

Melissa Shaak

Studio at River Street Artists/Waltham Mills, Waltham, MA
Lives in Somerville, MA

Education

Coursework at Tufts School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Mass College of Art
Creativity Lab at New Art Center
Ed.M. Harvard Graduate School of Education
B.A. Tufts University

Curation

2022 | **Regarding Boston** | Fountain Street Artists at Scollay Square Gallery, Boston City Hall
2021 | **Upended** | Fountain Street Artists at The Mayor's Gallery, Boston City Hall
2021 | **Upended** | Fountain Street Artists at Piano Craft Gallery

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

2023 | **What We Make of This World** | Fountain Street Gallery, two-person exhibition
2021 | **Out of Nowhere** | Fountain Street Gallery, two-person exhibition
2016 | **Understory** | Cambridge Health Associates, solo exhibition
2014 | **Monotypes** | 1188 Broadway, Somerville, MA, solo exhibition

Group Exhibitions (Painting, Prints, Installation)

2023 | **the sum of its pARTS** | Studios Without Walls, juried outdoor exhibition
2023 | **Red** | Cambridge Art Association, juried exhibition
2022 | **SculptFest22** | The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, juried outdoor exhibition
2022 | **The Bold & Beautiful** | Hopkinton Center for the Arts, invitational exhibition
2022 | **Real F.R.I.E.N.D.S** | New Art Corridor, invitational exhibition
2021 | **Something in the Air** | The Umbrella Arts Center *Art Ramble*, juried outdoor exhibition
2021 | **Space and Surface Together** | Fountain Street Gallery, curated collection online
2020 | **Unexpected Relationships** | Fountain Street Gallery, curated collection online
2020 | **Real F.R.I.E.N.D.S** | The Mayor's Gallery, Boston City Hall, invitational exhibition
2020 | **Real F.R.I.E.N.D.S** | Beacon Gallery, invitational exhibition
2020 | **ROX/SE** | Piano Craft Gallery, juried exhibition
2020 | **Growth and Disruption** | Fountain Street Gallery, curated collection online
2019 | **Read Between the Lines** | Fountain Street Gallery, core members exhibition
2018 | **Annex Artists** | Fountain Street Gallery, annex members exhibition
2018 | **Frances N. Roddy Open Competition** | Concord Center for the Visual Arts, juried competition
2018 | **Rhythm and Hues** | Belmont Gallery of Art, juried exhibition
2017 | **Ideas of Home** | University Place Galley, Cambridge Art Association, members exhibition
2016 | **Feast of Layers** | Belmont Habitat, group exhibition
2015 | **Once** | Brickbottom Gallery, Monotype Guild of New England juried members exhibition
2015 | **Bite** | NAVE Gallery, juried exhibition
2014 | **Contiguous** | North Hill Gallery, organizer of this seven-artist exhibition

Digital Media

2022 | **At the Gate** (1:37) | *Form and Emptiness* | Fountain Street Gallery
2022 | **Rise** (1:15) | *ArtBeat* | City of Somerville
2022 | **Outside What's Inside** (3:19) | The Sidewalk Video Gallery at Fountain Street
2022 | **Tangling With Sculpture** (1:50) | *The Space for Maybe* | Fountain Street Gallery
2021 | **A Curator's Story** (5:12) | *Upended* | Fountain Street Artists at Piano Craft Gallery

(Digital Media continued)

2021 | **Trove** (5:43) | *Upended* | Fountain Street Artists at Piano Craft Gallery
2021 | **Out of Nowhere** (5:05) | The Sidewalk Video Gallery at Fountain Street
2020 | **Out of Nowhere** (5:05) | *Puppet Collaboration Station* | Waltham Open Studios
2020 | **birds and me** (4:13) | *Sharp Focus* | Fountain Street Gallery
2020 | **Live Painting** (5:20) | *Real F.R.I.E.N.D.S* | Beacon Gallery
2020 | **Out of Nowhere** (5:05) | *The Boundaries Between* | Fountain Street Gallery

Affiliations

River Street Artists | 2020 - present
Vermont Studio Center Residency | 2020
Fountain Street Gallery Core Member | 2019 - present
Fountain Street Gallery Annex Member | 2018
BabsonArts Collaborative Mini-Residency with Jamaal Eversley | 2018

Press

“Making magic: Melissa Shaak and Sylvia Vander Sluis contemplate the interplay of art and existence”
The Boston Globe, Cate McQuaid, April 21, 2023

“New Art Center’s Curatorial Program Spotlights Vision of People of Color”
Newton Tab, Audrey S. Garon and Richard B. Primack, February 16, 2022

“Fountain Street Gallery”
Museum Open House, Jay Sugarman at NewTV.org, January 20, 2022

“In SoWa Art + Design District, Video Gallery Brings Art to The Sidewalk 24/7”
The Boston Globe, Dana Gerber, December 28, 2021

“Inspired by Art Outdoors”
Chronicle WCVB Channel 5 Boston, Ted Reinstein, November 23, 2021

“Gallery Visit: Wise & Shaak at Fountain Street”
DigBoston, Hongyu Liu, May 18, 2021

“‘Upended’ Emphasizes the Need for Creativity During the Pandemic”
DigBoston, Hongyu Liu, March 16, 2021

“In Exhibition ‘Upended,’ Artists Explore Life Turned Upside Down”
WBUR The ARTery, Pamela Reynolds, March 4, 2021

“Fountain Street, Galatea Galleries Keep Strong Online Presence, Slowly Rebuild, After South End Flooding”
Artscope Online, J. M. Belmont, May 26, 2020

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