

KEAN O'BRIEN
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EDUCATION

- Currently Ph.D. student in Gender and Women's Studies, concentration in Visual Culture, Art, and Performance Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2022 Master of Arts, Education, and Leadership; Fielding Graduate University. Santa Barbara, CA.
- 2011 Master of Fine Arts, Photography and Media, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
- 2008 Bachelor of Arts, School of Photography and Performance, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 *Chronic Perspective*, Entrails Magazine, Independent press.
Chronic Perspective, Common Ground Issue 2, Borderline Press.
- 2023 *The Desire for Ugliness: Queers, Rebels, and Freaks*. Playing Shakespeare's Characters, Peter Lang Publishing. [Co-authored with Corina Maritescu.
- 2021 *Tracing Trauma*, Trains zine, Tiny Splendor Press
- 2020 *Homecoming: A Project of Tracing Trauma and Building Community*. Ed. Quinn, Therese, and Lauren De Jesus. Fwd: Museums: Home. StepSister Press [Co-authored with Corina Maritescu]
- 2019 *Boyle Heights and The Fight Against Gentrification As State Violence*. American Studies Quarterly Journal published by John Hopkins Press. [Co-authored with Corina Maritescu and Leonard Vilchis]
- 2018 *Tracing Trauma*, On The Bus, BazBam Press
- 2016 *The American Culture of Guns and Prisons*, FAYN Magazine, NYFA Press, Los Angeles
- Let The Wild Be Free*, Issues #2. Vol. 2. Eds. Gottesdiener, Sarah Faith and Killian, Nicole. Los Angeles: Pixel Pact Pack
- 2015 *Horses*, Issue #1. Vol. 1. Eds. Gottesdiener, Sarah Faith and Killian, Nicole. Los Angeles: Pixel Pact Pack

GRANTS / AWARDS / RESIDENCIES/ PANELS

- 2024 Grant from UW GWS Dept, Mellon Foundation's affirming multi-vocal humanities program Worcester, Whatley, Leavitt Award
- 2023 AIR Latitude Space for Photography, Residency. Chicago, IL

- SVP-LA2050 Grant Reviewer, LA, CA
- 2022 Marble House Projects residency application reviewer
SVP-LA2050 Grant Reviewer, LA, CA
Artist Grant, City of West Hollywood, CA
- 2021 *Jentel Artist Residency*, WY
SVP-LA2050 Grant Reviewer, LA, CA
Marble House Projects residency application reviewer
- 2020 SVP- LA2050 Grant Reviewer, LA, CA
- 2018 AIR *Marble House Projects*, Dorset, VT
- 2016 *Artist Grant Review Panel*, The City of West Hollywood, CA
- 2015 *Artist Grant, Genocide Project*, The Gay and Lesbian Canadian Archive, Toronto, Canada
- 2014 *Curatorial Grant, Transient Exhibition*, The City of West Hollywood, CA.
Curatorial work featured on city billboards West Hollywood, CA.
Art Farm Residency, Marquette, NE.
- 2010 *Dean's Reserve Grant*, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
Artist Grant, Queer Visibility Conference, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.
Diversity Grant, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
- 2009 *Photography Department Grant*, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
Academic Scholarship, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
Merit Scholar, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA.
- 2008 *Ox-Bow Residency*, Saugatuck, MI.
Photography Project Grant, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2007 *Merit Scholarship*, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
Academic Scholarship, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
Incentive Scholarship, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- 2004 *Photography Projects Grant*, Columbia College, Chicago, IL.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 July 2024 AIR, Latitude Chicago. June 16, 2024. Web.
- 2023 *In Finite Space in the City of West Hollywood*. October 3, 2024. Web.
WeHo celebrates final installation by multimedia artist. Beverly Press, Park La Brea News. January 5, 2023. Web.

- 2022 *I use ____ pronouns / In Finite Space*. The City of West Hollywood. October 1, 2022. Web.
- 2021 *Artist Kean O'Brien on the invisible genocide of the transgender community and his artwork*, The Art Center Highland Park. YouTube.
Rosemary, Pete. "Artist To Share Work." SIU Carbondale News, 8 November 2021. Web.
"Tracing Trauma", *Trains zine*, Tiny Splendor Press. 2021
- 2016 O'Brien, Kean, Ed. Sarah Brophy, Janice Hladki. *Pedagogy, Image Practices, and Contested Corporealities*, Routledge, Feb 5, 2016. Print.
- 2015 LaFleur, Llss. "Disrupting Bodies, Disrupting Narratives." *NMC MediaN*. Journal of The New Media Caucus, 15 June 2015. Web. 16 Sept. 2015.
Manson, Caden, and Jemma Nelson, eds. *Contemporary Performance Almanac 2015*. Vol. 2. N.p.: Contemporary Performance, 2014. Print.
Museum of Transgender History and Art (MOTHA)
<http://www.buzzfeed.com/motha/transgender-art-culture-in-2014-15ig3>
- 2014 O'Brien, Kean and Whitney, Emerson. *Transient*. Minneapolis: Book Mobile, 2014. Print.
"West Hollywood: Transient Exhibition." Web log post. *Niipy.com*. N.p., 1 Nov. 2014. Web.
"Transient Exhibition Los Angeles." Web log post. *Alejandrosantiagophotography.com*. Ed. Alejandro Santiago. N.p. , 22 Nov. 2014. Web.
"Transient Panel Discussion." Web log post. *Timeout.com*. N.p., 24. 2014. Web.
" 'Transient' Mobile Exhibit Shares Ideas About Transgender Identity." Web log post. *Weherville.com*. N.p., 12 Nov. 2014. Web.
"FTM Searching: Trans YouTube Culture: FTM Search(ing), By Kean O'Brien." *Wild Gender*. Ed. Emerson Whitney. N.p., 13 Feb. 2013. Web.
Manson, Caden, and Jemma Nelson, eds. *Contemporary Performance Almanac 2013*, Vol. 1. N.p.: Contemporary Performance, 2013. Print.
"Man And His Dog" *Wild Gender*. Ed. Emerson Whitney. N.p. 9 April. 2013. Web.
- 2012 Eunjung Kim (2012): *Why Do Dolls Die? The Power of Passivity and the Embodied Interplay Between Disability and Sex Dolls*, Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies, 34:3-4, 94-106
- 2011 *Into My Seas*, CalArts MFA Thesis Catalog
"Creating in the Queer Diaspora." Web log post. *Kean O'Brien- FTM FUCK FEST and Developmental Emotional Complexity*. N.p., 31 Jan. 2011. Web.

SELECTED ARTIST LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Plenary panel, University of Wisconsin, GWS Consortium, WI
- 2022 Visiting Artist Lecture University of Illinois Chicago, IL
Visiting Artist Lecture, School of The Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2021 Panel, Aperture Summer Open, New York City

- 2020 Visiting Artist Lecture, University of New Mexico
Visiting Artist Lecture, University of Lebanon, Beirut
Visiting Artist Lecture, University of Arizona, Tucson
- 2019 Visiting Artist Lecture, University of California, Santa Cruz
Artist Lecture, Art of Freelance, Los Angeles, CA
National Women's Studies Association Conference, San Francisco CA
American Studies Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2017 Visiting Artist Lecture, University of Illinois Chicago- Museum Studies Dept.
Guest Lecture, CalArts, Valencia, CA
- 2016 Visiting Artist Lecture, SFAI, CA
- 2015 Visiting Artist Lecture, Long Beach State University, Long Beach, CA.
College Arts Association, New Media Caucus Panel, NYC.
- 2014 Curator and Moderator, *Transient Exhibition* panel at the city council chambers,
West Hollywood, CA.
Artist/Curator Presentation, The City of West Hollywood Art Council, West Hollywood, CA.
- 2013 Artist Presentation for faculty and students, The Art Institute of California, Inland Empire, CA.
- 2011 Queer Caucus, In conjunction with CAA, NYC.
- 2010 Queer Visibility Conference, Studies in Sexuality, Emory College, Atlanta, GA.
Visiting Artist Lecture Series, The School of The Art Institute of California, Chicago, IL.

EXHIBITIONS / SCREENINGS

- 2024 Upcoming: Layers of (In)Queer(y), Foster Gallery- University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, WI
- 2023 *Chronic Perspective*, Unconditional Care, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, NY
Chronic Perspective, Unconditional Care, Center for Arts & History, ID
- 2022 *In Finite Space* - Commissioned installation for the City of West Hollywood, CA
Queer Ecologies- Brushwood Center, Riverwoods, IL
- 2021 *Mapping A Genocide*, Interconnectivity, Highland Park Art Center, IL
Beyond Subjectivity, Waterloo Arts Center, Cleveland, OH
- 2020 *Mapping Trauma*, Aperture Summer Open, Fotografiska, NYC
Beyond Subjectivity, PhotoLA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *FTM Searching*, Czong Institute of Contemporary Art, South Korea
- 2018 *UnFunction*, Rhode Island Center for Photographic Arts, RI

- Beyond Subjectivity*, Nuit Rose, Toronto, CA
Beyond Subjectivity, Fire In The Mountains, Jackson, WY
Get Well Soon, Nous Tous Space, Los Angeles, CA
Distance Makes The Heart Grow Harder, Dorset, VT
- 2017 *Mapping A Genocide*, PhotoLA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 *Mapping A Genocide*, Human Resources, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *Last One*. Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, IL
Genocide Project. The Gay and Lesbian Canadian Archive, Toronto, Canada
Genocide Project, Waterloo Arts, Cleveland, OH.
 Curator: Mike Kelley Mobile Homestead, The Geffen Contemporary at MoCA, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Curator of *Transient*, Los Angeles and The City of West Hollywood, CA
Man And His Dog, LA Photo, Los Angeles, CA.
Man and His Dog, Venice Arts, CA.
- 2013 *Hope*, Queer Arts Collective, CalArts, Valencia, CA.
- 2012 *Man And His Dog*, Barnsdall Art Center, Los Angeles, CA.
I Use Male Pronouns, The City of West Hollywood, CA.
- 2011 *FTM Search(ing)*, Screening- REDCAT Theater, Los Angeles, CA.
 Curator of *Transient*, Valencia and Los Angeles, CA.
FTM Search(ing). The Farley Building- CalArts MFA show, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 *FTM Search(ing)*, Screening- Queer Mondays, Highland Art Center, Los Angeles, CA
 Curator of *In Relation to Each Other*, CalArts, Valencia, CA.
I Can't Feel It Anyway, Risky Sex Conference, Emory College, Atlanta, GA.
- 2008 *I Can't Feel It Anyway*, SAIC Gallery, Chicago, IL.
Metabolic Growth, SAIC Gallery, Chicago, IL.
QueerAbilities, Screening- SAIC, Chicago, IL.
Metabolic Growth, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 *Be This*, Around The Coyote, Chicago, IL.
Gender Sculpture, Studio B., Three Oaks, MI.
Gender Sculpture, Columbia College, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 *Photo Gender Italia*, SRISA, Florence, Italy.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Photography Instructor, Open Education, Latitude, Chicago, IL (2021-2023)

Full-time faculty, Photo Arts Conservatory at the New York Film Academy, Los Angeles, CA (2015-2017)

Co-Chair of Photography, Photo Arts Conservatory at the New York Film Academy, Los Angeles, CA (2017-2020)

Partner, Social Justice Venture Partners, Los Angeles, CA (2018-2020)

Board member, Transgender Board of Advisors, West Hollywood, CA (2015-2018)

Visiting Faculty, California State University, Long Beach, CA (2016)

Visiting Faculty, Art Institute of California, San Bernardino, CA (2012-2014)

Teaching Assistant, Photography & Media Program, CalArts, Valencia, CA (2011 – 2013)

Teaching Assistant, Filmmaking Department, CalArts, Valencia, CA (2012 – 2013)

Studio Assistant, Ashley Hunt, Los Angeles, CA, (2009 - 2011)

Program Directors' Assistant, Photography & Media Program, CalArts, Los Angeles, CA, 2009 – 2011

Co-founder, Concord: Artist Run Space, Los Angeles, CA (2011-2012)

Instructor, CAPSA high school program, Los Angeles, CA (2010-2011)

Exhibition Coordinator and Assistant Teacher, CSSSA, state-funded art high school program (2011)

Art Teacher, Turning Point Middle School, Los Angeles, CA (2009-2010)

Artist Licensing, AMMO Books, Los Angeles, CA (2009-2010)