

# Rachel Herrick

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## Education

- 2011 Maine College of Art, MFA in Studio Art  
2002 Methodist University, BA in Creative Writing

## Select Solo Exhibitions

- 2013 *Museum for Obeast Conservation Studies*, Flanders Gallery, Raleigh NC  
2012 *Museum for Obeast Conservation Studies*, Beland Gallery, Lawrence MA  
2010 *Beware of Dog*, The Mahler Gallery, Raleigh NC  
*Know Your Obeast*, Free Street Gallery, Portland ME  
*There, there...*, Antfarm, Raleigh NC  
2009 *Recreation*, Artspace, Raleigh NC  
2008 *Rescue*, Artspace, Raleigh NC  
2007 *Good Intentions*, Crocker's Mark Gallery, Raleigh NC  
2006 Godbold Park, permanent public art installation, Cary NC  
*Diplopia*, Page Walker Arts & History Center, Cary NC

## Select Group Exhibitions

- 2014 *Fat: It's Delicious*, Science Gallery, Dublin, Ireland. Curated by Lynn Scarff.  
*The Missing Body*, University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. Other artists included the Guerilla Girls and Vito Acconci. Curated by Cindy Baker  
2013 *Something in Particular: A Review of Today's Southern Artist*, L1 Gallery @ Telephone Factory Lofts, Atlanta GA. Curated by Cubby West & Melonie Tharpe.  
2011 *Re-Locations*, Green Hill Center for NC Art, Greensboro NC. Curated by Edie Carpenter.  
*MFA Thesis Exhibit*, Institute for Contemporary Art, Portland ME  
2009 *Southern*, Wynn Bone Gallery, Annapolis MD  
2008 *Winter Show*, Greenhill Center for NC Art, Greensboro NC  
*Forsaken*, Fayetteville Museum of Art, Fayetteville NC. Curated by Tom Grubb.  
*New & Hot*, M Street Gallery, Raleigh NC.  
2007 *Art + Ability International*, Bryn Mawr College, PA  
2006 *Art + Ability International*, Bryn Mawr College, PA

## Grants & Awards

- 2012 United Arts Regional Artist Project Grant  
Nominee, *New England Art Award* in the *Promising Talent* category  
2011 Puffin Foundation Artist Grant

2009-2011      Hildreth Family MFA Scholarship Award  
MECA Presidential Scholarship Award  
MECA MFA Grant

## Bibliography

### Selected Books, Catalogues, Articles + Periodicals

- 2014              Baker, Cindy. *The Missing Body: Performance in the Absence of the Artist*. 2014. (ISBN: 978-0-9937297-1-3)
- Interview. *365 Artists, 365 Days Blog*. June 29, 2014.
- Sanchez, Casey. "Book Review: 'A Guide to the North American Obeast'." *Sante Fe New Mexican*. June 2014. Accessed online:  
[http://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/books/book\\_reviews/book-reviews-a-guide-to-the-north-american-obeast-by/article\\_029dc07b-40ea-5a58-b6d9-65244f18d02b.html](http://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/books/book_reviews/book-reviews-a-guide-to-the-north-american-obeast-by/article_029dc07b-40ea-5a58-b6d9-65244f18d02b.html)
- 2013              Holmes, Anna. *The Book of Jezebel: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Lady Things*. Grand Central Publishing, 2013. (ISBN: 1455502804)
- "Interview with Rachel Herrick" *Burnaway Online Magazine*. April 5, 2013.
- Snider, Stefanie. "Introduction to the Special Issue: Visual Representations Fat and Fatness," *Fat Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Body Weight and Society*, Vol. 2, Iss. 2, Routledge, 2013.
- 2012              "‘obeast’ busca identidad de Los obesos" by Jhovanny Martes for *The Lawrence Vale*. Accessed online: <http://www.lawrencevale.com/edicion.php?id=94> (3/6/12)
- Snider, Stefanie. "Fatness and Visual Culture: A Brief Look at Some Contemporary Projects" *Fat Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Body Weight and Society*, Vol. 1, Iss.1, Routledge, 2012.
- 2011              "Rachel Herrick's Obeasts" by Stacey Bellet for *Stylus Magazine*, London. (7/21/11)
- "Meet The North American Obeast, A Reclusive & Endangered Species," by Dodai Stewart for *Jezebel.com* (6/1/11)
- "Art installation critiques the dehumanization of fat people," review and discussion on *BigFatBlog.com*. (6/2/11)
- "Art Review: MECA students deftly open door to new horizons," by Daniel Kany for *The Portland Press Herald*. (5/29/11)
- 2010              "Beware of Dog at The Mahler grapples with urban inspirations" by Dave Delcambre for *Indy Weekly* Chapel Hill NC (10/13/10)
- 2008              "Catch This Wave" by Melissa Clement for *The Fayetteville Observer* (8/29/08)
- "Rescue", Critic's Pick for *Indy Weekly*, Chapel Hill NC (4/31/08)
- 2007              "Good Intentions", Critic's Pick for *Indy Weekly*, Chapel NC (6/13/07)
- "Artist Hopes Patrons Will Sniff her Work" by Ryan Teague Beckwith for *The News & Observer* (1/2/07)

## Publications & Professional Experience

2014              Visiting Artist Speaker, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.  
Conference Organizer, Ignite Creativity Conference, June 2014.

- 2013 Herrick, Rachel. "Obeast: The Complete Guide," Two-volume book set published by Publication Studio Portland (Other) with the Institute for Contemporary Art, ISBN: 9781624620159  
 Visiting Artist Speaker, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada  
 "Obeast" Shines A Light On Perceptions Of Obesity" *The State of Things*. WUNC. NPR Radio Interview. April 10, 2013.  
 Director of Special Projects, Visual Art Exchange, Raleigh NC (June-present)  
 Public Art Consultant Artist Selection Panel, Raleigh Public Art Commission  
 Interviewed by students for Susan Harbage Page's Visual Art & Gender course, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
 Public Talk "Art as Propaganda in the Third Reich," Fayetteville Public Library  
 Visiting Artist Speaker, Methodist University, Fayetteville NC  
 Speaker, Ignite Creative Entrepreneurship Conference, Raleigh NC
- 2012 Peer Reviewer, *Fat Studies Academic Journal*  
 Curator, POD Installations, SPARKcon, Raleigh NC  
 Visiting Artist, Temple University  
 Visiting Artist Speaker, East Carolina University
- 2011 Featured Artist in the *2012 Fat?So! Day Planner* by Fat Scholar Marilyn Wann  
 "Origins of Obesity." *The State of Things*. WUNC. NPR Radio Interview & podcast. (7/7/11)  
 "Inside the Artist's Studio." WCOM-FM Radio Interview and podcast. (8/9/11)  
 Juror, "The White Show," Visual Art Exchange, Raleigh, NC  
 Artist Talk. Green Hill Center for NC Art, Greensboro, NC  
 Artist Talk. *VAE's The Business of Being an Artist* lecture series, Raleigh NC  
 Board Chair, McCune International Art Center, Fayetteville NC
- 2010 Artist Writing Advisor, Maine College of Art, Portland, ME  
 Artist Talk. *Beware of Dog*, Mahler Gallery, Raleigh NC  
 Artist Talk. *VAE's The Business of Being an Artist* lecture series, Raleigh NC
- 2009 Free-lance Arts Writer, News & Observer, Raleigh NC (2009 to present)
- 2008 Programs Director, Visual Art Exchange, Raleigh NC (through 2009)  
 Juror. United Arts artist grants award panel.
- 2007 Artist Talk. *Dix Mental Hospital Art Project*, NC Psychiatry Association Conference  
 Live TV interview about Dix project. WRAL. (6/17/07)
- 2006 Exhibitions Director, Visual Art Exchange, Raleigh NC (through 2008)  
 Artist Talk. *Art for the Visually Impaired*, NC Educators Conference, Raleigh.  
 Art Instructor, Governor Morehead School for the Blind, Raleigh (through 2007)  
 Televised unveiling of public art installation. WRAL TV and NBC17. (12.29.11)  
 TV Coverage of community drawing workshop. WRAL TV. (10.20.06)  
 TV Interview about public art project. WRAL TV. (9.16.06)
- 2002 Art Instructor, Poland Spring Academy, Poland Spring Maine (through 2003)

# Rachel Herrick

biography

Rachel Herrick (b. 1979) is a multi-media artist best known for her detailed travelling Museum for Obeast Conservation Studies (MOCS) installations. This work has been the subject of activist and academic writing in the US, Canada, England, and Australia. In 2013, Publication Studio (in conjunction with the ICA in Portland, Maine) published Herrick's A Guide to the North American Obeast, a two-volume book set that elaborates on the obeast narrative and contextualizes the art project within a cultural and scholarly framework.

Herrick grew up on a subsistence farm in central Maine and relocated to North Carolina in 2004. She earned an MFA from the Maine College of Art in 2011 and a BA in Creative Writing from Methodist University in 2002. Herrick has been the recipient of several grants including a United Arts Regional Project Grant and a Puffin Foundation Grant. In 2014, Herrick's pseudo-museum went international with exhibitions at Science Gallery in Dublin, Ireland, in May and the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada in August.