

Heather Mekkelson

lives and works in Chicago, Illinois

Education:

- 2008 **MFA**, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 1999 **BFA**, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)
- 1998 Ox-Bow Summer Arts Program
- 1993-1995 Purdue University

Solo Exhibitions:

- 2008 **Old Gold** *Limited Entry*, Chicago, IL
- threewalls** *Debris Field*, Chicago, IL
- 2003 **STANDARD** *Out Land*, Chicago, IL

Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 2011 **NADA Hudson** *A Philip von Zweck Project* hosted by *Invisible Exports*, Hudson, NY
- MDW Fair** *Sculpture Garden*, Chicago, IL
- MDW Fair** *A Philip von Zweck Project* hosted by *Chicago Art Review*, Chicago, IL
- 2010 **Possible Press** Vol. 1 Issue 3, Philadelphia, PA
- Hungryman** *landscape/portrait/still life*, curated by Philip von Zweck, Chicago, IL
- 2009 **Dominican University O'Conner Art Gallery** *Site Unspecific*, River Forest, IL
- The Poor Farm** *The Great Poor Farm Experiment*, Manawa, WI
- Hyde Park Art Center** *Artists Run Chicago*, Chicago, IL
- Museum of Contemporary Photography** *PhotoDimensional*, Chicago, IL
- 2008 **Alternator** *Bellwether*, Kelowna, BC, Canada (traveling)
- Vox Populi** *Bellwether*, curated by Shannon Stratton, Philadelphia, PA
- Gallery 400** *MFA Thesis Exhibition*, Chicago, IL
- NEXT Fair** *5 Artists Create A \$500 & \$5000 Sculpture*, Old Gold at Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Green Lantern** *Useless Weaponry*, Chicago, IL
- 2007 **Hyde Park Art Center** *Clothesline*, Chicago, IL
- Gallery 400** *Benefit Exhibition*, curated by Lorelei Stewart and Anthony Elms, Chicago, IL
- 2006 **40000** *Vomitorium*, curated by Philip von Zweck, Chicago, IL
- artLedge @ i-cabin** *To London from Chicago, with Great Love*, London, UK
- 40000** *Versus*, a Mekkelson/Walters collaborative project, Chicago, IL
- 2005 **The Figge Art Museum** *41/90: Contemporary Landscape at The Figge Art Museum*, inaugural exhibition, Davenport, IA (accompanying catalog)
- Gallery 400** *Temporary Allegiance*, a project by Philip Von Zweck, Chicago, IL
- 2004 **Gardenfresh** *Paring Down*, Chicago, IL
- Modest Contemporary Art Gallery** *Small Victories*, curated by Middle Management, Chicago, IL
- RAID Projects** *Chicago in LA*, Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 **1/Quarterly** *Fast Track 2003*, a project by John Wanzel, Chicago, IL
- Guenzel Gallery** *Here and There*, curated by SAIC's 1926 Exhibition Studies Program, Fish Creek, WI
- The Stray Show** *Metabolism*, Thomas Blackman and Associates, curated by Kathryn Hixson and Sandra Dillon, Chicago, IL
- Sioux City Art Center** *...you sure about this place?*, traveling exhibition, Sioux City, IA (accompanying catalog)
- 2002 **The Pond** *...you sure about this place?*, curated by Kathryn Hixson and The Pond, Chicago, IL
- Apt. 1R** *Variations*, Chicago, IL
- 2001 **Gallery 2** *Installations 2001: Alumni Exhibition*, SAIC juried exhibition, Chicago, IL

Awards and Professional Activities:

- 2011 **Visiting Artist:** "Research Topics" Instructor: Kirsten Leenars, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2010 **Co-Curator:** Twelve Galleries Project: *MinimumixAM*, Pentagon Gallery, Chicago, IL
Nominee: 3Arts Artist Award
- 2009 **Recipient:** Community Arts Assistance Program Grant; provided by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council
Finalist: The Cartier Award 2009
Nominee: 3Arts Artist Award
Artist Lecture: "PhotoDimensional" Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL
Visiting Artist: "Graduate Photography Seminar" Instructor: Karen Irvine, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
Visiting Artist: "Photo Series, Sequence and Structure" Instructor: Jason Lazarus, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Visiting Artist: "Photography I" Instructor: Jose Velazco, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2008 **Visiting Artist:** "Art and Discourse" Instructor: Mirella Tanta, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
Nominee: 3Arts Artist Award
Artist Lecture: "Debris Field" threewalls, Chicago, IL
- 2007 **Recipient:** Navona Research Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago
Graduate Representative: Gallery 400 Advisory Committee University of Illinois at Chicago
Visiting Artist: "Undergraduate Photography" Instructor: Jenny Walters, Depaul University, Chicago, IL
- 2006 **Recipient:** Navona Research Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago
Nominee: The Driehaus Foundation's Emerging Artist Award
- 2005 **Panelist:** "41/90 Contemporary Landscape at The Figge" Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA
- 2003 **Recipient:** Community Arts Assistance Program Grant; provided by Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council
Selection Committee Member: Artboat 2003, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL
Symposium Panelist: "Not Just Another Pretty Face" Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2002 **Founder and Co-director:** 1/Quarterly Exhibition Space (2002-2004), Chicago, IL

Bibliography:

- 2009 Kinkley, Jonathan. **PhotoDimensional**; Time Out Chicago, March 5th- 11th
- 2008 Gunn, Dan. **Review: Heather Mekkelson/ Old Gold**; Newcity, September 9th
- Lowry, Sean. **Monuments to Heroic Failure**; Broadsheet: Contemporary Visual Art + Culture (The Contemporary Art Center of South Australia), vol. 37, no. 3, October 2008
- Lund, Karsten. **Heather Mekkelson: Limited Entry**; Flavorpill.com
- Relyea, Lane. **Debris and Immobility**; Introduction to featured artist portfolio: Heather Mekkelson, "Debris Field" Art Journal, vol. 67, no. 1, Spring 2008. Pgs. 6-23.
- Stratton, Shannon. **Heather Mekkelson's Debris Field at ThreeWallsSOLO: The Persistence of Ruin**; "Debris Field" limited edition catalog
- Stratton, Shannon. **In No Particular Order**; MFA Catalog, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2008
- Ward, Jeff M.. **Brave and Crazy: The Disaster-Model Construction of Meaning in the Work of Heather Mekkelson**; "Debris Field" limited edition catalog
- Waxman, Lori. **Critics Picks**; Artforum.com
- 2005 Ignatius, Jeff. **The Lay of The Land**; River Cities' Reader, October 12th
- Yau, John, Pete Schulte, Leslie Bell and Linda Downs. **41/90 Contemporary Landscape at The Figge** (catalog)
- 2003 Cole, Kevin. **Artboat**; Dialogue, Summer 2003
- Cook, Christopher. **...you sure about this place?**; Sioux City Art Center museum exhibition catalog
- 2002 Hixson, Kathryn. **...you sure about this place?**; The Pond exhibition catalog
- Robinson, Walter. **Chicago Diary**; Artnet.com, May 2002
- Speh, Scott. **Sex in Chicago**; Artnet.com, October 2002