

ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES



Lara Lepionka is an inter-disciplinary, community-based artist living in Gloucester, MA. She was awarded commissions from the Northampton Arts Council and seARTS Partner with an Artist Program in Massachusetts to complete public art projects about people and their work. She is featured in the 2007 anthology, *The Object of Labor: Critical Perspectives on Art, Cloth, and Cultural Production*, published by MIT Press. Lepionka was an artist-in-residence at Cultural Exchange Station in Tabor, Czech Republic, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Vermont Studio Center, and Millay Colony for the Arts. She has exhibited her work in New England and New York, and her work has been on National Public Radio, Community Arts Network APInews, and labor publications and broadcasts. She is the recipient of a Puffin Foundation Grant, Community Development Block Grant, an Illinois Arts Council Artists Fellowship Award, and two Chicago Community Arts Program Grants. She received an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a BA from Bard College, New York.

Jennifer Talbot received a Master of Fine Art through the Fiber Department from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1999. She took advantage of the interdisciplinary nature of the School's structure by working in video, photography, and installation. Awarded full scholarship to Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture Residency program, she traveled to Maine to continue her collaborative installation work. Jennifer has exhibited both nationally and internationally including a solo and group exhibition at the Hochschule in Graz, Austria in 1996. Within the Stateline Vicinity Group show at the Rockford Museum, Illinois, Jennifer's work was favorably reviewed by Lynn Warren of the Chicago MCA on National Public Radio in 1998. Jennifer received the Mischa Kapsa Grant from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to further support her artistic endeavors.



Christine Tarkowski is a Chicago based artist who works in a variety of mediums including sculpture, printed matter, photography and song. Her works range in scale from the ordinary to the monumental. Equally variable is her scope of production which incorporates the making of permanent architectural structures, cast models, textile yardage, and temporary printed ephemera. Many of her recent works point toward the flotsam of western culture relative to systems of democracy, religion and capitalism. Those systems often intersect with or concern themes of conversion, salvation, and belief and are malleable systems relative to a believer's desires.

Her solo exhibitions include *Whale Oil, Slave Ships & Burning Martyrs* at Priska Juschka Fine Art in New York, *Imitatio Dei* at the Museum of Contemporary in Chicago and *Last Things Will Be First And First Things Will Be Last* at the Chicago Cultural Center. She has been included in exhibitions at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Socrates Sculpture Park, Cooper-Hewitt National Museum of Design, RISD Museum, and The Contemporary Museum in Honolulu. She has created commissioned projects for the Manilow Sculpture Park at Governor's State University, Mass MoCA, Public Art/City of Chicago, and Franconia Sculpture Park. She currently is an Associate Professor in the Fiber and Material Studies Department at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and has been the recipient of grants from the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, the Creative Capital Foundation, the Illinois Arts Council and awarded residencies at the Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, J.M. Kohler Arts in Industry. She is currently at Ellen Stone Belic Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media, Columbia College Chicago/3Arts 2010 Fellow.



Anne Wilson is a Chicago-based visual artist who creates sculpture, drawings, performances and video animations that explore themes of time, loss, private and social rituals. Her artwork embraces conceptual strategies and handwork using everyday materials -- table linen, bed sheets, human hair, lace, thread, glass, and wire. In 2010 Wilson's work was part of "Hand+Made" at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston and her solo exhibition "Wind/Rewind/Weave" was presented at the Knoxville Museum. She participated in "Out of the Ordinary" at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London in 2007-08. Her work was part of "Alternative Paradise" at the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa, Japan in 2005-06. The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston hosted a major solo exhibition of Wilson's art in 2004, and "Anne Wilson: Unfoldings" was presented at MassArt, Boston in 2002, and at the University Art Gallery at San Diego State University in 2003. She was included in the "2002 Biennial" at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Wilson's art is in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; The Art Institute of Chicago; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; the Detroit Institute of Arts; the Museum of Glass, Tacoma; the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; and the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa, Japan, among others. She is a Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.