

# 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

- 2019 – cont. Associate Professor of Art, A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX  
2013 – 2019 Assistant Professor of Art, A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX  
2012 – 2013 Interim Photography Faculty, 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

- 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

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2020 *Fractured*, Photo-eye Gallery, Santa Fe, NM  
*Salina Biennial*, Salina Art Center, Salina, KS
- 2019 *Cimarron National Works on Paper*, Gardiner Gallery, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
- 2018 *Simulacrum II*, The Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands, Curated by Wim Melis of Noorderlicht Photography  
*Step Into This House*, Desai | Matta Gallery, CIIS, Curated by Deirdre Visser, San Francisco, CA  
*The Range of the US*, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, Curated by Liliana Bloch  
The Dallas Art Fair, Liliana Bloch Gallery Booth D8, Dallas, Texas
- 2017 *Making a Splash*, Tyler Museum of Art, Curated by Caleb Bell  
*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, juried by Brian Paul Clamp
- 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  
*2016 SNAP! Live Auction*, Bram & Bluma Appel Salon, Toronto Library, Toronto, Canada
- 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  
*SF Camerawork Auction*, SF Camerawork, San Francisco, CA

- Ain't Bad at Art Now*, Morris Museum of Art, Augusta, GA
- From the Faraway Nearby*, Tarleton State University Gallery, Stephenville, TX
- Uterior Motifs*, The Louise Hopkins Center for the Arts, Lubbock, TX
- In Addition Two: Embracing Digital Technology*, The Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- Summer School*, Liliana Bloch Gallery, Dallas, 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
- Aint-Bad Magazine Southeast Arts Presenters Summit*, Atlanta Contemporary Arts Center, Atlanta, Georgia
- Collector's Choice*, Sylvia White Gallery, Venture, CA
- Splash #2*, BIP 2014, 9<sup>th</sup> International Biennial of Photography and Visual Arts, Liege, Belgium
- 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, Curated by Valentina Isceri, Artist and Independent Curator
- Fresh 2011*, (online participant) Klompching Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, juried by Klompching Gallery and W.M.Hunt, Photography Curator and Collector
- 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*, Silvereye 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, Juried by Peter Frank, Art Critic
- 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, Juried by Janis Goodman, Professor of Fine Art Corcoran College of Art + Design
- 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, Juried by Jess Van Nostrand, Exhibitions Curator at Cornish College of the Arts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> *Coast National*, K Space Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX, Juried by Fairfax Dorn, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Ballroom Marfa
- Twisted Spurs*, K Space Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2008 *Small Matters of Great Importance 2008*, Edward Hopper House, Nyack, NY
- Bake Sale*, Blankspace Gallery, Oakland, CA
- All Media Exhibition*, Palos Verdes Art Center, Ranchos Palos Verdes, CA
- 2007 *Buy It While It's Cheap*, Blankspace Gallery, Oakland, CA
- Contemporary Forum*, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
- Carnaval Do Rio Art Auction*, ASU Art Museum, Tempe, AZ
- Eye Lounge Annual Member's Show 2007*, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, 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
- Utopia*, A Shenere Velt Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- Painted Desert*, North Mountain Visitor Center Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- Place*, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- Joyce Elaine Grant Juried Exhibition*, Juried by Blake Wilson, Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX
- Eye Lounge Annual Member's Show 2006*, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- 2005 *Artlink 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition*, City Hall, Phoenix, AZ, Juried by John Spiak, Curator of Art, Arizona State University Art Museum
- 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 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

Clarendon Hotel Collection, Phoenix, AZ

Private Collections

### **LECTURES AND PANELS**

- 2019 *Photography and Reality: Gallery Talk with Leigh Merrill highlighting the Laurie Simmons' exhibition*, The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
- 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
- 2007 Panelist for the Shemer Art Center, “Artists’ Cafe Series: Comments, Critique, Advice”, Phoenix, AZ
- 2001 Gallery Talk in conjunction with *bed* exhibition, John Sommers Gallery, Albuquerque, NM

### **PUBLICATIONS, PRESS, AND REVIEWS**

- 2020 *Art With the Flavors of Texas*, by Ray 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. Anson, 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 HONORS**

- 2019 *Unfettered Thought* Award, Texas A&M University-Commerce
- 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