

JASMINE MEI ZHENG

SHE/HER

BORN 2002, CHICAGO, IL

LIVES AND WORKS IN BERKELEY, CA

Artist Bio

Jasmine Mei Zheng is a Chinese-American artist that works on large-scale mixed-media installations and social practice projects in order to merge her autobiographical narratives with popular culture that can resonate with the collective. Her installation and social practice works combine painting, sewing, metalwork, plasterwork, photography, and her commercial background in graphic design. She engages in space-making and world-building that transports her audience to both commercial and domestic settings within white gallery walls. Her work generally involves playful color-blocking, enlargement of everyday objects, subversion of consumer goods, skeletal and geometric wood & metal work, and distributable graphic elements mixed with repetition of popular culture. Much of her work today is informed by repeated imagery and motifs from her Chinese American heritage and upbringing. Through engaging in her work, participants are included in a shared dialogue around the complexities, nuances and in-between-ness of second-generation immigrant culture, bodily autonomy and contemporary feminism, commodification of bodies, rituals of death, and rapid innovation + mass consumption. She creates visual narratives that are purposefully simple at face-value but hold a heavy underlying critique and expression of grief towards her positionality within the era of late-stage capitalism. She ponders where she can insert herself in a historically exclusionary national narrative as either a complacent passivist, a protesting activist, or both at once.

Both her visual art and sculpture disciplines have an emphasis on process, material exploration and contemporary archive. Her process begins with extensive research through a design thinking lens. She begins with collecting imagery and discarded or resold commercial objects and engages in a continuously iterative process in composing her installation environments. She is constantly looking to expand her range of technical skill and invite geometry and color/light theory into her work. Her installations typically have multiple components that are pieced together to generate a holistic space in order to transport her audience into a familiar environment. Her latest practice is focused on combining traditional paintings with printed imagery on fabric to generate an archive of institutions and heritage.

Jasmine currently lives and works in Berkeley, California and is 1 of 9 Honors program students within the Art Practice department at University of California, Berkeley. She has exhibited in numerous group exhibitions including "Nice Knowing You" at the Worth Ryder Art Gallery, Berkeley, California, an experimental documentary screening at The Berkeley Art Center, and social practice performances in Platform Art Space, Berkeley, California. She is currently working on a large-scale

painting and sculpture installation for her senior thesis show this May. She will complete her dual-degree with a BS in Business Administration and BA in Art Practice from UC Berkeley.

Having grown up in Chicago, now living in the Bay Area, and anticipating a move to New York next year, Jasmine is quite familiar with the metropolitan lifestyle and the rapid innovation cycle spurred by Silicon Valley. Her creative commercial endeavors involve freelance graphic design and brand strategy and marketing. To remove herself from a high-speed lifestyle, Jasmine has an affinity for the slowing of life and outdoor exploration. She is in constant search for opportunities to backpack, ski, (recently) surf and explore various terrains – from the dense redwoods of Big Sur to the red wet clay of the Badlands to the steep rainy terrain in Norway. Her removal from structured society and search for nomadic experiences has allowed her to view social and political institutions from an aerial view. Solitude and quiet are a large part of entering her creative flow-state. Empathy is a large driver of her practice, and she hopes to expand her perspective and range of experienced lifestyles to honor growth in her art-making.

CV

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EDUCATION

2024 BA Art Practice and BS Business Administration, University of California, Berkeley

2022 Summer Program, London School of Economics, London, UK

EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Spring 2024 Senior Thesis Exhibition*, Worth Ryder Art Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA (curated by Gazelle Samizay)

2023 *“Nice Knowing You” Fall 2023 Honors Exhibition*, Worth Ryder Art Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA (curated by Gazelle Samizay)

2023 *“Wear in the World” Outdoor Runway Exhibition*, ART 136 Advanced Sculpture: Radical Wearables class, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA (curated by Stephanie Syjuco)

2023 *Spring 2023 Art Practice Pop-Up*, Anthropology and Art Practice Building, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2023 *Fall 2023 Art Practice Pop-Up*, Anthropology and Art Practice Building, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2022 *Fall 2022 Art Practice Pop-Up*, Worth Ryder Art Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2021 *"Mothermold" Fall 2021 Sculpture Exhibition*, Worth Ryder Art Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

PUBLIC/SOCIAL PROJECTS

2023 *"You Should Call Your ____."* Public Telephone Booth Social Practice, Anthropology and Art Practice Building, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2023 *"Golden Ratio" Interactive Outdoor Sculpture @ Albany Bulb*, Albany CA

2023 *"Through the Looking Glass" Virtual Reality Interactive Exhibition*, Platform Artspace, Berkeley CA

PERFORMANCES

2023 *"Fruit of my Labor" 2-hour Performance*, The Project Lab, Berkeley CA

2023 *"Silk Sole"*, The Project Lab, Berkeley CA

2023 *"Commodi-she"*, Platform Artspace, Berkeley CA

FILM + VIDEO SCREENINGS

2022 *"Father and Son" Experimental Documentary*, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley CA

AWARDS AND HONORS

2023 *Honors Art Program Fall 2023 Cohort*, Art Practice Department, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS/TEACHING

2023 *Introduction to Adobe Illustrator*, student workshop session, Haas Business Student Association, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2023 *Haas Sip n' Paint Paint Along*, guest teacher, Haas Business Student Association, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

2023 *Drawing Foundations*, course instructor, Connect-In-Place Non-Profit

CREATIVE EMPLOYMENT

2023 *Design Consultant*, imagiCal Creative Strategy Agency, Berkeley CA chapter of the American Advertising Federation

2022 *Director of Design + Video Production*, Mariposa, Saas Start-Up, Napa CA

2021 *Graphic Designer*, Republic Brands, Chicago IL

2021 *Art & Design Department Head*, Associated Students of the University of California, Berkeley CA

2021 *Creative Media Head*, Business Careers in Entertainment, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley CA

CREATIVE COMMISSIONS

2023 *YDYCYM2D Fruit Sticker*, mixed-media painting, private commission

REVIEWS / PRESS

2023 Samizay, Gazelle, “*BabyMaybe’ and Honors Exhibition Open Wed. 10/25*”, exhibition announcement with event [flyer](#), Worth Ryder Art Gallery, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

2023 “*Nice Knowing You,’ Honors Exhibition*”, *The Art Practice Undergraduate Newsletter* (online), edition #98-101, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA