

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

Awards and Residences

- 2010 – six months artist-in-residency at Artists Alliance Ins 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 (with Rachel Cohen)
- 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

Teaching Experience

- 2010 – lecture at 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

- LKC, Berlin, Germany
- *Crocheted Windows*, ABC No Rio, NYC

2009

- *Just Bring Your Clothes*, Chashama, NYC – supported in part 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

2006

- *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 Mulya*, 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)
- *Event Horizon*, Layard Thompson, Joyce Soho, NYC

2003

- *A place where there is no fear*, Virginia Valdes, Robert Back Memorial Cinema, NYC
- *Why Imagine Golden Birds*, Ariane Anthony and Company, The Construction Company, NYC
- *Terrestrial/* Shua Group, The Construction Company, NYC
- *After Hours*, Kelly Kocinski, WAX, Boston University, Galapagos, Mary Anthony Dance Theater
- *racoco productions*, Williamsburg Art and Historical Society, Williamsburg Dance Festival, NY
- *Crack, We're Nine Sided/* Shua Group, Camden City Theatre, Camden, NJ
- *How Many Licks*, racoco productions, Williamsburg Art Nexus, NY
- *Evil Hell Cat and Other Lurid Tales*, Nasadiva Productions, 78th Street Theatre Lab, NYC
- *Not Created Equal*, Overconfident-Wannabe Productions, NYC
- *Pop Sustainability*, Greenwich Village Halloween Parade, NYC

Selected Bibliography

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
Cassandra 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 Padgett, "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