

OLEK

b. april 5th 1978
in poland
lives and works in nyc

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EDUCATION

09/1997 - 05/2000 Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland, Bachelor degree in Culture Studies

AVARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2010/11 – nine months artist-in-residency at LMCC *Workspace*, NYC

2010 – six months artist-in-residency at Artists Alliance Inc Lower East Side Rotating Studio Program

2009 - two months artist-in-residency program in Brazil, Sacatar.org – full fellowship

2008 – winner of apex art gallery commercial competition

2007 – USArtists International; support for dance and music ensembles at international festivals

2005 - two months artist-in-residency program at Sculpture Space, Utica, NY – full funded

2004 The Ruth Mellon Memorial Award For Sculpture, The National Club, NY

LECTURES, SYMPOSIA, PANELS

2010 – OCD, The Art of Obsession, BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center, NYC

2010 - lecture at Stern College/Yeshiva University, NYC

2010 - lecture at 19th Annual Matrilineage Symposium, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

2009 – lecture at LaGuardia Community College, LIC, NY

2009 – lecture at Art Academy in Krakow, Poland

2008 – lecture at Loyola University, Art and Environmental Studies, New Orleans

2007 – series of lectures, performances at Colgate University, Hamilton, NY

2006 - Public Art Symposium: “*Beyond the Object*” – at Colgate University, Hamilton, NY

2004-2005 the Material for the Arts, Performing Arts Workshops, NY

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2010 *Knitting is For Pus*****, Christopher Henry Gallery, NYC (solo)

Kiss Me, I Crochet, LIU Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (solo)

Bite: Street Inspired Art and Fashion, third Streaming, NYC

Bring Your Clothes, commissioned community based performance by The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

Interwoven, Evenings in Performance, the Textile Museum, Washington D.C.

Collected: Work Space, Cuchifritos Gallery, NYC

T minus 20, Christopher Henry Gallery and INGNITE, NYC

Weaving In and Out, No Longer Empty, Harlem, NYC

Non-Native NY, Brooklyn, NY

Long Island University Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (solo)

99 Cents, G-Train, Brooklyn, NY (solo)

Stand clear of the closing doors, Pandemic Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Excess and Environment: sustainability in a world of consumption, Art for Global Justice, LIC, NY

Glow II, LKC, Z-Bar and streets in Berlin, Germany

Low Lives II, Crocheted Painting To Shake Hands, a one-night exhibition of performance-based works transmitted via the Internet, Berlin, Germany

Crocheted Windows, ABC No Rio, NYC

2009 *Just Bring Your Clothes*, Chashama, NYC - supported by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts

100% Acrylic 11.07.09 (after Jan van Eyke), as part of SAVOIR-FAIRE, the first annual performance series featuring the work of women artists, Soho20 Gallery, NYC

Thank You for Your Visit, Have a Nice Day, Art In Odd Places:SIGN, NYC (catalog)

Covers, The Lab Gallery, NYC

Tessituras, Museu do Traje e do Têxtil, Salvador, Brazil

- Zakamarki*, BWA Galeria Sanocka, Sanok, Poland (catalog)
 Viceroy Art, Viceroy Hotel, Miami, FL
Haute-Kraft, Posie Kviat Gallery, Hudson, NY
We Mock What We Don't Understand, Marmara Gallery, NYC
 NY ART BEAT First Anniversary Exhibition, DAC, Brooklyn, NY
10% What Happens to You, 90% How You React to It, The Project Space, Brooklyn, NY
Women Forward, WAH Center, Brooklyn, NY (catalog)
- 2008** *How the book is made*, New Orleans Biennale, NO
TATENT PREVIEW 09, White Box, NYC
Plum Blossom is Beautiful. Blossom is Temporary, BBBP, Bronx, NY
The (Self) Promotion Show, Apexart, NYC
12th Annual Under the Bridge DUMBO Art Festival, Brooklyn, NY
U R HERE, an Installation for Artichoke Dance Company, Brooklyn, NY
Text Machine, 45 Bleeker Street Theatre, NYC
Practical to Poetic: Fiber Invitational - Curated by Ogunsanya, The Art Center, St.Petersburg, FL (catalog)
Women's Vision, Women's voices, St. Mark's Church, NYC
- 2007** *Made in MFTA*, Citibank, LIC, NY
 ARTHaus, Miami, FL
 XIV Annual International Contemporary Dance Conference and Performance Festival'07, Poland
The Liberator – collaborative work with Naomi White, Supreme Trading Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Attempting the Impossible, Anthology film Archives, curated by Joseph Latimore (Sensei Gallery), NYC
Borborygami - an installation for Mehr Gallery, NYC
 Interventions at Colgate University, 30th anniversary of Sculpture Space, Hamilton, NY
- 2006** *Contingencies of the Real*, PhotoNY, NYC
 10th Under the Bridge D.U.M.B.O. Art Festival, Brooklyn, NY
Sculpture inside out - 30th Anniversary of Sculpture Space, Hamilton Collage, NY
Woman + Man = Creation - IV International Woman Biennale, (in collaboration with Diego Britt) Costa Rica
Wearable Sculpture nr 7, performance, Construction Company, NYC
Drawing the line against domestic violence, Claire Oliver Fine Art, NYC
 Entertaining Science, performance, Cornelia Street Café, NYC
Speed Limit, Redhead, LMCC, NYC
Beyond the Object – symposium and performance at Colgate University, NY
- 2005** Kabatasz Port and artSumer gallery – project for 9th International Istanbul biennale, Istanbul, Turkey
Waterways 2005 / an intervention aboard the vaporetto docked at the entrance to la Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
Work – In – progress reception, Sculpture Space, Utica, NY
Acrylic 100%/ performance for charity event in Sculpture Space, Utica, NY
Performance (two camouflage man playing ping pong) at Beautiful Modern, LIC, NY
 Micro-Scope, Southampton, NY
The New Beasts, Chelsea Hotel, NYC
13.000 crocheted balloons, Transformer Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 2004** *The day after...*, Oliver Kamm 5BE Gallery, NYC
Windows in Crochet, Christ Church Neighborhood House, Life Arts Festival, Philadelphia
Karada To Ugoki, Kurier Plus Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 Crocheted mixed media installation, Festival of Independent Dance Artist, Toronto (Canada)
(NEO-CON)EY Island Block Party and Fashion Show, NY
 Crocheted mixed media installation for PROJECT, Metropolitan Pavilion, NYC
Mulysa, The Construction Company, NYC
- 2003** *Swimming Pool Installation #1*, Swimming pool at LaGuardia Community Collage, NY
 The National Art Club's 28th Annual Art Show, Ruth Mellow Memorial Award for Sculpture, NYC
 Surrealist Fashion Show, Williamsburg Art and Historical Society, NY
 Crocheted mixed media wearable sculptures, LaGuardia Community College, 4th Floor Gallery, NY

COSTUME AND SET DESIGN (SELECTED)

- 2010** *Eat the Floor*, Urban Wash Dance Company at RE:Vision, LIC, NY
- 2009** *Seis Mil Antenas*, Costumes for a collaborative project with John Ranger, Salvador, Brazil
- 2008** *Second Skin*, Carrie Ahern Dance Company, Dance Space, St. Mark's Church, NYC
- 2007** *Web*, Artichoke Dance Company, NYC
If The Shoe Fits, Winter Garden, The World Financial Center, NYC
Looks Good on Paper, in collaboration with Rachel Cohen and Christine Javers, The World Financial Center, NYC
Fictions, Anita Chang Dance Company, Joyce Soho, NYC
Happeningistime, in collaboration with Ginger Wagg, Spare Room, Baltimore, MD
- 2005** *Spill #3*, in collaboration with Ginger Wagg and Jane Jerardi, Gala Theatre – Tivoli, Washington D.C
Box 7.1, in collaboration with Laura Quattrocchi, Austin, Texas
Inside and out, Biarritz Dance Festival, Biarritz, France
Play, Adele Meyers and Dancers, Merce Cunningham Studio, NYC
Look at me, Artichoke Dance Theatre, Joyce Soho, NYC
Lift/ in collaboration with Anita Cheng, Brooklyn Public Library, NY
Emptiness of Snow, Kun-Yang Lin, Mulberry Theatre, NYC
Table #2, Tresh Dance, Queens Museum of Art, NY
If the shoe fits, racoco productions, Walkerspace, NYC
- 2004** *Awakening Dancing Goddesses*, Moving Arts Projects, Merce Cunningham Studio, NYC
racoco and the it girls, The Slipper Room, NYC
1,000 nows, Shua Group, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, PA
racoco productions, Mix Art Myrys, Toulouse (France)
After Mulysa, Laura Quattrocchi, Williamsburg Art and Historical Society, NY
racoco productions, Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center, Pantheon Theatre, NYC
Beach A, Laura Quattrocchi, West End Theatre, NYC
Looks Good on Paper, Moving Arts Projects, Paul Taylor Studio, Joyce Soho, NYC
Light Curve, Bryon Carr, Merce Cunningham Studio, NYC
Shua Group, Echo Arts, Cyprus (Greece)
A Chicken's Dream of Flight, Ariane Anthony and Company, New 42nd St. Studios, The Construction Company, NYC
1000 nows, Shua Group, Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, NYC
Labatorio di danza contemporanea, Venice (Italy)

SELECTED REVIEWS, ARTICLES, PUBLICATIONS

- Paper Magazine, 2010
Details, 2010
Clive Hallett and Amanda Johnson, *Fabric for Fashion*, UK, 2010, p.27
Madama FIGARO Japom, 2010 nr 413, p. 120
Alexandros Lambrovassilis, Achilles Peklaris, *Hopes, Dreams and Hard Times*, Greece, 2010, p.80-81
IT'S NICE THAT, November 9, 2010
Village Voice, Jen Doll, *Yarn Human Takes New York City Subway Just Like Everybody Else*, October 20, 2010
According to G; *Best. Photo. Ever.* November 8, 2010
Like This, November 10, 2010
VS Magazine, Crochet Chaos, November 17, 2010
Subway Art Blog, Jowy, *The Word of Olek*, October 20, 2010
Village Voice, Jen Doll, *Lower East Side's Yarn Bike Delivers Healthy Baby Bike*, October 14, 2010
Trend Central, *By Hook or by Crook*
Bowery Boogie, Children's Yarn Bike Spotted at Bowery and Delancey, October 14, 2010,
NYU LOCAL, Myles Tanzer, *"Knitting is For Pussies" Is Art At Its Finest*, October 14, 2010
Santa Monica Close-UP, STREET ART, October 15, 2010
Verbicide Magazine, Amanda Green, *Kitsch and Tell*, October 12, 2010,
SPACE & LIGHT BLOG, Olek on the 3rd Promenade, October 11, 2010
Siel Ju, Southern California Public Radio, *Just in time for CicLAvia: A Crocheted bike in SaMo*, October 8, 2010

Sean Bonner, Blogging LA, *Knitted Bike Spotted in Santa Monica*, October 8, 2010
Michael Rushlow, Just a Guy Who rides a Bike, *The Bike Cozy*, October 5,
Brigitte Center, Raw Food Living Diet, *Crochet anybody?*, October 4, 2010
SCOUT mob, CULTURE HUNTER, *If You thought Knitting a Sweater Was Though*, October 6, 2010
New York Entertainment, Critics' Pick, September 2010
According to G, *Photos from Crocheted Painting to Shake Hands by Olek*, September 28, 2010
Marjorie Ingal, *Crocheted Car (Updated)*, September 30, 2010
According to G, *Photos from Crocheted Painting to Shake Hands by Olek*, September 28, 2010
body pixel, *Body cinema: Agata Olek's action's and performances*, August 11, 2010
CRUSHABLE, Drew Grant, *Anonymous Celebrity: Olek the Crochet Girl Unmasked*, August 5, 2010
VIVA VENA CAVA, Knitta, PLEASE!, August 4, 2010
CRUSHABLE, Drew Grant, *Crochet Artist Olek Transforms New Bike*, July 29, 2010
Bike Blog NYCm Crocheted cogs...Olek's bike art, July 29, 2010
Drew Grant, CRUSHABLE, *The Daily WTF: Well, At Least Your Bike Doesn't Mind The Heat*, July 6, 2010
Betty Tompkins' Artists Recommendation, Spike Magazine, Vienna, Berlin, 2010
Steven McElroy, Art in Odd Places, The New York times, Oct.2, 2009
Rebel:art, Thank You for Your Visit, Have a Nice Day, 2009
Blink:DAC's Art Under The Bridge, Artfagcity
Amy Plitt, TimeOut New York, Fall Preview 2009
Gwen Blakley Kinsler, "The Fine Art of Crochet: 150 Innovative Designs by Twenty Contemporary Artists", Fall 2010
Amanda Johnston & Clive Hallett, "The Fabric Book", Spring 2010
Liana Rocha, "Tecidos do corpo e do tempo", A Tarde, February 4, 2009, p 3
Megan Voeller, "Common threads", Creative loafing, June 3, 2008, p.
Lennie Bennett, "Art that expands the creative fabric", St.Petersburg Times, June 1, 2008
Gen Di Napoli, "OMG, Ur Art Is So Cool :-)", The Tragically Unhip, August 22, 2008
Sabrina Gschwandtner, "Camouflage and Identity", FiberARTS, Jan/Feb 2008, p. 50-53
Sculpture Space (the book), edited by Lin Smith Vincent with Sydney L. Waller, 2007, p. 76 and 85
Gea Savannah, "The Waterways Project at the Venice Biennale", Art Fairs International, Jul/Aug 2007
John Haber, "Scenes of Mystic Writing", Haber Arts, Summer 2007
Jennifer Dunning, "Sex-Positive Feminism and the Single Snail", The New York Times, June 14, 2007
Sara Dyer, "Arts! Festival Brings Color and Creativity to Colgate", The Colgate Maroon-News", March 2007
Andrew Theodorakis, "Invasion of the body-patchers", Daily News, October 13 2006, p.40
24 Seven, October 2006, cover
Claudia La Rocco, "Playing With Light, Color, Shadow and Movement", The New York Times, Oct 10, 2006
Sasha Vasilyuk, "Last of Its Kind?", The Brooklyn Paper, October 7, 2006
"Three More Things in Curio", Curio Magazine, interview, Spring 2006
Vige Barrie, Emerson Gallery Hosts Indoor/Outdoor Sculpture Show, Hamilton Alumni Review, May 2006
Sophie Fels, "Speed Limit", TimeOut New York, October 26, 2006
Dumbo Paneling, interview, questions by Ashley McCullough, October 2006
Cassaundra Baber, "Classic craft becomes new-wave art", Observer-Dispatch, October 5 2005
Gia Kourlas, "Knees, Elbows and Faces Conceal the Beating of Hearts", The New York Times, July 18, 2005
John Rockwell, "Even Cinderella's Stepsisters Aren't That Mean", The New York Times, Feb 15 2005
Jonathan Padget, "Knit One, Swirls Too", The Washington Post, February 10, 2005
Heather Morgan Shott, "Dance Revolution, CityPaper, February 18, 2005
John Rockwell, "Amazing Feats...", The New York Times, March 6, 2005
Linda, "Crochet in the Expanded Field", Supernaturale.com, 2005
"Ladders covered with prostate cancer at the Chelsea Hotel, interview, Living with Legends, December 8, 2005
Holland Cotter, "Art In Review", The New York Times, August 6, 2004
Walter Robinson, Weekend Update, ArtNet, August 2004
Deborah Jowitt, "Does Plot Matter?", The Village Voice, June 2004
Lisa Jo Sagolla, "Do I Dare?", Back Stage, June 11, 2004
Sheila McKenna, Profile, Newsday, March 11, 2004
Melissa Ulto, Free Williamsburg, November 2003