

SARAH EMERSON

Born 1974

Education

2000 *Master of Fine Art (Distinction)* Goldsmiths College, London England
1998 *Bachelor of Fine Art* Atlanta College of Art, Atlanta, Ga
1997 *Mobility Student* School of the Museum of Fine Art, Boston Ma

Professional Experience

2010-Present Agnes Scott College, Instructor of Painting and Drawing, Atlanta, GA
2018-2019 Lecturer of Painting and Drawing, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
2014-2015 Agnes Scott College, Kirk Visiting Artist, Decatur, Georgia
2014, 2015 Georgia State University, Adjunct Instructor of Painting, Atlanta, GA
2008-2014 Lecturer of Painting and Drawing, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Professional Affiliations

2010-2015 Art Papers Board of Directors

Solo Exhibitions

2025 "Returns" Spruill Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2024 "In the Land of Plenty" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2022 "The Unbearable Flatness of Being" Wilson Arts Center, Wilson, NC
2019 "O Smithereens!", Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2018 "Are We the Monsters" Zuckerman Museum of Art, Morten Gallery, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA 2017
2017 "Ruin In Reverse" Corey Helford gallery, Los Angeles, CA
"The Unbearable Flatness of Being", Stanley, Beaman, & Sears, Atlanta, GA
2015-16 "The Unbearable Flatness of Being" MOCA GA Working Artist Project Solo Show selected by Siri Engberg, Senior Curator of the Walker Art Center Minneapolis, Atlanta, GA
2013 "Black Sea of Trees" Atrium project, MOCA Jacksonville, FL
"Dog Days" Space: Eight, Jacksonville, FL
2012 "Beneath the Setting Sun" Puritan Mill, Atlanta, GA
"Underland" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2011 "Black Garden" Moon Gallery, Berry College, Mount Berry, GA
2009 "Soft Trap" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2007 "The Dark Side" SLM Projects, Roswell, GA
"The End is Near" Screen Arts, St. Augustine, FL
2005 "Big Darkness" Bartlett Gallery, Provincetown MA
"The Moon is Down" Metaphor Contemporary Art, Brooklyn NY
2004 Cosmic Galerie with Vidya Gastaldon and Maria Marshall, Paris France
"Soft Mast" part of the artist series *Don't Trust Anyone Over Thirty*, Real Art Ways, Hartford CT
2003 "Do the Collapse" Thomas Erben Gallery, New York NY
1997 "Bobbing for Water" Old Highland Bakery, Atlanta GA
1996 "Funnel Vision" Vantosh Gallery, Atlanta GA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 "Critical Mass" Reeves House, Woodstock, GA
"Illustrating A Point" Stoveworks, Chattanooga, TN
"5 x 8", Spruill Gallery, Atlanta, GA
"XXS" curated by Wendy White, Brintz Gallery + County, Palm Beach, FL
2022 "Re:_____The World, curated by Lisa Alembik, Gallery 378, Atlanta, GA
2020 "She Is Here" Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA
"Steam2020" UWF Pensacola Museum of Art, Pensacola, FL
2019 "Urban Wild", group show curated by Elizabet Elliott, Alabama Contemporary Art Center, Mobile, AL

2018 "Bomb" curated by Larry Anderson, Space One Eleven, Birmingham, AL
 2017 "East/West" Corey Helford Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 2016 "The December Show" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "10th Anniversary Exhibition" Corey Helford Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 "The December Show" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "A Garden of Unearthly Delights" curated by Jerry Cullum, Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Flights of Imagination" Aviation Community Cultural Center, Atlanta, GA
 "A Garden of Unearthly Delights" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "A Wet, Hot, Southern Summer", The Southern, Charleston, S.C.
 2015 "Beauty & the Beasts" Dunedin Fine Art Center, Dunedin, FL
 Darkness Invisible, Tempus Projects, Tampa, FL
 Emerging Artist Exhibition, Macon Museum of Arts & Sciences, Macon, GA
 "Showing, Thinking" Dalton Gallery, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA
 2014 "Little Things Mean A Lot", Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Driptorch", group show curated by John Gleason, Thomasville, GA
 "Exquisite Exhibit", curated by Joey Orr, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA
 "Second Nature", The Goat Farm, Atlanta, GA
 MOCA Jacksonville, MOCA Classic, Jacksonville, FL
 "Cross Reference" Emory Final Faculty Exhibition, Atlanta, GA
 "[Ossuary](#)" (traveling) Herron Galleries, IUPUI, IN
 2013 "Little Things Mean A Lot" Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "The December Show" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "[Ossuary](#)" (traveling) University of Tennessee Downtown Gallery, Knoxville, TN
 Red Bull Canvas Cooler Project, Atlanta, GA
 "Elevate" OCA mural commission, Atlanta, GA
 "Drawing Inside the Perimeter" High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
 "In Unison", curated by William Downs, Get This Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 2012 "Escape Velocity" Mirus Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 "Little Things Mean a Lot" Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 "Living Walls Conference" Atlanta, GA
 "18th Annual Texas National" curated by Dave Hickey, The Cole Art Center, SFASU, Nacogdoches, TX
 "Day Job" Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, curated by Nina Katchadourian and Stuart Horodner
 2011 "Elevate Art Above Underground" Atlanta, GA
 "Return to Sender" Tempus Projects, Tampa, FL
 "Art in Nature/Nature in Art" Chattahoochee Nature Center, Roswell, GA
 "Curious and Curiouser" Curated by Paula Katz, Herron Gallery Indianapolis, IN
 2010 "The December Show 2010" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Flux Projects" Atlanta, GA
 "Catastrophe" Manif D'Art 5 The Quebec City Biennial curated by Sylvie Fortin, Quebec City, Canada
 "The Birds and Some Bees" Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 2009 "For Ever Green" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Little Things Mean A Lot" Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 "You Killed My Pretty Things" UNO St. Claude Gallery, New Orleans LA
 "Regime Change" Swarm Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 "MOCA Gala" MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
 "Movers and Shakers" MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
 ATLart 2009" ARThouse, Atlanta, GA
 2008 "The December Show" Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 Emory Faculty Exhibition, Emory College, Atlanta, GA
 Hambidge Art Auction, Foundry at Puritan Mill, Atlanta, GA
 "Wood, Canvas and Clay" The Arts Company, Nashville, TN

Forward Arts Foundation Show, Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 "Breaking New Ground" Spruill Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Oil" 3 Fish Gallery, Portland, ME
 "Draw Off" curated by Susannah Darrow, Eyedrum, Atlanta, GA
 "All that Glitters" curated by Marianne Lambert, Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 "The Possibility of Framing Infinity" Agnes Scott College, Atlanta, GA
 2007 "Holiday Greetings from 10 Artsists" AG Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 "Innovations, Gallery Walk at Terminus, Atlanta, GA
 "Little Things Mean A Lot" Swan Coach House, Atlanta, GA
 "Dead Flowers" Eyedrum, Atlanta, GA
 Mason Murer Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
 "Keep Abreast" Screen Arts, St. Augustine, FL
 "Innovations" Gallery Walk at Terminus, Atlanta, GA
 "Language" Spruill Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Paper, Fire, and Light" Spruill Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "Talent Show" Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA
 "New Eden" Tastes Like Chicken Art Space, Brooklyn, NY
 "The No Name Show" SLM Projects, Roswell, GA
 "Suckers & Biters: Love, Lollipops, and the Exquisite Corpse" Ad Hoc Art, Brooklyn, NY
 2006 "Mischief" Metaphor Contemporary Art, Brooklyn, NY
 "Paradise Lost" Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York NY
 2005 "Post Notes" curated by Adam Carr, ICA London, UK
 "the Real Party" Real Art Ways, Hartford CT
 2004 "Enchantment" Art Space, New Haven, CT
 "East of the Sun and West of the Moon" White Columns, New York NY
 2003 "Young Generations" Tache-Levy Gallery, Brussels Belgium
 2002 "Boys and Girls" A Priori Presents, London England
 "Core" Creative Alliance, Baltimore MD
 "New American Talent 17" curated by Kathryn Kanjo, Jones Center for Contemporary Art, Austin TX
 "The Big Picture III" Baltimore Museum of Contemporary Art, Baltimore MD
 "Twenty-Eight" The Whole Gallery, Baltimore MD
 "Substatic" Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, NY
 2001 "The Tender Trap" London House, London England
 "Hi Kickin' Hi Falutin'" VTO Gallery, London England
 "Cream" Howell Mill, Atlanta GA
 "Glamourhammer" Beckett Boxing Ring, London England
 "Insider Trading" Mandeville Hotel, London England
 2000 "Assembly, Stepney City, London England
 "MA Degree Show" Goldsmiths College, London England
 "Juicy" Project Space, London England
 1999 "Valentine" Old Highland Bakery, Atlanta GA
 1998 Alexandria Museum of Art, Juror, Jerry Cullum, Alexandria, LA
 "Dana Pond Awards in Painting" School of the Museum of Fine Art, Boston, MA
 "19th Annual Arts on the River" SCAD Juror, Holly Solomon, Savannah, GA
 "LaGrange National XX Biennial" Juror Siri J. Engberg, LaGrange Museum, LaGrange, GA
 "A Journey Into Lifestyle, Eroticism, and Imagery" Old Lake Claire Baptist Church, Alternative Space, Atlanta, GA
 1997 "Drawing and Printmaking" Colony Square, Atlanta, GA
 "The November Project" Old Lake Claire Baptist Church, Alternative Space, Atlanta GA
 "ACA Juried Show" Juror J. Fleming, ACA Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 "The Really, Really Small Painting Exhibition" ACA Gallery 100 Jurors Marcia Cohen, Tom Francis, Anthony Greco, Atlanta, GA
 "Degrees of Excellence" ACA Gallery, Colony Square, Atlanta, GA
 Arts and Crafts Council, Juror Alan Hing, Georgia Dome, Atlanta, GA

- 1996 Printmaking Exhibition, Juror Norman Wagner, Bellaluna, Atlanta, GA
Group Show, ACA Gallery 100, Atlanta, GA
"200x200" New Visions Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 1995 "Now Here-Outdoor Installation" Autrey Mill, Alpharetta, GA
- 1994 "ACA Juried Show" Juror Chris Scoates, ACA Gallery, Atlanta, GA

Awards and Achievements

- 2015 Museum of Contemporary Art Working Artist Project recipient
- 2013-14 Emory Center for Creativity and Arts Grant
- 2013 City of Atlanta Grant for Elevate
- 2011 City of Atlanta Grant for Elevate Art Above Underground
- 2010 Puffin Foundation Grant
Flux Projects Grant
- 2007 Forward Arts Foundation Emerging Artist Award Finalist
- 2000 Warden's Purchase Prize, Goldsmiths College
- 1998 Honorable Mention, Arts on the River, Savannah College of Art and Design
- 1996 CGR Scholarship, Dragon Foundation Atlanta College of Art

Selected Public and Private Mural Commissions

- 2025 RDA Bond 2.0, commissioned by the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, Atlanta, GA
- 2024 Hope, Diversion Center, commissioned by the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, Atlanta, GA
- 2023 Here Now, 109 Tarboro Street, Wilson, NC
- 2019 Screaming Meemies, 29 Rooms, Refinery 29, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and New York
- 2018 Are We the Monsters, Zuckerman Museum, Kennesaw, GA
Endless Possibilities, Edelman, Atlanta, GA
Rumble, Hathaway Contemporary, Atlanta, GA
- 2017 Marriott Gateway Renaissance Hotel, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Blue Skies Ahead, All Connect, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 Lost and Found, Elevate 2013, Atlanta, GA
Black Sea of Trees (Safe & Sound) MOCA Jacksonville, FL
- 2012 Underland, Living Walls Conference, Atlanta, GA
No More Dreaming Like A Girl, ACAC, Atlanta, GA
- 2011 Pool of Tears, Herron Gallery, IUPUI, Indianapolis, IN
- 2010 Feast, Manif d'Art 5, Quebec, Canada
Starlight Shadows, Manif d'Art 5, Quebec, Canada
The Moon Is Down, Flux Projects 2012, Atlanta, GA
- 2008 Pictures from the Abyss, Dalton Gallery, ASC, Decatur, GA

Selected Publications, Interviews, and Video Interviews

- "Murals Brighten Spots Downtown" by Drew Wilson, The Wilson Times, October 18, 2023
- Review "American Carnage: Sarah Emerson's Are We the Monsters" at the Zuckerman Museum of Art", Logan Lockner, Burnaway, April 18, 2018
- Artist Book, *Are We the Monsters*, published in partnership with the Zuckerman Museum, Jan 2018
- Catalogue, *The Unbearable Flatness of Being*, text by Denise Markonish, Curator, MASS MOCA and Siri Engberg, Senior Curator, Walker Art Center Minneapolis, 2016
- "Sarah Emerson Paints a Wacky, Dark World in "The Unbearable Flatness of Being"" by Caro, Hi-Fructose Magazine, December 31, 2015
- "Lyrical Flatness: Sarah Emerson at MOCA GA", by Orion Wertz, Burnaway, January 12, 2016
- "Review: Sarah Emerson's MOCA GA solo show a cartoon tapestry of apocalypse and renewal: by Matthew Terrell, Arts Atl, December 22, 2015
- "Review: Horror underpins cartoon surfaces in impressive MOCA GA show" by Felicia Feaster, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, December 18, 2015
- "Reimaginig Reality" by Tess Malone, Atlanta Magazine, December 2015, p. 36
- A Tale of Two Murals*, PBS documentary film by Atlanta PBA 30, Produced by Trevor Keller, October 2014
- "The Unconscious Personality of ACAC's Exquisite Exhibit" by Myke Johns, WABE 90.1 radio interview with Joey Orr, September 15, 2014

"Review: Lively "exquisite corpses" in paint, video ad sculpture form the Contemporary's studio artists" by Jerry Cullum, ArtsAtl, September 29, 2014
 "Art on Campus" UNF Journal, Winter 2014
 "A Day of Art Atlanta" by Carl Rojas, Burnaway, February 2014
 "High's Michael Rooks builds collection, community; curates "Drawing Inside the Perimeter" by Stephanie Cash, ArtsAtl, May 2013
 "Artspeak Interview with Claire Maxwell for Burnaway Magazine" AM Radio1690, June 2013
 "Reviews" by Suzanne Cohen, ArtDistricts, June-July 2013
 Brochure, "Project Atrium: Sarah Emerson, MOCA Jacksonville, March 2013
 "Hope Amid the Ruins" by Bonnie Mulqueen, Folio Weekly, March 20-26, 2013
 "Enter the Black Sea of Trees" by Charlie Patton, The Jacksonville Times-Union March 23, 2012
 "Public Catalogue Foundation" www.thepcf.org.uk, Catalogue of all oil, acrylic and tempera paintings in public ownership in the UK
 "This is Atlanta", documentary on Georgia PBS, Producer: Trevor Keller, October 2012
 "Atlanta Hosts First All Female Street Art Conference" by Jaime Rojo & Steven Harrington, Huffington Post, August 15, 2012
 "Living Walls Conference brings legal Street Art to Atlanta" by Bo Emerson, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, August 11, 2012
 "Sarah Emerson unearths troubling territory in Underland" by Felicia Feaster, Creative Loafing, April 27, 2012
 "Review: In Sarah Emerson's Underland the Woods are lovely, dark, and deep" by Jerry Cullum, ArtCriticAtl, April 18, 2012
 "Artspeak Interview with Lilly Lampe for Burnaway Magazine" AM Radio1690, March 2012
 Artist Profile by Caroline Cox, Jezebel Magazine, 2012
 New American Paintings, Southeastern Edition, curated by Michael Rooks, 2012
 Atlanta Art Now: NOPLACENESS, Biennial book series from Atlanta Art Now, Nov 2011
 "Under the Influence" by Felicia Feaster, Creative Loafing, Feb. 3-9, 2011 Vo.39, #40
 "Review: Herron's Curious and Curiouser" by Joe Williams, Nuvo, Jan. 24, 2011
 "Stickers Deluxe: From Punk Rock to Contemporary Art", by D.B. Burkeman, ISBN: 978-0-7893-2082-7, 2010
 Catalogue, "Catastrophe" curated by Sylvie Fortin, Manif'd'Art 5 Quebec City Biennial 2010
 "Manif 5: implosion ou explosion?" by Nadia Ross, Le Soleil Quebec City Canada, May 8, 2010
 "The Birds and Some Bees" A Study of Objects at Swan Coach House Gallery" by Catherine Fox Atlanta Journal-Constitution January 22, 2010
 "Six Degrees of Susan Bridges" by Felicia Feaster, The Atlantan, December 2009
 "Sarah Emerson" review by Felicia Feaster, Art Papers, November/December 2009
 "A World Awry: Sarah Emerson and Jeff Grant" by Catherine Fox, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, September 25, 2009
 "Shortlist" by Sarah Bakhtian, Creative Loafing, September 2-8, 2009
 "Simmering with Promise" by Catherine Fox, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Feb 13, 2009
 "Wood, Canvas, and Clay at the Arts Company" by Joe Nolan, The Scene December 10, 2008
 Catalogue, Art by the Emory Visual Arts Faculty, December 2008
 "Art and Cankles: Interview with the lovely Sarah Emerson" by Whitney Stansell, Nov 13. 2008
 "The Radar Art" by Felicia Feaster, The Atlantan, July 2008, pp. 46-50
 "The Possibility of Framing Infinity" review by Diana McClintock, Art Papers May/June 2008
 "Razzle Dazzle" by Felicia Feaster, Creative Loafing, March 19-25, 2008
 "Woodland Melancholy" by Felicia Feaster, Creative Loafing Online December 14, 2007
 "Felicia Feaster's Top 10 Art Picks" Creative Loafing, December 26, 2007
 "Happy Blendings" Metropolitan Home, December 2007, p. 116
 "To Keep Abreast" by Paulette Perhach & Ashley Gallam, Drift Magazine, Ed 002 p. 35 Oct 2007
 "Stylish paint-by-numbers" by Jerry Cullum, Atlanta Journal Constitution October 4, 2007
 Catalogue Spruill Gallery, "Language" September 2007
 New American Paintings, Southeast Edition, curated by Charlotta Kotik June 2007
 "Q&A/ Stuart Horodner" by Kirsten Tagami Atlanta Journal Constitution June 6, 2007
 "In the Gallery" Folio Weekly Jacksonville, FL, February 27, 2007
 "The Darker Side of Sweet" by Denise Markonish Real Art Ways Publications 2005
 "Fractured Fairy Tales" by Judy Birke, New Haven Register December 5, 2004
 "Enchant Terribles" by Meral Agish, The New Haven Advocate November 25, 2004

"For Three Young Artists, a Search for the Spiritual" by Benjamin Gonacchio, New York Times, CT Sunday March 28, 2004

"May Picks" by Christopher Chambers NY Arts Magazine Vol 8, No 5, May 2003, p. 55

Centrefold Scrapbook, 60 unique books-One different collaborative drawing done in each book, drawings done in collaboration with Diann Bauer and Nicole Urbanic-Lichf, 2003

New American Paintings Northeast Edition, curated by Charlotta Kotik February 2003

"Short List" M-The New York Art World, Art Reviews by Lily Faust, March 2002, pp. 14-15

"The Front" Shout, February 2002, p. 11

"Erotica" by Lea Keel Creative Loafing March 28, 2001

"Whipped Cream" by Cathy Byrd Creative Loafing March 28, 2001

Catalogue, Assembly Exhibition 2000

Catalogue, Goldsmiths College 2000

Catalogue, Alexandria Museum of Art, 1998

"Look Back, Get Down" by Cathy Byrd Creative Loafing Jan 3, 1998

The Scene Feb 21 1998

"Praying for Sheetrock" by Cathy Byrd Creative Loafing November 22, 1997

"Learning Curve" by Donald Locke Creative Loafing December 27, 1997

"Women's Work" by Cathy Byrd Creative Loafing December 28, 1996