

OLI WATT

Oli Watt lives and works in Chicago. He currently serves as Associate Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he teaches in the Printmedia Department. Oli has shown his work nationally and internationally including exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Spencer Brownstone Gallery in NYC, the International Center of Graphic Art in Slovenia, MI, La Band Art Gallery in Los Angeles and Rocket Gallery in London. His work has been discussed in numerous publications including Art on Paper, Art US, the New Art Examiner and Village Voice. He runs free range gallery and project space in Chicago's Albany Park neighborhood.

<https://www.theskiclubmilwaukee.com/oli-watt>

EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 **FACE/DEFACE** Walpodenakademie, Collaborative publication with exhibitions in Chicago and Mainz, Germany. Organized by Stefan Brandstifter and Oli Watt.
- 2019 **Corpus Corpus** free range, Chicago, IL, group show/portfolio exchange by invitation.
- 2018 Selected work from the collection of Browne Goodwin group show, Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery, Lockport, IL.
- 2018 **High Desert Test Site** group show by invitation, Wonder Valley, CA.
- 2018 **Decoys** Stanley Brown Jewelist, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2018 **Signal Crossing** 2 Person show by invitation Suburban Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2017 **High Quality Final Days, Parlour Tapes.** Invitation to design and produce multiples to house cassettes by Sam Scranton. Release event at Colvin House, Chicago.
- 2017 **Outside Jokes** DEMO PROJECTS, group show by invitation, Springfield, IL.
- 2017 **Terrain Biennial** collaboration by invitation, Oak Park, IL.
- 2017 **Signs and Signifiers** The Davis Gallery at Houghton House, Hobart

- and William Smith Colleges, group show by invitation, Geneva, NY.
- 2017 **Motor Away** Faber and Faber, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Printed objects included in Claire Ashley's exhibition **((CRZ.F .4NRS.AAK))** at Boston University Art Galleries, Boston.
- 2017 **Moving Targets and Shots in the Dark** Youngers Gallery, Northeastern Junior College, group show by invitation, Sterling, CO.
- 2017 **Kjell Theory: Prologue** Objects contributed to performance by ATOM-R. International Museum of Surgical Sciences, Chicago. Travelling to New Zealand, the UK, Europe.
- 2017 **32nd Biennial of Graphic Arts: Birth As Criterion** International Centre of Graphic Art, group show by invitation, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- 2017 **Sensible Disobedience: Disrupting Cultural Signifiers in a Neoliberal Age.** La Esquina Gallery, Charlotte Street Foundation, Kansas City, MO.
- 2016 **Signs and Signifiers** McGrath Gallery, Bellarmine University, group show by invitation, Louisville, KY.
- 2016 **Good Times, Bad Times** Printtext Gallery, solo exhibition by invitation, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2016 **We Travel Among Unknown Men** Sidecar Gallery, 3 person show by invitation, Hammond, IN.
- 2015 **The Suburban Milwaukee: 16 Years** Mount Airy Contemporary, group show by invitation, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2015 **Laughing and Weeping** Union League Club Chicago, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 **Neon Dreams** Threewalls at Moonlight Studios, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 **Rocket Run: Abstraction from Chicago** Elder Gallery, Nebraska Wesleyan University, group show, Lincoln, NE.
- 2014 **Print or Die: The Past 2 Years** Marsh Gallery, Herron School of Art and Design, group show by invitation, Indianapolis, IN.

- 2014 **Oli Watt: New Work** Ski Club Gallery, solo show by invitation, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2014 **Dos Calaveras** Hoofprint Workshop, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 **This Particular Patch** Gowanus Ballroom, group show by invitation, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2013 **Trunk Show** Artist-run project, Chicago, IL.
- 2013 **Here Comes A Regular** Hyde Park Art Center, solo survey exhibition by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2013 **A Study in Midwestern Appropriation** Hyde Park Art Center, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2012 **Urbanity** Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, solo show by invitation, Grand Rapids, MI.
- 2012 **Great Poor Farm Experiment** Artist-run solo show by invitation, Little Wolf, WI.
- 2011 **Re: Chicago** DePaul Art Museum, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 **Outside Coming In** Hungryman Gallery, group show by invitation, curated by Azimuth Projects, Chicago, IL.
- 2010 **Ox-Bow Centennial Exhibition** Grand Rapids Art Museum, group show by invitation, Grand Rapids, MI.
- 2010 **Don't Piss On Me and Tell Me it's Raining** Apexart, group show by invitation, New York, NY.
- 2010 **(S)edition: Prints as Activism** Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, group show, Grand Rapids, MI.
- 2010 **Chicago Artists' Works on Paper** The Key West Art Center, group show, Key West, FL.
- 2009 **I Don't Believe You** Roots and Culture Gallery, two-person show by invitation, Chicago, IL.

- 2009 **Rebellious Integration** Chicago Printmakers Collaborative, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2009 **Dispatch** Threewalls Gallery, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2009 **Artists Run Chicago** Hyde Park Art Center, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 **Sausage Fest** Old Gold, three-person show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 **Cultivating Instability** Cliff Dwellers Club, four-person show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 **USA Today** Museum of Contemporary Art, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2007 **Oh, My** Basile Gallery, Herron School of Art and Design, two-person show by invitation, Indianapolis, IN.
- 2007 **Fast Forward: The School of the Art Institute in the 21st Century** Rockford Art Museum, group show by invitation, Rockford, IL.
- 2007 **Another Saturday Morning Tragedy** Roots and Culture, two-person show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 **Covers** Booster and Seven, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 **Everybody Paints** The Parlor, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 **Temporary Allegiances** Public Art Project organized by Gallery 400, UIC, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2005 **Crumpled Paper** Bodybuilder and Sportsman Gallery Project Room, collaborative show with Gabe Fowler, by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2004 **A More Perfect Union** Max Fish, New York, NY, and The Suburban, Chicago, IL. Group show by invitation.
- 2004 **Spacemakers** Lothringer Dreizehn, group show by invitation, Munich, Germany.
- 2004 **Uncovered: Recent Acquisitions from the Artists' Books Collection** Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, curated group show, Chicago, IL.

- 2003 **Knockabout** Spencer Brownstone Gallery, group show, New York, NY.
- 2003 **Signs and Wonders** Street Level Gallery, two-person show by invitation, Highwood, IL.
- 2003 **Trivial Insurgencies** Warren Robbins Gallery, University of Michigan, two-person show by invitation, Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2003 **20" x 20" x 20": A Compact Exhibition** LSU Art Gallery, juried group show, Baton Rouge., LA.
- 2003 **Actual Size** Anchor Graphics, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2003 **Really Real** Gallery 312, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2002 **Multiformity** Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2002 **Reconfiguring Pop** Gallery 2, juried group show, Chicago, IL.
- 2002 **Sculpture in Chicago Now: Part 2** Glass Curtain Gallery, Columbia College, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2001 **Can't Get There From Here** NFA Space, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2001 **12x12: New Artists, New Work** Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 2001 **Digital: Printmaking Now** Brooklyn Museum of Art, group show by invitation, Brooklyn, NY.
- 2000 **In Praise of Folly** Safety-Kleen Gallery One, Elgin Community College, group show by invitation, Elgin, IL.
- 2000 **Versus** NFA Space, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 1999 **Titanicum** Galerie Walpodenstrasse, group show by invitation, Mainz, Germany.
- 1999 **Chicago Artists '99** Gallery 312, group show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 1999 **Traffic** Site Gallery, group show by invitation, Sheffield, England.
- 1999 **Attention Deficit Disorder** Bodybuilder and Sportsman Gallery, solo show by invitation, Chicago, IL.

- 1999 **Another View: Selected Works from Contemporary American Printmakers**
Saddleback College Art Gallery, juried group show, Mission Viejo, CA.
- 1998 **Los Angeles Printmaking Society 15th National Exhibition** Laband Art Gallery,
juried group show, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1998 **Zeitgeist** Reicher Gallery, Barat College, group show by invitation, Lake Forest, IL.
- 1998 **Hit and Run** Tough Gallery, three-person show by invitation, Chicago, IL.
- 1998 **Chicago Hip** Rocket Gallery, group show by invitation, London, England.
- 1998 **Pressed and Pulled VII** Georgia College and State University, juried group show,
Milledgeville, GA.
- 1998 **1998: New Artists in Chicago** Terra Museum of American Art, juried group show,
Chicago, IL.
- 1998 **Textuality** Gallery 2, juried group show, Chicago, IL.
- 1998 **Second Minnesota National Print Biennial** University of Minnesota, juried group
show, Minneapolis, MN.
- 1996 **American Woodcut** Kunst und Klatsch, solo show by invitation, Wilhelmshaven,
Germany.

COLLECTIONS

Joan Flasch Artists' Books Collection, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Artists' Books Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
 New York Public Library
 Printed Matter, New York
 Microsoft Corp.
 Tweed Museum of Art, University of Duluth, MN
 Tate Museum Library, London
 British Museum, London
 Private collection of Leon Golub and Nancy Spero
 Private collection of John Waters
 Private collection of Art Spiegelmann
 Schmulowitz Collection of Wit and Humor, San Francisco Public Library
 Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, OH

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EXPERIENCE

- 9/12 – Present **Associate Professor**, School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Courses taught: Beginning Relief Printmaking, Multi-level Relief Printmaking, Relief Print Folios, Advanced Printmaking, Graduate Coordinator.
- 9/12 – Present **Assistant Professor**, School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Courses taught: Beginning Relief Printmaking, Multi-level Relief Printmaking, Relief Print Folios, Screenprinted Matter, Multi-level Screenprinting (summer), (UN)Real: Prints as Pranks, Appropriations, Fakes and Forgeries, Advanced Printmaking, Funny Objects and Things, Graduate Projects.
- 9/07 – 2012 **Adjunct Assistant Professor**, *School of the Art Institute of Chicago*. Courses taught: Beginning Relief Printmaking, Beginning Screenprinting, Multi-level Relief Printmaking, Contemporary Practice: Printmedia, Advanced Printmaking, Off-set Productions, Graduate Off-set Productions.
- 9/03 – 5/07 **Instructor and graduate student advisor**, *School of the Art Institute of Chicago*. Courses taught: Beginning Relief Printmaking, Beginning Screenprinting, Multi-level Relief Printmaking, Contemporary Practice: Printmedia.
- 8/98 – 2005 **Adjunct professor**, *Associated Colleges of the Midwest Chicago Arts Program, Chicago, IL*. Develop curriculum and teach art criticism and theory, and a special topics course involving printmaking techniques. Advise students on individual projects, lead group critiques and maintain the visual arts studio.
- Summer 2004-
Summer 2014 **Instructor**, *Oxbow Summer School of Art*. Courses taught: Water-based Monotypes, Screenprinting, Swag, Merch and Souvenirs: The Printed Object. Also taught Relief Printing Anywhere in Summer 2017.
- 8/98 – 12/99 **Printmaking instructor**, *Anchor Graphics, Chicago, IL*. Devised curriculum and taught Computer Drawing and Printmaking to high school students.
- 8/98 – 12/99 **Intergenerational drawing instructor**, *School of the Art Institute Continuing Studies Program, Chicago, IL*. Developed curriculum and taught Beginning Drawing to children and adults.
- 1/98 – 5/98 **Instructor**, *School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL*. Developed curriculum and taught Introduction to Printmaking. Techniques included relief, screenprinting, lithography and intaglio. Advised students on independent projects and led group critiques.
- 9/96 – 12/97 **Teaching assistant**, *School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL*. Assisted professor with classroom instruction in Beginning Lithography, Beginning Screenprinting, and Offset Lithography. Maintained print lab.

EDUCATION

- 8/96 – 5/98 **Master of Fine Arts**, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- Summer 1994 **Color Woodcut Printmaking workshop**, Florence, Italy. Earned graduate credit in program sponsored by the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE.
- 8/92 - 4/94 **Bachelor of Art Education**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Graduating G.P.A. 3.8 on a 4.0 scale.
- 6/90 - 12/91 **Independent Study**, Gesamtshochschule, Kassel, Germany.
- 8/86 - 4/90 **Bachelor of Fine Arts**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Concentration in Painting. Graduated with High Honors. Member of University of Florida Blue Key National Honor Society.

VISITING ARTIST AND GUEST LECTURE POSITIONS

- 2016 Oberlin College visiting artist. Presented a lecture, discussed student work, and collaborated on editioned print with printmaking class.
- 2011 DePaul University Art Museum guest panelist. In conjunction with the DePaul Art Museum's inaugural exhibition, **RE: Chicago**, participated in a public discussion addressing the history and future of Chicago art.
- 2004 Oxbow Summer School of Art visiting artist. Presented a lecture on my practice and gave individual critiques to Ox-Bow Fellows and staff.
- 2003 Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. Presented a lecture on my print practice to the Advanced Printmaking students and gave individual critiques.
- 2002 University of Chicago visiting artist. Presented a lecture on my practice to MFA students, and participated in end of semester group critiques and individual critiques.
- 2001 College Art Association, Co-chair of panel entitled "Dangerous Beauty: Conceptual Art Now".
- 2001 College Art Association, Co-wrote and presented paper entitled "Conceptual Printmaking Now".
- 1999 Barat College visiting artist. Gave individual critiques to students in the graduate seminar.
- 1998 Roosevelt University. Presented a lecture on my practice to an undergraduate art history class.

