

# Leigh Merrill

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## EDUCATION

- 2009 Master of Fine Arts, Mills College, Oakland, CA  
2001 Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, Summa Cum Laude

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – cont. Professor of Art, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX  
2019 – 2023 Associate Professor of Art, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX  
2012 – 2019 Assistant Professor of Art, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX  
2009 – 2012 Adjunct Professor of Art, University of Texas Dallas, Dallas, TX  
2009 – 2010 Adjunct Professor of Art, University of North Texas, Denton, TX  
2007 – 2009 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Mills College, Oakland, CA

## SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Concrete Ocean*, Gordon Art Galleries, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA  
2023 *Garden of Artificial Sugar*, Old Jail Art Center, Albany, TX  
2022 Paris Photo, Curiosa Sector, Curated by Holly Roussell, Solo Booth with the Liliana Bloch Gallery, 2022  
*Collecting Forests*, Solo Exhibition, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX  
*Latent Adaptations*, Two-person exhibition, Rosemary Duffy Larson Gallery, Broward College, Davie, FL  
2021 *Blue Crush*, Solo Exhibition, Angelina College, Lufkin, TX  
*Latent Architecture*, Solo Exhibition, Elon University, Elon, NC  
2019 *This Place*, Solo Exhibition, Pictura Gallery, Bloomington, IN  
*American Martini*, Solo Exhibition, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX  
2018 *Collections, Keepsakes, Souvenirs*, Two-person exhibition, Galveston Art Center, Galveston, TX  
2017 *Leigh Merrill and Adriana Corral*, Two-person exhibition, University of Texas Arlington Gallery, Arlington, TX  
*Variations*, Two-person exhibition, Greymatter Gallery, Milwaukee, WI  
2016 *Teacup, Still Life, Landscape*, Two-person exhibition, Kresge Gallery, Lyon College, Batesville, AR  
*This Place*, Solo Exhibition, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX  
*This Place*, Solo Exhibition, Flashpoint Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
2015 *Cloud Seeding*, Solo Exhibition, Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA  
2014 *Drive Thru*, Solo Exhibition, Manifest Gallery, FotoFocus Biennial 2014, Cincinnati, OH  
*Cinder Blocks and Cherry Blossoms*, Solo Exhibition, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX  
*Leigh Merrill*, Solo Exhibition, Brookhaven Studio Gallery, Dallas, TX  
2013 *Still*, Solo Exhibition, Women and Their Work Gallery, Austin, TX  
*Manifest Destiny*, Solo Exhibition, The Tremaine Gallery, Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, CT  
*Fictional/Familiar*, Two-person Exhibition, Swarm Gallery, Oakland, CA  
2011 *Into the Sunset*, Solo Exhibition, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX  
2009 *Streets*, Two-person Exhibition, 1078 Gallery, Chico, CA

- 2007 *Fence*, Solo exhibition, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- 2006 *House*, Solo exhibition, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- 2001 *Bed*, Solo exhibition, John Sommers Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
- 2000 *Rooms*, Solo exhibition, ASA Gallery, Albuquerque, NM

### **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 *Making Light of Everything*, Centre de la Photographie Geneve, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2023 *Fake Plastic Forest*, Texas State University Sabinal Photo Gallery, San Marcos, TX
- Grounded*, SP/N Gallery, University of Texas Dallas, Richardson, TX
- 2022 *Infinite Weight/Present Histories*, Vault Gallery, University West Georgia
- {Placeholder}: florilegia*, Axis Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- Fake Plastic Forest*, Blue Star Contemporary, San Antonio, TX
- The Fabric of Being*, Salisbury University Art Galleries Downtown, Salisbury, MD
- 2021 *The Albritton Collection*, Amarillo Museum of Art, Amarillo, TX
- Whereabouts and Hideouts: Artists Imagine Our Built Environment*, The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- 2020 *A Posteriori*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX
- Fractured*, Photo-eye Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- Salina Biennial*, Salina Art Center, Salina, KS
- Americas 2020*, Northwest Arts Center, Minot State University, Minot, ND
- 2019 *Cimarron National Works on Paper*, Gardiner Gallery, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
- 2018 *Simulacrum II*, The Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands
- Step Into This House*, Desai | Matta Gallery, CIIS, Curated by Deirdre Visser, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 *Making a Splash*, Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, TX
- In the Mix*, Barbara Davis Gallery, Houston, TX
- The Architecture of Limitless Delusion*, UCD Gallery, Dallas, TX
- Flower Power*, Northpark Center Gallery, Dallas, TX
- Photography in Place*, Gaddis Geeslin Gallery, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX
- Deception*, Filter Space, Chicago, TX
- 2016 *All of the Above*, Barbara Davis Gallery, Houston, TX
- Co | Action*, 500x Gallery, Dallas, TX
- CTRL+P: Leigh Merrill*, Catherine Edelman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Between Earth and Sky: Contemporary Art From the American Southwest*, curated by Peter

Held. Traveling exhibition: Sichuan University, Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, University of Shanghai Science and Technology; and Xi'an International University, Arizona State University Museum, Tempe, AZ

*You are Here: Texas Photographers Respond to the Texas Landscape*, curated by Krista Steinke. Traveling exhibition: Atrium Fine Art Gallery, Duchesne Academy, Houston, TX; Wright Gallery, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

2015 *This Side of Paradise*, Fotofest International and Houston Center for Photography, Houston, TX

*The Landmark Exhibition*, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM

*Retreat*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX

*And They Papered the Room*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX

*(N)either (N)or*, The Curatorial Lab, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

*Observations and Collections*, Clara Hatton Gallery, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

*Located Place*, Kresge Gallery, Lyon College, Batesville, AR

2014 *Domestic Partnership*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX

*From the Faraway Nearby*, Tarleton State University Gallery, Stephenville, TX

*In Addition Two: Embracing Digital Technology*, The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

*The Here There: on the particularity of place*, Some Sum Studios, Winona, MN

*Trace: Andy Mattern, Leigh Merrill, Pavel Romaniko*, SCA Contemporary, Albuquerque, NM; Greymatter Gallery, Milwaukee, WI; Box 13, Houston, TX

2013 *Recollect*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX

LACDA International Juried exhibition, Juried by Holly Harrison of Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Peter Frank, Huffington Post, Los Angeles, CA

artMRKT San Francisco Contemporary Art Fair, Swarm Gallery, San Francisco, CA

*Splash #2*, Recyclart Art Center, Brussels, Belgium

2012 *Just Not Yet*, Landmark Arts Gallery at Texas Tech University, Curated by Peter Briggs, Helen DeVitt, Jones Curator of Art, Museum of Texas Tech University

*Fabricated*, Tremaine Gallery at the Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, CT, Curated by Melissa Stafford, Curator and owner of Stafford Contemporary

2011 *Flickrland: the Motherland of Memories*, part of the Festival Internazionale di Roma at Macro Testaccio, at Galleria Gallerati, Rome, Italy

*Fresh 2011*, (online participant) Klompching Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*The Boa Constrictor and the Golden Retriever: Extremes in Tonality*, SoftSpot Online Gallery, curated by Kim Hennessy and Ryan Feeney, Co-Curators and Co-Founders of SoftSpot Gallery

*Future Forward*, Silvereve Photo Gallery, Pittsburg, PA, Juried by Darren Ching, Director of Klompching Gallery

2010 *New Texas Talent*, Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX

*Borders*, Root Division, San Francisco, CA

*Revisiting Beauty*, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, CA

- Selections*, di Rosa Preserve Art Center, Napa, CA
- Time Capsule*, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- Texas Oklahoma Art Prize*, Wichita Falls Art Museum, Wichita Falls, TX
- Texas National*, Cole Art Center, Nacogdoches, TX, Juried by Judy Pfaff, Artist
- Years of Living Dangerously*, University of Texas Dallas Gallery, Richardson, TX
- 2009 *Young Americans*, MFA Thesis Exhibition, Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA
- 2009 Annual*, CoCA Seattle, Seattle, WA
- 2008 *Small Matters of Great Importance 2008*, Edward Hopper House, Nyack, NY
- All Media Exhibition*, Palos Verdes Art Center, Ranchos Palos Verdes, CA
- 2007 *Contemporary Forum*, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
- Carnaval Do Rio Art Auction*, ASU Art Museum, Tempe, AZ
- 2006 *I Knew I Should've Taken That Left Turn at Albuquerque III*, Grand Avenue Studio C, Phoenix, AZ
- 2006 Juried Show*, The Contemporary Artists Center of North Adams, MA, North Adams, MA
- Painted Desert*, North Mountain Visitor Center Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- Place*, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- Joyce Elaine Grant Juried Exhibition*, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX
- 2005 *I Knew I Should've Taken That Left Turn at Albuquerque II*, Grand Avenue Studio C, Phoenix, AZ
- New Work*, Art Detour, Grand Avenue Studio C, Phoenix, AZ
- 2002 *I Knew I Should've Taken That Left Turn at Albuquerque*, Space 101, Bloomington, IN

## **COLLECTIONS**

- The Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX
- The Old Jail Art Center, Albany, TX
- The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- The University of North Texas Print Study Collection, Denton, TX
- City of Phoenix Art & Culture Permanent Collection, Phoenix, AZ
- California Institute of Integral Studies Permanent Collection, San Francisco, CA
- Harmon Guest House Hotel, Healdsburg, CA
- Clarendon Hotel Collection, Phoenix, AZ
- Private Collections

## **LECTURES AND PANELS**

- 2023 *Photography, Perception, Place*, Artist Lecture, University of Texas Dallas, Richardson, TX
- Constructing Place*, Artist Lecture, California State University Sacramento, CA (virtual)
- 2022 *Latent Architecture*, Artist Lecture, Broward College, Davie, FL (virtual)
- 2021 *Constructing Place*, Artist Lecture, TCU, Fort Worth, TX (virtual)

- Constructing Place*, Artist Lecture, Texas Women's University, Denton, TX (virtual)
- Latent Architecture*, Artist Lecture, Elon University, Elon, NC (virtual)
- Blue Crush*, Artist Lecture, Angelina College, Lufkin, TX
- 2020 *Constructing Place*, Artist Lecture, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK (virtual)
- 2018 *Cinder Blocks & Cherry Blossoms: Photographs about photography, perception, and place*, University of North Texas Department of Geography and the Environment Fall 2018 seminar series "Crosscurrents"
- Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Collections, Keepsakes, Souvenirs*, Galveston Arts Center, Galveston, TX
- 2017 *Constructing Place*, artist lecture, Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, TX
- Constructing Place*, artist lecture, University of Texas Arlington, Arlington, TX
- 2016 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *This Place*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, TX
- 2015 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *This Side of Paradise*, Fotofest International, Houston, TX
- Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Cloud Seeding* exhibition, Target Gallery, Alexandria, VA
- 2013 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Still* exhibition, Women and Their Work Gallery, Austin, TX
- Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Manifest Destiny* exhibition, The Tremaine Gallery, Lakeville, CT
- 2012 Artist Lecture, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX
- 2011 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Into the Sunset* exhibition, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX
- 2009 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *Streets* exhibition, 1078 Gallery, Chico, CA
- 2001 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *bed* exhibition, John Sommers Gallery, Albuquerque, NM

#### **WORK APPEARING in PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022 *Paris Photo: 5 photographes émergents à connaître*, The Steidz Magazine, November 2022
- Artist Leigh Merrill explores delicate balance between humans and forests*, by Danielle Avram, Dallas Morning News, July 13, 2022
- Photography Takes Center Stage at Blue Star Contemporary*, by Kathleen Petty, San Antonio Magazine, August 4, 2022
- 2021 *One Work, Short Take: Leigh Merrill in Lufkin*, by Matthew Bourbon, Glasstire, October 22, 2021
- 2020 *Art With the Flavors of Texas*, by Mark Rinaldi, The New York Times, March 2020
- 2019 *Leigh Merrill, The Manner of Desires*, by Peter S. Briggs, Afterimage: The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism, Vol. 46 No. 1, University of California Press, March 2019
- Chockablock Distortions Left Waiting: Leigh Merrill's Colorized Grafts of Hauntingly Unfamiliar Spaces*, by Brandon Kennedy, Patron Magazine, April 2019
- Leigh Merrill*, by John Zotos, Visual Art Source, April 27, 2019
- 2018 *Theories in Digital Composite Photographs: 12 Artists and Their Work*, by Yihui Huang, Routledge Press, December 2018
- What is Real in Photography? Fries Museum Zooms in on Illusion of Reality*, Sake Van Ek, Friesch Dagblad, September 11, 2018
- FotoFest Biennial 2018 Catalog, March 2018

- Looking Back at the Dallas Art Fair – the First-Timers Tell All: A Record Number of Visitors in Year 10 and More to Come* by Catherine D. Anson, Papercity Magazine, May 7, 2018
- 2017 *Flower Power Embraces Allen Ginsberg’s mantra in a compelling exhibit at NorthPark Center*, Michael Granberry, Dallas Morning News, May 19, 2017
- Photographer Leigh Merrill Wants to Adjust Your Focus*, Danielle Avram, Dallas Morning News, February 7, 2017
- Spring is in the Air*, Sarah Hauer, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, April 21, 2017
- New TMA Exhibition Making A Splash*, Joe Perry, June/July 2017 Issue
- Water World: Texas artist dive into summer at TMA’s “Making A Splash”*, Jon Paerry, Tyler Morning Telegraph, June 4, 2017
- Bat City Review*, Issue 13, University of Texas Austin, cover photograph for the anthology
- Rule Breakers: Leigh Merrill*, Dennis Nance, Curator Galveston Arts Center, Don’t Take Pictures Blog, October 2017
- 2016 *Expanded Drive By: Leigh Merrill at Liliana Bloch*, Christina Rees, Glasstire, June 1, 2016
- This Place*, Danielle Avram, Arts and Culture Texas, May 31, 2016
- Semi-fictional Streetscapes Resemble Stage Sets*, Mark Jenkins, The Washington Post, January 29, 2016
- On the Road to Nowhere with Leigh Merrill at Flashpoint Gallery*, Louis Jacobson, Washington City Paper, February 1, 2016
- 2015 *This Side of Paradise brings talented Texas photographers to the forefront*, Culturemap Houston, Elizabeth Rhodes, November 6, 2015
- In the Galleries: Three artists explore 3-D*, Mark Jenkins, The Washington Post, August 21, 2015
- The Landmark Exhibition*, exhibition catalog, Center for Contemporary Art Santa Fe
- Cloud Seeding*, postcard exhibition catalog, Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory
- Between Earth and Sky: Contemporary Art From the American Southwest*, exhibition catalog Dialogist, Vol II, Issue III, January 2015
- Aint-Bad Magazine*, Vol. 3, Issue No.1 – *From Here On*, February 2015
- 2014 *Platform Magazine*, Issue 10: Architecture, July 2014
- 5 Art Openings For Your Weekend*, Peter Simek, Front Row D Magazine, September 10, 2014
- Manifest Gallery’s FotoFocus Shows Were Powerful*, Steven Rosen, City Beat, November 5, 2014
- Art Notes*, Catherine D. Anson, Papercity Magazine, July 2014
- 2013 *Still*, exhibition catalog, November 2013, catalogue essay by Charrissa Terranova, Professor of Aesthetic Studies University of Texas Dallas
- Top Five: October 24, 2013*, Glasstire, October 24, 2013
- Photo Series: Streets by Leigh Merrill*, Julia Sabot, Dwell.com, May 30, 2013
- Swarm Gallery’s Farewell Exhibition Shows Fresh Perspectives*, Alex Bigman, East Bay

- Express, May 22, 2013
- In the Studio: Ascendant Visualists*, Kate Stukenberg and Catherine D. Ansporn, Papercity Magazine, May 2013
- Trace*, exhibition catalogue, March 2013, afterward by Will Whatley
- Grand illusions: Landscapes drawn from inner spaces*, Molly Glentzer, Houston Chronicle, January 27, 2013
- Leigh Merrill's vision of Texas at Hotchkiss*, Carola Lott, TMI Arts Page, Millbrook Independent, February 21, 2013
- A Digital Look at History: or how we got where we are*, Leon Graham, The Millerton News, February 21, 2013
- Manifest Destiny*, exhibition catalog, February 2013
- 2012 *Just Not Yet: Dodging the Vacuum of Meaning*, Exhibition Catalog with introduction by curator, Peter Briggs the Helen DeVitt Jones Curator of Art at the Museum of Texas Tech, November 2012
- Picturing the West with Leigh Merrill*, feature and interview with Greg Jones, In the in-between art blog
- 2011 *Leigh Merrill's Streets*, Josh Rothman, Boston Globe: Brainiac
- Sutured San Francisco*, Geoff Manaugh of BLDGBLOG
- Leigh Merrill*, Isa Köhler, iGNANT art blog
- Leigh Merrill*, Aline Smithson, Lenscratch Photography Blog
- North Texas Strip*, Essay and 15 image slideshow on the Design Observer/Places Journal
- 2010 *Rulers of Engagement*, Steve Carter, Modern Luxury Dallas, December 2010
- Borders*, exhibition catalog with introduction by curator, Lucy Kalyani Lin
- Streets: Into the Sunset*, Essay and 16 image slideshow on Design Observer/Places Journal
- Years of Living Dangerously*, exhibition catalog with introduction by Marilyn Waligore
- 2009 *2009 Annual Center for Contemporary Art Seattle*, exhibition catalog with introduction by juror Jess Van Nostrand, Exhibitions Curator at Cornish College of the Arts
- Young Americans* exhibition catalogue with introduction by Terri Cohn, writer and art historian, and essay by Glen Helfand, critic and curator
- 2007 Photographs published in *Hayden's Ferry, ASU's Art's and Literary Magazine*
- 2006 Photographs published in *Phoenix: 21<sup>st</sup> Century City*, Booth-Clibborn Editions
- Eye Lounge – a contemporary art space, inaugural member catalog
- 2000 *Room with Swings* published in *Scribindi: UNM Arts and Literature Magazine*, Spring 2000 Edition

### **GRANTS, AWARDS, and RECOGNITION**

- 2022 Shortlist Finalist, Hopper Prize, selected by Tyler Blackwell and Caitlin Julia Rubin
- 2019 *Unfettered Thought Award*, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- Short List, Artpace Residency, San Antonio, TX, *selected by Curator Gilbert Vicario, Selig Family Chief Curator, Phoenix Art Museum.*
- 2017 Faculty Development Grant, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 2016 Faculty Development Grant, Texas A&M University-Commerce

- 2015 *Unfettered Thought* Award, Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Faculty Development Grant, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 2014 Faculty Development Grant, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 2013 Faculty Development Grant, Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Short List, Artpace Residency, San Antonio, TX, selected by Curator Mika Yoshitake, Assistant Curator  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place LACDA International Juried exhibition, Juried by Holly Harrison of Los Angeles  
County Museum of Art and Peter Frank, Huffington Post, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 Short List, Artpace Residency, San Antonio, TX, selected by Curator Suzanne Cottor, Curator of the  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation's Abu Dhabi Project
- Short List, The West Prize
- 2009 Jay DeFeo Award, Mills College, Oakland, CA
- 2006 Phoenix Art Museum Contemporary Forum Artist Grant
- 2000 Vera Nolan Award, University of New Mexico