

RACHEL BREEN

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### Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 *Textile Politics*, ArtStart, Rhinelander, WI.  
*Title to be Determined*, Watermark Center, Bemidji, MN.  
*Title to be Determined*, Kiehle Gallery, St. Cloud, MN.
- 2023 *At the Root: Materials and Power*, Alice Rogers Gallery, Collegetown, MN.  
*Banners for Solidarity*, "Wakpa Triennial," Weisman Museum, MN.  
*Pennants for Solidarity*, "Wakpa Triennial," East Side Freedom Library, St. Paul, MN.
- 2022 *In Solidarity*, The Indian Institute of Craft and Design, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- 2020 *The Shapes We Take*, Soo Visual Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN.  
*The Labor We Wear*, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN  
*How to Dismantle a System: Take it Apart*, Marvin Cone Gallery, Cedar Rapids, IA.
- 2018 *Piece Work*, Niche Gallery, White Bear Lake, MN.  
*Shroud*, ArtPrize, Grand Rapids, MI.  
*The Price of Our Clothes*, Perlman Museum, Carlton College, Northfield, MN.  
*Sewing Voices: The Labor We Wear*, Tychman Shapiro Gallery, St. Louis Park, MN.
- 2014 *The Heirloom Project*, Kingfield Neighborhood Garages, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2011 *Let's Not Leave it to Chance*, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN.
- 2010 *Abundance*, Art = Food Exhibition Space, Plains Museum, Fargo, ND.  
*Local Topography*, Portals on Western, College of Visual Arts, St. Paul, MN.  
*Seven Meals*, Conduit Gallery, Minneapolis, MN.

### Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *1934 & Now: Connections of the Minneapolis Truckers' Strike*, Cargill Gallery, MN  
*No Bodies*, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT  
*Envisioning Beyond Climate Catastrophe*, Artistry, Bloomington, MN.
- 2023 *Mining Mending*, Textile Center, Minneapolis, MN.  
*Imperfect Slumber*, Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul, MN
- 2022 *Minnesota State Fair Art Exhibition*, Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul, MN.  
*Warmth*, Stay Home Gallery, Paris, TN.  
*Soft Power*, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2021 *Nothing New: Meditations on Sustainability and Abundance*, with artist Tracy Krumm, Architecture Library Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.  
*Put it in the Chat*, Soo Visual Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN.  
*MacRostie Art Center Annual Exhibition*, Grand Rapids, MN, Juror: Clarence Morgan  
*Speculative Futures, Present Imaginations*, St. Catherine G. Murphy Gallery, St. Paul, MN, on-line exhibition.
- 2020 *The Beginning of Everything: An Exhibition of Drawings*, Nash Gallery, University of MN, Curator: Howard Oransky, Nash Gallery Director.
- 2019 *Hand & I: Mending the World One Stitch at a Time*, Schmidt Center Gallery, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL, Curator: Yulia Tikhonova.  
*Social Justice in the Misinformation Age*, Freedman Gallery, Reading, PA, Juror: Susan Crile.

- Thirty-Three Views***, Second Shift Curatorial Projects, Curators: Chris Larson & Tina Tavera, St. Paul, MN.
- Ferment***, Minneapolis College, MN.
- Drawing Discourse***, University of North Carolina, Asheville, Juror: Claire Gilman, Chief Curator, Drawing Center, NYC.
- Ferment***, Minneapolis College, Critical Craft Forum, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2018 ***Art of Labor***, San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, Juror: Carole Frances Lung.
- Black and White***, Site: Brooklyn, NY, Juror: Rosario Guiraldes, assistant curator, Drawing Center, NYC.
- Eyes Should be Washed***, Pirsig Projects, Minneapolis, MN
- Altered Passages***, Regis Center for Art, Quarter Gallery, University of MN, Minneapolis, MN
- Artists in the Kitchen***, Textile Center, Minneapolis, MN
- 2017 ***Ecocentric: Art, Ecology and Engagement***, The Gordon Parks Gallery, Metro State University, St. Paul, Curator: Erica Spitzer Rasmussen.
- Untitled***, Gallery 71, Edina, MN, Curator: Mary Bergs.
- From Farm to Table***, Red Wing Arts Association Depot Gallery, Juror: Stephanie Hunder, Professor, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN.
- 2016 ***Silverwood Juried Exhibition***, Silverwood Park, Minneapolis, MN, Juror: Christine Bauemler, Professor, University of Minnesota.
- Women and Money***, Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, MN.
- Medium of Exchange: The Art of Cash***, Janet Carson Gallery, Eau Claire, WI.
- This From Here***, Circa Gallery, Minneapolis, MN, Juror: Chris Atkins, Curator of Exhibitions and Public Programs, Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul, MN.
- Art on the Plains XII***, Plains Museum, Fargo, ND, Juror: Aaron Spangler.
- 2015 ***Works on Paper***, Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts & Sciences, Loveladies, NJ, Juror: Carter E. Foster, curator of Drawing at the Whitney Museum of American Art.
- Bellingham National Art Exhibition and Awards***, Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA, Juror: Scott Lawrimore, Director, Jacob Lawrence Gallery.
- 2014 ***Thinking, Making, Living***, Nash Gallery, Minneapolis, MN.
- North of the 45<sup>th</sup>***, DeVos Museum, Marquette, Michigan, Juror: Kevin Buist, Exhibitions Director of ArtPrize.
- The Enduring Spirit of Labor***, Regis Center for the Arts, Minneapolis, MN.
- Kabbalah and Creation***, United Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN.
- How to be a Feminist Artist***, Catherine Murphy Gallery, St. Paul, MN.
- 2013 ***Whither the American Dream***, Punch Gallery, Juried Exhibition, Seattle, WA, Juror: Rock Hushka, Curator of Contemporary Art, Tacoma Art Museum.
- Made Here***, Storefront Exhibitions on Block E, Curated Exhibition, Mpls., MN.
- Creation***, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2012 ***Open Door 8***: Rosalux Gallery 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition, Mpls. MN, Juror: Christina Chang, Curator of Engagement at the Minnesota Museum of Art.
- Untitled 9***: SooVAC's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition, Mpls. MN, Juror: Chris Larson, Professor, University of Minnesota.
- The Money Show***, Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts, Fridley, MN.
- Women and Water Rights***, Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson, WI.
- Kabbalah***, North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park, MN.
- 2011 ***Minnesota State Fair Art Exhibition***, Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul, MN.
- 2010 ***Sacred Spaces***, Tychman Shapiro Gallery, Mpls., MN.

- 2009 ***Women and Water Rights***, Invitational, Nash Gallery, Mpls., MN.  
***Open Door***, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition, Rosalux Gallery, Mpls., MN,  
 Juror: Colleen Sheehy, Director, Plains Museum, Fargo, ND.
- 2008 ***F + C x 2***, Invitational Exhibition at Form and Content Gallery, Mpls., MN.  
***Practice Profess***, Faculty Exhibition, College of Visual Arts, St. Paul, MN. *Faculty Art Show*,  
 Normandale Community College, Bloomington, MN.  
***Neshama: Visions of Soul***, Larson Gallery, University of MN, St. Paul, MN.  
***Neshama: Visions of Soul***, Westminster Gallery, Mpls., MN.
- 2007 ***Open Door***, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition, Rosalux Gallery, Mpls., MN, Juror: Diane Mullin,  
 Associate Curator, Weisman Art Museum.
- 2006 ***Celebrating the Link between Art and Information***, Wilson Library, University of MN,  
 Curator: Deborah Ultan, Art Librarian, Wilson Library.
- 2004 ***Gems***, a juried exhibition of the Women's Art Institute, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul,  
 Curators: Elizabeth Erickson and Pat Olson.

### Collaborative Projects

- 2022 ***Iphigenia***, Set Design for Theatre of Ten Thousand Things, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2018 ***Behind the Seams***, in collaboration, Moorhead State University, Minnesota.
- 2017 ***Eyes Should be Washed***, collaborative book project, artist book release and book signing,  
 Company Projects, Minneapolis, MN  
***Behind the Seams***, in collaboration, Art Spark, Jamestown, ND.  
***Behind the Seams***, in collaboration, Climate Chaos/Climate Rising, Northern Spark,  
 Minneapolis, MN.
- 2016 ***Seed Saving Bingo***, in collaboration, Climate Chaos/Climate Rising, Northern Spark,  
 Minneapolis, MN.

### Public Engagement Projects and Performances

- 2023 ***A Public Sewing Party***, Eastside Freedom Library, St. Paul, MN  
***The Garment Solidarity Performance and Conversation***, Eastside Freedom Library, St.  
 Paul, MN.
- 2020 ***An Unmaking***, Art on the Block, Minneapolis MN.
- 2019 ***The Garment Solidarity Project***, Textile Week at Gaviidae Commons, Minneapolis, MN.  
***The Garment Solidarity Project***, Cross Pollination Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2018 ***The Garment Solidarity Project***, Do it Green Festival, Minneapolis, MN.  
***Eyes Should be Washed***, Pirsig Projects, Minneapolis, MN.  
***The Garment Solidarity Project***, Jewish Community Center, St. Louis Park, MN, and  
 Carleton College, Northfield, MN.
- 2017 ***The Garment Solidarity Project***; NE Open Streets and Nicollet Open Streets in  
 Minneapolis, Silverwood Park in St. Anthony, MN, Wet Paint in St. Paul, and at the  
 Farmers Market in Morris, MN.
- 2016 ***Bank of our Common Wealth, Women*** and Money Opening Night, Nash Gallery,  
 Minneapolis, MN.
- 2016 ***Bank of our Common Wealth***, Medium of Exchange: The Art of Cash Opening night,  
 Janet Carson Gallery, Eau Claire, WI.
- 2014 ***Bank of our Common Wealth***, How to be a Feminist Artist Opening night, Catherine  
 Murphy Gallery, St Paul, MN.  
***Performing a Drawing***, Monday Night Live, Ritz Theatre, Minneapolis, MN , curated by  
 Laurie Van Wieren.

- 2012 *Bank of our Common Wealth*, The Money Show Opening night, Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts, Fridley, MN.
- 2011 *Bank of our Common Wealth*, Open Field, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN.  
*Bank of our Common Wealth*, Kingfield Farmers Market, Minneapolis, MN.

### Residencies

- 2024 Willapa Bay AiR, Willapa Bay, WA.
- 2021 MacDowell Center, Peterborough, NH.
- 2019 Weisman Museum Collaboration Incubator Residency, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2014 Artist-in-Residence, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Amherst, VA.
- 2011 Walker Art Center Open Field Fellowship

### Selected Bibliography

- 2023 [Minnesota Public Radio](#): Materials and power: Artist investigates labor rights and solidarity in textile exhibition, Alex V. Cipolle.  
[Public Art St. Paul](#), Interview with Sheila Reagan, 2023  
[De-colonial Zine](#), Research Collective on Decoloniality and Fashion, 2023
- 2022 [Minnesota Alumni Magazine](#): The Clothes on Our Back, Summer, 2022.  
[Sandesh](#): e-paper News of Gujarat, Sanskari Nagri Cultured City Section  
 Professors from American Universities Lecture in Fine Art Department at MSU.
- 2021 [Jewish Currents](#): Material Conditions: Rachel Breen’s textile work connects the garment industry to the suffering that sustains it, Sheila Reagan, Spring 2021.  
[Fashion Revolution](#), The Labor We Wear: Artist Rachel Breen Shares the Stories Behind our Clothes, March, 2021.  
[Minnesota Public Radio](#): Art Hounds: Art Exhibition Undresses the garment industry, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- 2020 [Ruminare Magazine](#): Issue 57: Mend investigates what needs to be mended, who does the mending, and how we might mend, Dec. issue.  
[tc jewfolk](#): How Rachel Breen’s art & social justice collide, Lonny Goldsmith, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
[Minneapolis Institute of Art Blog](#): Minnesota artist Rachel Breen on clothing that kills, visible mending, and her new show at Mia, Diane Richard, April 1.  
[University of Minnesota News](#): Happy Accidents – A Childhood Teacher and a Garage Sale Fine, Sara Garry, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.  
[Artists I Admire](#): A Series of Interviews with Artists, Jes Reyes, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>.  
[City Pages](#): Art in the time of coronavirus: How artist and performers are getting by, Sheila Regan, March 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 2019 [Greenie Guide Podcast](#): The Greenie Guide Interviews Rachel Breen about The Garment Solidarity Project and supporting garment workers around the world, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>.  
[Creative Exchange](#): Rachel Breen sews in support of garment industry workers, Nicole Rupersburg, March 27, 2019.
- 2018 [City Pages](#): The resistance needs you but you’ve got to fill your soul first, Sheila Regan, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>,  
[Hyperallergic](#): Best of 2018: Our Top 20 Exhibitions across the United States, December 20, 2018.  
[Hyperallergic](#): A Haunting Artistic Tribute to Garment Workers Killed in Bangladesh and the US, Sheila Regan, April 9, 2018.  
[KFAI Radio](#): interview on Lydia Howell’s “Catalyst: Politics and Culture,” April 6, 2018.

- [The Carletonian](#): Artist Rachel Breen Highlights Garment Industry Injustice, April 6, 2018, by Amelia Broman.
- [Eco Textile News](#): US exhibition commemorates Rana Plaza victims, by David Styles, April 10, 2018.
- 2017 [The Metropolitan](#): Indulge in the ‘Ecocentric’ Environmentally inspired art on display in the Gordon Parks Gallery, by C.T. Corum, June, 2017.  
*Eyes Should Be Washed*, An anthology of text and images: Katayoun Amjadi, Rachel Breen, Mara Duvra, Nooshin Hakim, Edie Overturf, Aki Shibata, Christina Schmid, and Tina Tavera.
- 2015 [Star Tribune Blog](#): What are your clothes worth? Two Minnesota artists seek to explore the high cost of cheap clothing. By Molly Priesmeyer. 4/27/2015.
- 2014 [Virginia Center for Creative Arts Blog](#): Honoring Seed Saving: Rachel Breen’s Social Practice, 12/19/2014.  
[MN Artists.org](#): Why Is It So Difficult to Talk Critically About Socially Engaged Art? by Ashley Duffalo, 12/10/2014.  
[Star Tribune](#): Heirlooms in the alley: a blooming public art project in Minneapolis, by Kim Palmer, 9/17/2014.  
[Radio K](#): An interview with Matt Curtiss on Hopper’s Drawings at the Walker Art Center, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.  
[Star Tribune](#): *St. Catherine University showcases feminist art by 11 contemporary women*, by Mary Abbe, 2/27/2014.
- 2013 **Playing with Stencils, Exploring Repetition, Patter and Personal Designs**, by Amy Rice, Beverly: Quarry Books.
- 2012 City Pages (citypages.com): *Untitled 9: SooVAC’s 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition*, by Camille LeFevre, 11/7/2012.  
[Star Tribune](#): *Art Show Explores the Value of a Dollar*, by Anna Pratt, June 19, 2012.
- 2011 **Quodlibetica** (quodlibetica.com): *A Bean Story or Art, Accused of Trying to Teach*, by Christina Schmid, Constellation 17, 12/1/2011.
- 2011 [Walker Art Center Blog](#): Field Office fellowship, interview with the Walker Art Center, 08/05/2011.
- 2010 [Minnesota Public Radio](#): *Mapping Community* by Marianne Combs, 5/17/10.
- 2010 **3-Minute Egg** (3minuteegg.org): *Seven Meals* by Matt Peiken, 2/12/10.
- 2010 [Minnpost](#): *Artist’s ‘Seven Meals’ between civilization and anarchy muses on food and hunger* by Susannah Schouweiler, 1/29/10.
- 2009 **City Pages** (citypages.com): *Form and Content X2* by Jessica Armbuster, 1/7/09.

## Awards

- 2023 McKnight Fiber Fellowship Finalist
- 2022 Fulbright – Nehru Senior Scholar Research Fellowship to Jaipur, India.
- 2021-22 Sabbatical, Academic year, Anoka Ramsey Community College.
- 2021 McKnight Fellowship Semi-finalist.
- 2019-20 Inaugural Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship
- 2019 Minnesota State Arts Board, Artist Initiative Grant.
- 2018 McKnight Fellowship Semi-finalist.
- 2017 McKnight Fellowship Finalist.  
Jerome Fellowship Finalist.
- 2015 Minnesota State Arts Board, Artist Initiative Grant.  
Brin Family Foundation, project support grant.

- 2014-15 Sabbatical, Academic year, Anoka Ramsey Community College.
- 2014 Travel Grant Recipient, Rimon, Minnesota Jewish Arts Council.
- 2014 Minnesota State Arts Board, Artist Initiative Grant.
- 2011 Minnesota State Fair, Drawing award given by the College of Visual Arts.  
McKnight Fellowship Finalist. Open Field Fellowship, Walker Art Center.  
Minnesota State Fair, Drawing Award from the College of Visual Arts.
- 2009 Minnesota State Arts Board, Artist Initiative Grant.

**Panels, Artist Talks, Activities**

- 2023 [Art Speaks: Mining Mending – Social and Creative Practice](#), Textile Center, MN  
Artist Talk, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.  
Artist Talk, Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Artist Talk, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN.
- 2022 Artist Talk, Indian Institute of Craft and Design, Jaipur, India.  
Artist Talk, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Gujarat, India
- 2021 Panelist, Kusske Design Initiative Exchange, University of Minnesota.  
Mentor, Studio 400 – a studio program for emerging BIPOC artists.  
Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, panelist on Next Step Fund.  
Artist talk, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2020 Artist talk at Soovac, Finding the Patterns: A Conversation Between Rachel Breen and Christina Schmid.  
Artist talk, Women Repair the World, Jewish Philanthropy of MN.  
Artist talk, College of Saint Benedict, Collegeville, MN.  
Artist talk, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, MN.  
Artist talk, University of Minnesota, Dept. of Art, MN.  
Artist talk, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN.  
Artist talk, Minneapolis Institute of Art, MN.  
Artist talk, City University of New York, NY,  
Panelist, True Cost documentary screening and discussion, Tangletown Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis, MN.  
Panelist, Sustaining Daily Practice During A Pandemic — a Group Discussion on zoom, organized by the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN.  
Moderator and panelist, Handed Down, Textile Center, organized by Rimon, Mpls., MN.  
Artist Talk, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 2019 Panel Discussion, What is the Use of Used, Moderator, Textile Center, Minneapolis, MN.  
Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, panelist on Next Step Fund.  
Panel Discussion, Wear Your Values, Shaping Fashion conference, Minneapolis, MN.  
Panel Discussion, Communities and Authentic Engagement, Cross Pollination Conference, organized by Critical Craft Forum, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2018 Sustainability and Fashion panel discussion, The American Swedish Institute, Mpls., MN.  
Artist Talk, Morehead State University, Morehead, MN.  
Artists and Solidarity Talk, Women and Globalization class, Twin Cities Campus, University of MN.
- 2017 Eyes Should be Washed, artist book release, Company Projects, Minneapolis, MN  
Artist Talk, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN.  
Juror, Student Art Exhibition, North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park, MN.
- 2015 Juror, Minnesota State Fair Fine Arts Competition, Drawing Category.
- 2014 Guest Instructor, Old School Art School Class, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN.

- 2013 Panelist, Art and Social Change, Jewish Community Action, Minneapolis, MN.  
Panelist, A View Down the Road: Four Decades of Feminist Art, The Rimon Artist Salon Series, Robbin Gallery, Robbinsdale, MN.
- 2012 Juror, Student Art Exhibition, North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park, MN.
- 2011 Visiting Critic, Bethel University, Senior Thesis Class, St. Paul, MN.  
Artist Talk, Why Let's Not Leave it to Chance, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN.

**Exhibitions Curated**

- 2014 *MN Creates*, an artist-led initiative to bring the work of contemporary Minnesota artists into the State Capitol and State Office Building, St. Paul, MN.
- 2010 *Biotics: exploring the relationship between animals and humans*, Co-curated with Sam Willis and Allison Hiltner, Conduit Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2007 *Critical Translations: Art that Examines our Social World*, Nash Gallery, University of MN.

**Articles Written**

- 2015 "The Price Of Our Clothes", blog co-written with Alison Morse, [www.thepriceofourclothes.wordpress.com](http://www.thepriceofourclothes.wordpress.com), 2015.
- 2010 "Art for Everyone's Sake", Jay Walljasper (Ed.) *All That We Share* (211-217), New York: The New Press, 2010.
- 2007 "Art in the Contested City", *Places: Forum of Design for the Public Realm*, Volume 19, Number 1, Spring 2007.

**Education**

MFA, Drawing and Painting, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.  
BA, Political Science, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA.

**Professional Experience**

- 2009-present Professor of Art, Anoka Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids, MN.
- 2008-2009 Adjunct Professor of Art, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2007-2009 Adjunct Professor of Art, College of Visual Art, St. Paul, MN.
- 2006-2009 Adjunct Professor of Art, Normandale Community College, Bloomington, MN