

MELISSA DIAZ, BFA, MPS, ATR-BC, LCAT

Brooklyn Based Artist & Art Therapist, b. 1983 in South Florida
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Education:

MPS, Art Therapy and Creativity Development, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, 2010
BFA, Painting & Sculpture, University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida, 2007

Solo Exhibitions:

- 2017 *Growth spurts*, Chashama: 226 W 37th ST, New York, NY
- 2015 *Interactive Dream Hut*, Renegade Craft Fair Brooklyn, Special Feature, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Playful Dwellings*, NY Creative Arts Therapists Art Spa, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *Flora*, Hootenanny Art House, Brooklyn, NY
Spring, Fringe Salon Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010 *Merry Merry*, Roots Gallery, Solo Exhibition, Brooklyn, NY
- 2009 *Gallery Take Over*, Solo Exhibition, Under Minerva Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
A Wintry Mix, Roots Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2006 *Deitch Art Parade*, Solo Project, Deitch Projects, New York, NY
Occupancy, Solo Exhibition, Gallery 210, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
Micro/Macro, Solo Exhibition, Stardust, Winter Park, FL

Select Group Exhibitions:

- 2018 *Puro Color*, La Bodega Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Relief II: Group Exhibition & Silent Auction for PR, Open House BK, NY Creative Arts Therapists/Art Spa, Brooklyn, NY
Gifts from the Exiles, CATs of Color, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
Hope, Juried Exhibition, Mooney Center Gallery, The College of New Rochelle
Sugar is Sweet: A Valentine's Art Pop-Up, Ground Floor Gallery, NU Hotel Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 *Relief: A Group Exhibition & Silent Art Auction*, Open House BK, Chinatown Soup Gallery, New York, NY
This Ethical Space, The Rubelle Norman Schafler Gallery, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
Play: A Pop-Up Exhibition, Open House BK, Brooklyn, NY
Priority Mail, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Paper Works-2017-, Upstream Gallery, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY
- 2016 *Deck the Walls*, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Legends: The Next Generation, University of Central Florida Gallery, Orlando, FL
The Art of Mentalizing Conference: Exhibition, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
Art Slope: Art Festival, Compass, Brooklyn, NY
Wish You Were Here 15: Make a Splash, A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Dream Catching, Club 157, Brooklyn, NY
Imagining Passageways, Housing Works Benefit, Prince St. Project Space, New York, NY
Untitled, Juried Exhibition, Mooney Center Gallery, The College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY
- 2015 *You've Got Mail*, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Layers*, Open House BK Series Pop-Ups, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *It's a Wrap*, Ground Floor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Home, Open House BK Series Pop-Up, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 *Winter Sucks*, Roots Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

- 2011 *MakeShift*, Patti and Rusty Rueff Gallery, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Winter Show, Roots Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Open House BK Art Series Pop-Ups, (6-8), Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 *Home*, NY Creative Arts Therapists and Art Spa, Brooklyn, NY
Open House BK Art Series Pop-Ups (1-5), Brooklyn, NY
- 2009 *Transitions*, Artist, Curator/Coordinator, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
Essential Music and Art, Gallery 531 W 25th street, New York, NY
Home is where the Heart Is, Home Pop-Up Brooklyn, NY
- 2008 *Spontaneous Gesture Realized*, Art and Dance Therapy Exhibition,
 Rubelle and Norman Schafler Gallery, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- 2007 *Flexas*, Texas Firehouse, Long Island City, NY
Make Haste, 780 Cherry St. Studio, Winter Park, FL
- 2006 *Threesome*, featuring the artists of *Thread*, 332 North Shine Gallery, Orlando, FL
Open House, featuring the artists of *Thread Collective*, Orlando, FL
- 2005 *University of Central Florida Juried Student Exhibition*, Visual Arts Gallery,
 University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, Juror: *Kara Walker-Tome*
We Are Here, The Peacock Room, Orlando, FL
Are We There Yet? How Did We Get Here?, A Traveling Art Exhibition, installed in a 24'
 Uhaul truck, featuring eight stops in 12 hours, Orlando, Florida

Bibliography:

- 2018 Plunkett, Sean, Critical Pedagogy in the Art Therapies, *Melissa Diaz on Inner and Outer Habitats*,
<https://www.criticalpedagogyartstherapies.com/single-post/2016/05/03/MelissaDiaz>
- 2018 Sinclair, Vanessa, Rendering Unconscious, podcast by: Dr. Vanessa Sinclair,
<http://www.renderingunconscious.org/psychoanalysis/rendering-unconscious-melissa-diaz>
- 2018 Northern California Art Therapy Association, *Art Therapist Making Things Happen*,
<http://www.norcata.org/art-therapist-profiles>
- 2016 Health Magazine (Facebook live), *Art Therapy & Adult Coloring*,
<https://www.facebook.com/Health/videos/10154102294405668/>
- 2014 Jenefsky, Nadia, Owner of NY Creative Arts Therapists, Art Spa, Videographer,
Melissa Diaz at Art Spa, <https://vimeo.com/109882993>
- 2012 Cannon, Lauren, Writer, *Pop-up Art Show in Apartments*,
http://scoutmob.com/new-york/scoutfinds/4488?mod_place=r2c3
- 2006 Aboraya, Abe. Entertainment Staff Writer. *Apartment Art Show Draws Over 100*, Variety
 Section, Central Florida Future, July 10, 2006.
- 2005 Maupin, Elizabeth. Staff Writer. *Art for the Long Haul*, Life and Times, Section E1,
 Orlando Sentinel, Feb. 25, 2005, continued page E7.

Awards, Lectures, Residencies & Professional Organizations:

- 2017 Recipient, *Space Fund Grant*, This Open Space, New York, NY
- 2017 Presenter, *Coloring & Art Therapy*, Dick Blick, Bond St., New York, NY
- 2017 Presenter, Artist Talk, *Process and Product: The Art Therapist as Artist*, University of Central
 Florida, Orlando, FL
- 2016 Presenter, *Coloring for Mentalizing*, The Art of Mentalizing: Arts in Healthcare Conference, Pratt
 Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 Residency, The Marble House Project, Fine Arts, Summer 2015, Dorset, VT
- 2011 Founder/Director, Open House BK Arts, Community Arts Organization, Brooklyn, NY