

Semblanza

Las esculturas, pinturas e instalaciones de McLain cuestionan las estructuras de poder y jerarquías que se ejercen a través del diseño. McLain está interesada en la configuración y diseño de la arquitectura contemporánea y cómo esta, a través de su simbología implícita, condiciona y controla nuestras interacciones sociales. McLain ha expuesto en instituciones como el Museo Tamayo en la Ciudad de México, Queens Museum y el Socrates Sculpture Park en Nueva York, así como en el Institute of Contemporary Art en Philadelphia. Sus premios incluyen a la New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, el Socrates Sculpture Park Emerging Artist Fellowship y el Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Fellowship. Ella ha sido artista en residencia del Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, el Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, MacDowell, el Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Workspace Program, Shandaken: Storm King, y en la Fundación Casa Wabi. Actualmente, McLain tiene una exposición individual en el Museo Universitario del Chopo en la Ciudad de México.

Statement

Melanie McLain is an artist based in Mexico City. McLain's sculptures, paintings and installations question power structures and hierarchies that are practiced through design. She is interested in the design and configuration of contemporary architecture and how, through its implicit symbology, it conditions and controls our social interactions. McLain has exhibited at institutions such as Museo Tamayo in Mexico City, Queens Museum and Socrates Sculpture Park in New York, and Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia. Her awards include New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, Socrates Sculpture Park Emerging Artist Fellowship and Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Fellowship. She has been an artist in residence at Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, MacDowell, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's Workspace Program, Shandaken: Storm King, and Fundación Casa Wabi. McLain is currently presenting a solo show at the Museo Universitario del Chopo in Mexico City.

Estudios | Education

2012

MFA in Sculpture & Extended Media, Virginia Commonwealth University

2006

BFA in Sculpture, University of Florida
BS in Psychology, University of Florida

Exposiciones individuales | Solo shows

2023

Solo Exhibition, Museo Experimental el Eco, Mexico City, Mexico (forthcoming)

Solo Exhibition, curated by Anna Dusi, Arroniz Contemporary Art, Mexico City, Mexico (forthcoming)

Solo Exhibition, Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City, Mexico (forthcoming)

The Fragility of Structures, Guadalajara90210, Guadalajara, Mexico

2021

Unchoreographic Sculptures, curated by Abril Zales, La Cresta in collaboration with Colector Gallery, Monterrey, Mexico

2020

Slow Moving Pressure, the contraction, Un Estudio Sobre Revolución, Selected Projects Section at Salon Acme, Mexico City, Mexico

2019

Me Realineo en Este Espacio Parcial, Un estudio Sobre Revolución, Mexico City, Mexico

2015

Tactile Formation, Site-specific installation as part of the Emerging Artist Fellowship,
Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens, NY

2012

Warm Compression – Damp Gestures, Anderson Gallery, Richmond, VA

Selección de exposiciones colectivas | Selected group shows

2023

Hay vacío, hay memoria, Galería CURRO, Guadalajara, México
Extension: An existential conversation between body and space, curated by Anna Dusi,
Ostra Gallery, Lisbon, Portugal (forthcoming)

2022

El Aliento de Los Materiales, organized by Guadalajara90210 as part of the Contemporary Arts Festival in Leon,
Guanajuato, Mexico
La visión inaccesible \ El cuerpo casi invisible, curated by Anna Garner, Proyecto Píkaro, Mexico City, Mexico
Bitácoras, Colección Fundación Casa Wabi, Curated by Alberto Ríos de la Rosa, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo
Querétaro, Querétaro, Mexico
Inmortalizando al Cangrejo, Guadalajara90210, Mexico City, Mexico
Curator's Salon, curated by Alberto Ríos de la Rosa, Art House Projects, Casa Versalles, Mexico City, Mexico

2021

Matter of Distance, curated by Guadalupe García, Mexican Cultural Institute of Miami, Miami, FL

2020

Otrxs Mundxs, Museo Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico
Dialogos, curated by Pablo de Laborde Lascaris, M74, Mexico City, Mexico

2019

El castillo de los ladrillos rotos, Guadalajara90210, Mexico City, Mexico
Como Era De Esperarse, Escuela de La Paz, Mexico City, Mexico

2017

Skowhegan Performs, Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens, NY

2016

Leisure as a Mechanism for Resistance, curated by the Daily Lazy, Parallel Vienna, Vienna, Austria
For Sale By Owner, curated by Baris Gokturk, Hilltop, Skowhegan, ME
Queens International, Queens Museum, Queens, NY

2015

Live Action, curated by Justin Plakas, MINT Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2014

A Narrow Hollow Volume, in collaboration with Ander Mikalson, Practice Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
Three's Company for 8 Performers, Churner & Churner Gallery, New York, NY
Feeling Tone, Bedfellows Club, Oakland, CA

2013

Side Out, Primetime Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Dialogic, Rowan University Art Gallery, Glassboro, NJ
Alumni Exhibition, 299 Meserole, Brooklyn, NY

2012

Crest, 1708 Gallery, Richmond, VA
Suzanne, curated by Amy Hauft and Kendall Buster, Artisphere, Arlington, VA
New Waves, Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art. Virginia Beach, VA

2011

PDF, curated by Patrick Gantert, Allegra LaViola Gallery, New York, NY
OVC, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA
The Wrong Miracle, curated by Oscar Santillan, Galleria NoMINIMO, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Premios y residencias | Awards and residencies

Foundwork Art Prize Short List, Foundwork Artist Platform, 2021
Artist in Residence, Macdowell, Peterborough, NH, 2020
Artist in Residence, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE, 2019
Artist in Residence, Fundación Casa Wabi, Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, Mexico, 2018
Artist in Residence, Shandaken: Storm King, Cornwall, NY, 2018
NYFA Artist Fellow in Sculpture/Craft, New York Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY, 2017
Emerging Artist Grant Nominee, Rema Hort Mann Foundation, New York, NY, 2016
Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME, 2016
Artist in Residence, Work Space Program, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York, NY, 2015
Emerging Artist Fellowship, Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens, NY, 2015
Visiting Scholar, NYU, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, New York, NY, 2015
Visual Arts Professional Fellowship, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA, 2012

Publicaciones | Publications

Art Maze Magazine, *Curated Selection of Works*, selected by Karen Hesse Flatlow, Issue 27, July 2022
Interview with Velaria Montoya, "La Arquitectura de acuerpar espacio y la aparición de los sentidos", BLOQUE digital magazine, Numero 2, August, 2021
Irini Miga, "An Interview with Melanie McLain", Daily Lazy, April 23, 2021
Susana Fuentes, ARTE: Review "Unchoreographic Sculptures". April, 2021
Francesca Gavin, "Melanie McLain Interview with Francesca Gavin", Foundwork Dialogues, 2021
Jovenes Artistas en La Ciudad, Time Out Mexico, February, 2020. pg17
Victor Gaspar, TV Interview, Channel 22, Mexico City, Mexico, February 06, 2020
Veronica Jasso, Radio Interview, Código CDMX - Territorios, Mexico City, Mexico, February 04, 2020
Mónica Maristain, "La fiesta de Arte en Salón Acme 8 y Melanie McLain sobre los cuerpos vulnerables", Maremoto, February 09, 2020
Esa Nickle, "Personal Space" Queens International Catalogue, 2016
"Interview: Melanie McLain and Alina Tenser", Queens International Catalogue 2013 Hrag
Vartanian, "10 Artists to Watch from 2013 Bushwick Open Studios" Hyperallergic, June 4, 2013
Kara Hybenova "VCU Sculpture + 299 Meserole = Interesting Conversation" Bushwickdaily, June 2, 2013
Jillian Steinhauer, "A Bushwick Warehouse Filled with Earnest and Honest Sculpture" Hyperallergic June 2, 2013
Amber Esseiva, "Hand in Glove" Ext. 1708, October 30, 2012
Abou Farman, "Pari's Axiom" Maisonneuve, Issue 44, Summer 2012, pg.44 2012 "Warm Compression - Damp Gestures," Curious, Issue 4, Buster, Kendall and Allen, Siemon eds. 2012