kenny. "Risky Encounters: Riva Lehrer's Circle Stories," *New Mobility*, August 2001

Hammond, Harmony. *Lesbian Art in America*. New York: Rizzoli International, 2000.

The Illinois Committee For The National Museum Of Women In The Arts. *Illinois Women Artists: The New Millennium*. 2000

New American Paintings, No. 23, Open Studios Press, 1999

Hawkins, Margaret. *Meaning's More Than Skin Deep*, Chicago Sun-Times, 4.6.99

Ganim, Barbara. *Art and Healing*, Three Rivers Press, 1999.

Anderson, D. and M. Strauss. *Inside Out: Psychological Self-Portraits*. Aldrich Museum, 1995

Capasso, Nick. *Body & Soul: Contemporary Art and Healing*. DeCordova Museum, 1994