

ALEX CHOWANIEC
Brooklyn, NY

BIOGRAPHY

Alex Chowaniec's projects engage intertwined questions of technology and the body; a gendered body as a social technology, and a national body as enviro-political mythology.
–Jarrett Earnest

Alex Chowaniec is an artist based in Brooklyn, NY and Co-Founder of Chowaniec Projects, visualizing climate action through art.

Chowaniec has exhibited internationally, including at the Barbican Centre, London; Art Toronto, Galerie d'Art Jean-Claude Bergeron and the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Canada; Knockdown Center, National Academy of Design, Ortega y Gasset Projects, Iorimoto, Grace Exhibition Space, StoreFront Ten Eyck and Kleinert/James Center for the Arts in New York; and SOMArts Cultural Center and The Lab in San Francisco. She is represented in Canada by Wall Space Gallery and Beaux-arts des Amériques, Montréal. Chowaniec holds an MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, graduating with the Irene Pijoan Memorial Painting Award, and Joan Mitchell Foundation, Headlands Centre for the Arts, and SECA Award (SFMOMA) nominations. She received her BFA Honors from Queen's University, in Canada.

The democratization of access to art is critical. Chowaniec's goal is to expand how we achieve this; working in hybrid media (traditional and new) with the conscious goal of creating multiple access points for viewer engagement. Chowaniec is a contributing writer for the Brooklyn Rail.

ARTIST STATEMENT

#BalanceforBetter is about human rights. Balance is dynamic, evolving and diverse with clear solutions rooted in education, equal pay, representation and resources such as childcare, microfinance, communities of support, and mentorship.

Visual arts have the power to represent -- when we see ourselves in our environment, in each other, we become empowered, accountable and can act collectively for positive change.

International Women's Day is every day.

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CV

EDUCATION

- 2009 Master of Fine Arts, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
2006 Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours), Queen's University, Kingston, ON
2004-5 Lorenzo de' Medici Institute of Fine Art, Florence, Italy

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Stardust* (Chowaniec Projects). Wall Space Gallery Train Yards, Ottawa, ON
2014 *Finding Alma: A Project by Alex Chowaniec*. Galerija Plevnik-Kronkowska, Celje, Slovenia
2013 *Growth / Grossissement* (Catalogue). Beaux-Arts des Amériques, Montréal, QC
2011 *The Spaces in Between*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2009 *Incarnate*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Trajectory Series*. Curated by Christopher Willey, Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, Milwaukee, WI
2019 *Re: Union*. Union Gallery, Queen's University, Kingston, ON
2019 *Every Woman Biennial 2019*. Curated by C. Findlay, La MaMa Galleria, New York, NY
2019 *Feminine Sublime*. Curated by Donald Kuspit, Georges Berges Gallery, New York, NY
2019 *#balanceforbetter: International Women's Day*, Curated by Erin Crowell, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2018 *Summer Heat*. Curated by Caroline Larsen, Ortega y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY
2018 *How To*. National Academy of Design, New York, NY
2018 *Stardust* (Chowaniec Projects). 4 Times Square, New York, NY
2017 *Object of Direct Experience*. Iorimoto gallery, Ridgewood, NY
2017 *Reliquary: A Gallery of Altars*. Curated by Melissa Madara, Catland Books, Brooklyn, NY
2017 *Gloria Patria (Burnt Eclipse)* (with live music by Ev). Curated by Andy P. Smith, NYSF, Brooklyn, NY
2017 *Berlin Food Art Week*. Curated by Tainá Guedes/ Entretempo Kitchen Gallery, Hallesches Haus, Berlin, Germany
2016 *Making the Future*. Curated by Julie Torres and Michael David, David & Schweitzer Contemporary, Brooklyn, NY
2016 *Transaction*. Curated by Elijah Wheat Showroom (Liz Nielsen and Carolina Wheat), [The](#)

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- Knockdown Center, Maspeth, NY
- 2016 *Art on Paper*. Pier 36, New York, NY
- 2015 *Handmade: The Digital Age and the Industrial Revolution*. Curated by Nancy Azara, Kleinert/James Center for the Arts (Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild), Woodstock, NY
- 2015 *Paper*. Wall Space Gallery / OAGIGAO, Ottawa, ON
- 2015 *Hotel California: For A Spell, BOS* (Hosted by Colby Claycomb; Curated by Jennifer J. Lee), 1317 Jefferson Avenue, ground floor, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 *Arts in Bushwick: Making History*. Curated by Krista Saunders and Dexter Wimberly, StoreFront Ten Eyck, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Radiant Geometries*. Skylight. Gallery NYC, 538 W 29th Street, New York, NY
- 2014 *Emerging Artists in Public Collections*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- 2014 *Kings & Queens* (with Charlotte Becket, Max Yawney and Nao Matsumoto). Iorimoto, NYC
- 2014 *Bushwick Open Studios 2014 Benefit*. Storefront Ten Eyck, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *SCOPE I NEW YORK*. Skylight at Moynihan Station, 360 W 33rd Street, New York, NY
- 2014 *Inspiring Change*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- 2014 *Visual AIDS: 16th Annual "Postcards from the Edge" Benefit*. Luhring Augustine Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 *Bushwick Open Studios*. 2 Saint Nicholas Studios, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *AiB Benefit // Bushwick Open Studios 2013*. Grace Exhibition Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *PAPIER13 (Contemporary Art Fair of Works on Paper / Foire d'art contemporain d'oeuvres sur papier)*. Quartier des spectacles, Montréal, QC
- 2013 *AFF New York*. Metropolitan Pavilion, New York, NY
- 2013 *Overtun the Artifice* (Curated by Jack Leamy). SOMArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 *Creative Cities Collection: Olympic Fine Arts London 2012 (Catalogue)*. Barbican Centre, London, United Kingdom
- 2012 *Wish You Were Here 11*. A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 *And Its Owner* (Performance: Jordan Essoe with Alex Chowanec). Grace Exhibition Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 *Painting Salon*. Greenpoint Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 *Seven Years of MoPA*. Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2010 *ART TORONTO 2010 | Toronto International Art Fair (Catalogue)*. Metro Toronto Convention Centre, ON
- 2010 *Blue Studio Artists*. Michelle O'Connor Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *Showcase at Earncliffe*. British High Commission, Ottawa, ON
- 2010 *WESTFEST*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- 2010 *Guest Featured Artist*. Cottage Industry Painting Salon, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *MoPA at the LAB*. The Lab. San Francisco, CA

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RESIDENCIES

- 2014 Galerija Plevnik-Kronkowska / municipality of Celje [Forthcoming] – Artist Residency (Celje, Slovenia)
2007 Red Ink Studios – Artist Residency (San Francisco, CA)

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2012 Gold medal (Creative Cities Collection), IOC / Olympic Fine Arts Committee, London
2010 SECA Award Nomination, SFMOMA
2009 Irene Pijoan Memorial Painting Award, San Francisco Art Institute
2009 Di Rosa Biennial MFA Selection Nomination, Napa, CA
2009 Joan Mitchell MFA Grant Nomination, Joan Mitchell Foundation
2009 Headlands Centre for the Arts Graduate Fellowship Nomination
2008 San Francisco Art Institute Grant recipient
2007 San Francisco Art Institute Grant recipient
2005 The Helen Nininger Memorial Scholarship in Fine Art, Queen's University

PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 "Bushwick Artist Alex Chowaniec's New Installation Reveals the Importance of Alternative Spaces," by Andy P. Smith, Bushwick Daily (online at www.bushwickdaily.com), March 3, 2017.
2016 "Never Has My Breath Been Taken Away Like It Was at Knockdown Center," by Jerry Saltz, Vulture (online at www.vulture.com), June 16, 2016.
2014 "Before the Studios Open: Friday Night Shows at Bushwick Open Studios," by Hrag Vartanian, Hyperallergic (online at www.hyperallergic.com), May 31, 2014.
2014 "It all comes down to dpi and polygons: Alex Chowaniec Interviewed by Jarrett Earnest," SFAQ Print Edition, Issue 16, 2014.
2014 "Context and Conversation: Alex Chowaniec and David Molesky," Artfile Magazine (online edition at www.artfilemagazine.com), March 26, 2014.
2014 "Alex Chowaniec: Let's talk about it," by Janet Wilson, The Ottawa Citizen (print edition), March 8, 2014.
2014 "(Non-Traditional) Matryoshka Dolls by Alex Chowaniec," by David Molesky, Juxtapoz Magazine (online edition at www.juxtapoz.com), February 10, 2014.
2013 "Overturn the Artifice," by Mark Van Proyen, Art Practical (online edition at www.artpractical.com), March 25, 2013.

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- 2013** "Exhibiting Artist Interview: Alex Chowaniec," by Lex Kosieradzki, SOMArts Cultural Center (online and available at <http://www.somarts.org/chowaniec/>), posted March 12, 2013.
- 2011** "Personality Crises: Alexandra Chowaniec boldly explores The Spaces in Between", by Allan Wigney, The Wig (online), March 15, 2011.
- 2010** Art Toronto 2010: The 11th Toronto International Art Fair (Catalog). Exhibiting Galleries: Beaux-Arts des Amériques, Image: Alexandra Chowaniec, Chew, pp. 80.
- 2010** *New American Paintings*. 15 Years: Anniversary Edition. Open Studios Press.
- 2009** "Freshly Varnished and Ready for Their Close Up," by JD Beltran, San Francisco Chronicle (online edition at www.SFGate.com), May 20, 2009.
- 2009** "Students Master the Fine Arts", Fort Mason Center Publication, Apr/May 09.
- 2009** "The Art of Ugly" by Emily Falvey, The Ottawa Citizen, March 18, 2009.
- 2008** *New American Paintings*. Pacific West Coast Edition, vol. 79. Open Studios Press.
- 2008** "A Masters in Exploration" by Mike Levin, KitchArt Magazine, October 2008.

Represented by Beaux-Arts des Amériques, Montreal, QC and Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON.

COLLECTIONS

New Museum, Beijing, China (Creative Cities Collection)

Queen's University Department of Art Print Collection, Kingston, ON

Private Collections: New York, San Francisco, Boston, Toronto, Montréal and Ottawa

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