

OLIVIA MAE SINCLAIR

Toronto, ON

BIOGRAPHY

Olivia Mae Sinclair is a textile-book artist. Her intuitive and trauma-based practice is guided by sloppy craft and imperfection. She is addicted to infatuation and Redbull. She is a maker of books, love and other grotesque things.

She has recently graduated from OCAD University's Interdisciplinary Master's in Art, Media and Design program. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Craft and Design at Sheridan College. Olivia is a current Artist in Residence at Harbourfront Centre and sessional instructor at Sheridan & OCAD U

Typically books made from fabric are intended for children and infants. Olivia Mae Sinclair's books however are made for lovers, survivors, artists, her, him, them and me.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Olivia Mae Sinclair analyzes the emotional implications of power and sex between female and male identifying individuals. The form and shape of the books demonstrate the theme of deterioration through manipulation such as cutting, ripping, and fraying. Techniques include screen printing, sewing, and machine embroidery. The books have a raw and rough quality to them as they borrow the visual language from sketchbooks, journal entries and the zine community. Overall, her question remains; how do we read with our entire body?

Sinclair takes inspiration from the Sloppy Craft movement. Sloppy Craft as defined by honouring the process of making over the final piece. Handwriting is an important part of the books and sloppiness to articulate the intimacy and confessions held within. Sinclair wants the audience to be equally dazzled and disgusted by the books - but in order for this to happen, the audience must engage and touch the pieces, usually in a public setting. Relational Aesthetics is one way she likes to think about audience and the work.

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1090 Bank St. Ottawa, ON. K1S 3X5 | 613.729.0003 | info@wallspacegallery.ca



CV

EDUCATION

- 2021 Interdisciplinary Masters in Art, Media and Design OCAD U, Toronto, ON
2019 Honours Bachelor of Craft and Design: Textiles, Sheridan College, Oakville, ON
2015 Ontario French Certificate

AWARDS

- 2023 Propeller Gallery - Emerging Artist Membership Program OCAD University x
Partial Gallery Career Launcher One-of-a-Kind Show - New Artisan Scholarship
Fund
2022 Artist Project UNTAPPED People's Choice 2021 OCAD University Career
Launcher
OCAD University Graduate Project Grant
OCAD University Dean's Scholarship
2019 Toronto Outdoor Art Fair- Best Student Honourable Mention Award
OCAD University Dean's Scholarship
Peters Valley Scholarship
Sheridan Graduate Exhibition - Honourable Mention Award William and Mary
Corcoran Award Screentec Award
2018 G&S Print and Dye Award
2017 Studio Material Award, Sheridan College

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Harbourfront Centre Craft & Design Studio, Textiles, Toronto, ON 2020
Contingencies of Care, Virtual Residency

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Soft, Sloppy, Stories 2.0*, Unframed Gallery, Hamilton, ON
"BUT I STILL HOPE YOU SEE THIS" Merchant of York, part of DesignTO 2022
LAYERS, A part of Nuit Blanche, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
Torn, Installation, Scout, part of DesignTO
2021 *Soft, Sloppy, Stories* - Remote Gallery, Toronto, ON

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Salon 17*, Propeller Gallery, Toronto, ON

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- SAD Memories Museum, Curated by Meghan Yuri Young, Toronto, ON
 International Miniature Print Biennale Exhibition, Ottawa, ON *UnFramed Online*,
 Propeller Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2022** Oakville Arts Council (OAC) Handmade Market, ON *Twenty Something*, Propeller
 Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2021** *GradEx 106*, OCAD University
Before We Broke Up, Var Gallery Milwaukee, WI, USA *Hard To Love*, two-person
 exhibition, Online, DesignTO
- 2019** *Make/Ready* Sheridan College, Oakville, ON
 'By A Thread' Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto, ON
- 2018** Sheridan College Open House, Oakville, ON
 Textile Studio Exhibition, Sheridan College, Oakville, ON

FEAUTRED COLLECTIONS

- 2023** TOAF - *Not Fragile*, curated by Omar Badrin
 TOAF- *An Introduction to Eight Noteworthy Emerging Artists*, curated by
 Hugues Charbonneau
 TOAF - *A Sense of Flourishing*, Curated by Sean Lee
 TOAF – *Intense Tactile*, curated by Jeremy Vandermeij
- 2022** TOAF – *Hard and Soft Materials*, curated by Amanda McCavour TOAF – *Still, In
 Isolation*, curated by Curated by Hangama Amiri
- 2021** TOAF – *Carefully Crafted* curated by Melanie Egan & Jillian Barreca TOAF – *Still,
 here* curated by Emilie Croning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023** OCADU - Faculty of Design, MAAD, Professional Practice Instructor
 Sheridan College - FAAD, Visual & Creative Arts- Printmaking Instructor
 Sheridan College – FAAD, Visual & Creative Arts- Surface Design Instructor 2022
 Sheridan College - Faculty of Animation, Arts & Design - Textiles Instructor 2020
 OCAD University Design Department - Teaching Assistant
- 2019** Sheridan College Assistant Studio Technician
- 2023** TOAF62 Emerging Artists Mentorship
 "A Love Letter To Yourself" University of Toronto, in collaboration with TASA
 OCAD University, Thesis Year Painting and Drawing, Toronto, ON 2022 "Intro to
 Screen Printing" Hamilton Craft Studio, Hamilton, ON
 "Trauma thought Sloppy Craft" University of Toronto, in collaboration with
 TASA "Storytelling Through Screen-Printing" Contemporary Textile Studio Co-

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op "Trauma thought Sloppy Craft" University of Toronto, in collaboration with
PEARS "Collage Artist Books" Sheridan College, Oakville, ON
"Intro to Screen Printing" Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON 2021 "Intro to
Fabric Artist Books" Sheridan College, Oakville, ON
Thomas A Blakelock High-school, Oakville, ON Other

- 2021** OCAD University - Graduate Peer Student Mentor
OCAD University - Research Assistant - supporting Dr. Ashok Mathur, Dean,
Graduate Studies in the Contingencies of Care, Virtual Residency project
OCAD University - Research Assistant - Triggering Education: Relational
Readings of Trigger Warnings in the Canadian Post-Secondary Classroom
- 2020** OCAD University in Partnership with Toronto Biennial - Content Provider for the
Care and Creativity: Virtual Residency
OCAD University - Graduate Research Assistant supporting Dr. Michelle
Wyndham- West, in the Co-Designing International Dementia Strategy Policy
Development Project

FAIRS AND EVENTS

- 2023** Hard Feelings, Mental Health Pop Up, Toronto, ON Art in the Park, Oakville, ON
Toronto Outdoor Art Fair, Toronto, ON Online Canzine
Toronto Comic Arts Festival
Artist Project, Toronto, ON
Survive and Thrive Market, Toronto, ON
One-of-A-Kind Show Spring, Toronto, ON 2022 Punk Rock Flea Market
Harbourfront Centre Seconds Sale
Turnpike Art Collective, Holiday Art Mart, Hamilton, ON Canzine, Toronto
Reference Library, ON
Zine Dream, MOCA, Toronto
Merchants of York – Pop Up, Toronto, ON
Art in the Park, Oakville, ON
Toronto Comic Arts Festival
Bronte Art's Market, Oakville, ON
Toronto Outdoor Art Fair
Toronto Art Crawl
Artist Project, Toronto, ON
- 2021** ArtTO /Edition
Toronto Art Crawl Christmas Market Harbourfront Centre Holiday Studio Sale

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Vancouver Art Book Fair
Toronto Outdoor Art Fair
2020 Toronto Outdoor Art Fair (Online) OCAD University Zine Fair
2019 Edition Toronto
Liberty Village Art Crawl, Toronto, ON Punk Rock Flea Market, Hamilton, ON
Zine Dream- MOCA Toronto
Toronto Outdoor Art Fair
Sheridan College Zine Zone, Oakville, ON

COLLECTIONS

Zine Library, Art Gallery of Burlington, ON
OCAD U Library, Toronto, ON
Toronto Public Reference Library, Zine Collection, ON Michigan State University, Zine Library, Michigan, USA Sheridan College Library Unique Collections, Oakville, ON SVA Library – Manhattan, New York, USA
Farnoosh Talaei , Private Collection, Toronto, ON
Private Collector, Burlington Ontario
OCAD University Zine Library, Toronto, ON
Likely General, Toronto, ON

PUBLICATIONS

Broken Pencil, Issue 98: Your Own Personal Joker
<https://brokenpencil.myshopify.com/products/issue-98?variant=44446508351784>

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