

JOHN SPARAGANA

b. 1958, Rochester, New York
Lives in Houston, TX and Chicago, IL

EDUCATION

1987 MFA, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

TEACHING

Grace Vietti Chair in Visual Arts and Chair of the Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts, Rice University, Houston, TX

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Under Erasure, Pierogi Gallery, New York, NY
2017 John Sparagana - Breather - Sicardi Gallery, Houston, TX
2016 Themesong Variations, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
2013 Crowds and Powder, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
2012 Geronimo, Rice University Public Art Program, BRC, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA
2011 Going Down For The Third Time, Bryan Miller Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
Geronimo, Sox, Berlin, Germany
Between The Eyes, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
2009 The Crisis Professionals, CTRL Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
2008 John Sparagana, CTRL Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
2007 Afternoon Hallucinogenic, Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, NY, USA
2006 What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA
2005 People Everywhere are Stoned, Mixture Contemporary Art, Houston, TX, USA
2004 People Everywhere are Tired, Modern Culture, NY, USA
Sleeping Beauty, Mixture Contemporary Art, Houston, TX, USA
2002 I Wait For You Every Night, Rice University Media Center, Houston, TX, USA
Swoon, Wall Installation, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
2001 Sublime, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 World Dance: Selections from the Collection of JoAnne Gonzales Hickey, Denver Art Museum Denver, CO, USA
2016 MoCP at 40, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College,

- Chicago, IL, USA
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 Tunnel of Silence, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA
- 2015 Other Planes of There, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2014 Miguel Ángel Rojas & John Sparagana: El Cuerpo Sutil, Sicardi Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
 Without you I am nothing, Heldart, Berlin, Germany
 Cargo Space, Inova, Milwaukee, WI, USA. A&D Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2013 Albert Oehlen and John Sparagana, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany
 Albert Oehlen & John Sparagana, STUDIOLO, Zürich, Switzerland
 Analogical, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City, UT, USA
 To Open Eyes: Art and Textile from Bauhaus to the Present, Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany
- 2012 Utopia/Dystopia: Construction and Destruction in Photography and Collage, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX, USA
 Rarely Seen Contemporary Works on Paper, Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA
 Domino Effect, Galerie Catherine Bastide, Brussels, Belgium
 The New Art Dealers Alliance Fair, Corbett vs. Dempsey, New York, NY, USA
 New Contemporaries – Art Cologne, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Cologne, Germany
- 2011 Synecdoche, Bourouina Gallery, Berlin, Germany
 I All Alone Beweep My Outcast State, Kruger Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 Remix: Selections from the International Collage Center, Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, USA
- 2010 Eraserhead, Fruehsorge Contemporary Drawings, Berlin, Germany
 Hide and Seek, Aratia Beer, Berlin, Germany
 “Entre chien et loup,” Galerie Vidal Saint Phalle, Paris, France
 Ah Wilderness, Ebersmoore, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2009 Olio, Tony Wight Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2007 Antennae, Houston Center for Photography, Houston, TX, USA
 The Exquisite Snake, Bloch Museum of Art, Evanston, IL, USA
 Bold Saboteurs, Collage in Chicago, Corbett vs. Dempsey Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2006 Making/Breaking, Two-person exhibition with Anni Holm at the Moser Performing Arts Center at University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, USA
 Full Frontal, Corbett vs. Dempsey Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 GEEP, Oresman Gallery, Smith College, Northhampton, MA, USA
 In This House That I Call Home, Western Project, Los Angeles, CA, USA
 In Sight, Recent Additions To The Permanent Collection, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2005 Kiss Me Long and Hard, Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, NY, USA
 Post-Photography, Changing Role-Move Over Gallery, Naples, Italy
 Girls of Summer, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA

- Pages, I Space, Chicago, IL, USA
 No Monument, The Guest Room Project, Chicago, IL, USA
 Dating Data, Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York, NY, USA
 2004 GEEP, Cell 77, Edinburgh, Scotland
 John Sparagana & Laura Mosquera, Bright Group showroom, Chicago, IL, USA
 NADA Art Fair, Miami, Mixture Contemporary, Houston, TX, USA
 Editor's Choice, John Sparagana & Laura Mosquera, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA
 State of Affairs, Savage Art Resources, Portland, OR, USA
 Sketchbook: Collaboraction, Chopin Theatre, Chicago, IL, USA
 You're No Photographer, Bad Dog Gallery, Dekalb, IL, USA
 2003 re:LAX, DCKT Gallery, New York, NY, USA
 NADA Art Fair, Miami, Mixture Contemporary, Houston, TX, USA
 Collectible, Northern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 Re-Action, Jan Weiner Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA
 John Sparagana, Ann Strautberg, Dornith Doherty: FotoFest 2002, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
 2001 Beefcake/Cheesecake: Sex, Flesh, Money and Dreams, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, CA, USA
 Operating Systems, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, USA
 2000 Collage 2001, Etherington Gallery, Vineyard Haven, MA, USA
 Eros, Municipal Exhibition Hall, LaRoque Thimbault, France
 Shake the Coat, Northpark University Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 Teenie Weenie, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX, USA
 1999 It Looks Easy: A Cross Section of Recent Painting in Chicago Gallery 400, School of Art & Design, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA
 Is This a Joke or What? Feminism, Humour and Contemporary Art in Texas, O'Kane Gallery, University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, TX, USA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2013 Hans Ulrich Obrist, "The Cabinet Room." Das Magazin, June 29.
 "Artist Project." Esopus 19, pp. 88-104.
 "Art Portfolio." Make Magazine, Issue #14.
 To Open Eyes: Art and Textile from Bauhaus to Today, catalog. Bielefeld, Germany: Kunsthalle Bielefeld, 2014.
- 2012 Yasufumi Nakamori and Graham Bader, Utopia/Dystopia: Construction and Destruction in Photography and Collage, catalog. Houston: Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 2012.
- 2011 Jennifer King, "John Sparagana at Corbett vs. Dempsey." Artforum, Summer.
 Garrett Stewart, Bookwork: Medium To Object To Concept To Art. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 101,103-104, 119, 121-127, 158.
 Nancy Zastudil, "Pivot Point: John Sparagana in Motion." Arts+Culture

- Magazine.
Douglas Britt, "John Sparagana Hits His Stride At Bryan Miller Gallery." Houston Chronicle online.
Benjamin Lima, "John Sparagana Bryan Miller Gallery." Fluent~Collaborative...might be good, Issue #176.
Rachel Hooper, "John Sparagana: 'Going Down For The Third Time' at Bryan Miller Gallery" art ltd.
Dan Oko, "News Wired: Artist of the Year Sparagana, who warps world events in his provocative paintings, is on a mission to ramp up Rice's rep in the art world." Houston Magazine.
- 2009 John Sparagana and Others, Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture, Front Forty Press.
Kelly Klaasmeyer and Troy Schulze, "Capsule Art Reviews: John Sparagana: 'The Crisis Professionals'." Houston Press online.
- 2008 Bal, Mieke and Sparagana, John, Sleeping Beauty, A One Artist Dictionary. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 2007 Leah DeVun, "Reviews: John Sparagana, 'What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw'." Glasstire: Texas Visual Art Online.
- 2006 Mathes, Bettina, Das Kreuz mit dem Kopftuch. Geschichte und Wirkungen eines Symbols, Aufbau Verlag.
Artner, Alan, "Small Parts, Big Picture." Chicago Tribune, Nov 3, Art section, pp. 29.
"John Sparagana: What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw." flavorpill, November 7.
Bielstein, Susan, Permissions, A Survival Guide: Blunt Talk about Art as Intellectual Property. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.
Mathes, Bettina. Under Cover, Das Geschlecht in den Medien, Verlag.
- 2005 Elms, Anthony, "Reviews: Pages." Time Out Chicago, November 17-24, pp. 56.
Hawkins, Margaret, "Girls of Summer About More Than Having Fun." The Chicago Sun Times, July 29, pp. 24
"Koichi Enomoto, Ruby Osorio, and John Sparagana: Girls of Summer." flavorpill, July 19.
Steven Devadanam, "Abusing Models: This season's look is distressed in John Sparagana's 'People Everywhere Are Stoned'." Houston Press, April 7-13, pp. 37.
Hinkel, Joanne, "Connecting with Culture: Art Brushes with Human Kind." Chicago: Centerstage Chicago, July 22.
- 2004 Hearne Pardee, People Everywhere are Tired. AC Institute, #3, Winter, 2005.
Ferrera, Annette, "An Artful Deception: John Sparagana's states of distress." Ten by Ten, (Cover Project), Vol. 3, #2.
Bowie, Chas, "State of Affairs." Portland Mercury, April 22.
French, Christopher, "Sharing Two Distinct Perspectives." Houston Chronicle, Art Review, April 2004, pp.3D and 10D.

- Jeff Jahn, State of Affairs, NW Drizzle Monthly Arts, Music, and Culture E-Zine, May.
- 2003 "What Have You Done For Me Lately?" Atopia Projects, Project #1.99, February.
- "Collecting Remains in Eye of the Beholder." The Chicago Tribune, March 7, 2003.
- 2002 Margaret Hawkins, "Collectible." The Chicago Sun Times, February 7, 2003.
- "Reviews." New Art Examiner, May 2002.
- "For Every Action." The Kansas City Star, January 18, 2002.
- Review Magazine, February 2002, Kansas City, MO.
- "Reviews." Glasstire: Texas Visual Arts Online, April 2002, Houston, TX.
- FotoFest 2002 Catalogue

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

- 2003 Ucross Foundation, Clearmont, WY, Residency Fellowship
- 2001 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
- 1996 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
- 1995-96 Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, New Mexico, Artist-in-Residence Program
- 1992 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
- 1988-89 Mid-America Arts Alliance/National Endowment for the Arts
- 1987-88 Bemis Project/Alternative Worksite, Omaha, Nebraska, Residency Fellowship
- 1987 Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, Residency Fellowship
- 1985-87 Stanford University Department of Art, Stanford, California, Full Fellowship

LECTURES, PANELS AND CRITIQUES

- 2009 University of Chicago, Graduate Critiques
- 2005 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fiber and Material Studies Department, Slide Lecture and Graduate Critiques
- "Plasticity and Emergence," Society for Literature, Science and the Arts, Panel
- American University, Washington, D.C., Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
- Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
- 2004 Brown University, Providence, RI, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
- Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, TX, Slide Lecture
- "Vision and Art: The Biology of Seeing," Rice University, Houston, TX, Panel
- 2002 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Graduate Art History Seminar, Slide Lecture
- Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques

- 2001 Society for Contemporary Photography, Kansas City, MO, Slide Lecture
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
Rice University, Houston, TX Scholars Forum, Slide Lecture
- 1998 "Representational Painting: Responding to Contemporary Issues and
Timeless Themes," Northpark University, Chicago, IL, Panel
Glassell School, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, Guest Critic
Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL, Graduate Critiques
University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, Slide Lecture, Graduate
Critiques
University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Odessa, TX, Slide Lecture,
Graduate Critiques
Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, Slide Lecture
- 1997 University of Illinois at Chicago, Graduate Review Panel
Northern Illinois University, Graduate Critiques
- 1996 Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
Roswell Museum and Art Center, Roswell, NM, Slide Lecture
Bennington College, Bennington, VT, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
Rice University School of Architecture, Houston, TX, Slide Lecture

COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA
Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL, USA
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), Houston, TX, USA
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, USA
Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE, USA
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA, USA
Denver Art Museum, Denver CO, USA