

Ann Starr

Writer, Visual Artist

Columbus, Ohio

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As a pragmatist, I work from no single aesthetic theory. Because I became an artist when I became a parent, I bring to my drawing and writing something of the moral seriousness and sense of wonder that accompanied child-rearing. For that reason, my work integrates a more deeply inquiring approach to life with a deep appreciation for directness.

My academic degrees—a bachelor's and a master's in English literature—affect my writing more than my art. I have taken introductory-level drawing classes, but I have no instruction at all in painting, creative or journalistic writing. Don't look too hard for what might be considered predictable background influences.

My writing and my visual art are separate but complementary endeavors. My lectures and visual art often concern the same topics, usually because the visual imagery that has revealed what's on my mind and led me to define and articulate my thoughts about it through lectures. Most of my lectures are built around slides of my paintings and drawings.

Writing Honors, Selected Grants, and Awards

- Richard J. Margolis Award of the Blue Mountain Center*, Finalist, 2008.
- Ohio Excellence in Journalism, Second Place--Arts*, Cleveland Press Club, 2006.
- Ohio Society of Professional Journalists--Best Arts Profile*, 2006.
- Reynolds Associates Fellowship*, Historical Collections of the Lister Hill Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham Medical School, 2001.
- Resident Research Grant*, Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 1999.
- Professional Development Grant*, Massachusetts Cultural Council, 1998.
- Purchase Awards*, Gormley Gallery, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore; The Haggin Museum, Stockton, California.
- Artist's residencies*, The Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois. 1995, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2006, 2007, 2008.
- Artist's residencies*, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Amherst, Virginia. 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2008.

Publications

- Freelance visual arts columnist and critic for *The Other Paper* (weekly), Columbus, Ohio, 2003-2007, 2009-.
- "Moving Away from the Center of Jazz," Interview with Thomas Wirtel (a.k.a. Thomas Shabda Noor)*, New Music Box, on-line magazine, (<http://www.newmusicbox.org/>), forthcoming, July, 2010.

- Morgan Powell's Note on Creative Process: "The reality of maborosi,"** New Music Box, on-line magazine, (<http://www.newmusicbox.org/article.nmbx?id=6148>). October 7, 2009.
- Interview with Morgan Powell,** Perfect Sound Forever on-line magazine (<http://www.furious.com/perfect/>). August, 2009.
- Dancing with the Ramblers,** The Tone Road Ramblers, Einstein Records, New York, 2008. Liner notes to music by Morgan Powell, John Fonville, and Eric Mandat.
- "A Challenge to the Profession: Dr. House,"** *Atrium*. Fall, 2007
- "Looking in the Mirror: Images of Abnormally Developed Infants,"** *Journal of Medical Humanities* Fall, 2005. (Features my drawings; solicited article.)
- "Scenes from the Psychiatric Hospital,"** in *Women, Health and Nation: the U.S. and Canada in the Post-War Years*. Ed. Georgina Feldberg et al., McGill-Queens University Press, 2003. (Provided cover art as well.)
- "Choosing My Own Doctor,"** *Yale Journal for Humanities in Medicine*. (<http://yjhm.yale.edu/essays/astarr.htm>) Ed. Howard Spiro. October, 2001. (Solicited article)
- "leopardpeople/burning child,"** introductory essay in Nils D. Dicz, *Leopardpeople: eine Installation in der Camp Gallery, Mt. San Angelo, Virginia, USA*. Berlin, Lukas Verlag, 2000.
- "A Visual Artist and the Medical Museum,"** *The Prescription: Newsletter of the Medical Museums Association*. August, 2000.
- "Speaking Women's Bodies: A Conversation,"** *Literature and Medicine*, 17, no. 2, fall 1998. Co-authored with Susan Squier.
- Freelance writer for **Columbus Monthly** (Ohio) magazine, 2003-2007.
Specialized in profiles of visual artists, including multi-media artist Aminah Robinson (McArthur Award winner), photographer Kojo Kamau, and sculptor Michael Mercil.

Selected Lectures

- The Very Pictures of Health: Self-Portraits During Mental Illness.** Bucknell University, 2006.
- Cannibal Appetites.** Central New York Conference on Literature and Language, State University of New York at Cortland, 2004.
- Reflections of a Mad Artist.** D'Arcy Art Museum of the Loyola University of Chicago, and Hektoen Institute for Medical Research, 2004.
- How to Look at a Monster: Observational Drawing in the Historical Context of the Monstrous Birth.** Cambridge University; University of East Anglia; University College London; University of Bradford; College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 2002.
- Love in a Small Place: Straight Girl and Gay Boy in and out of the Closet.** Kenyon College, 2002.
- Medicine's Clinical Representations of Abnormal Human Bodies.** Society for Literature and Science, Buffalo, 2001.
- Doctors and Patients in Visual Relation.** Yale University School of Medicine, 2001.
- Medical Normality or Social Normality? Images of Human Infants and Fetuses with Visible Physical Abnormalities.** Magdalene College, Cambridge, 2001.

The Body Inside Me. Barnard College, 2001.

The Artist, Her Doctor, and Relational Portraits. Conference of the British Society for the History of Science organized by Ludmilla Jordanova at the National Portrait Gallery, London, 2000.

Imagining Bodies. Northwestern University Medical School, 2000.

Uterine Fantasies: Whither the Womb? University of Texas at Arlington, 2000.

Artists and Mental Illness: Going Away to the Hospital, Going Away to the Artists' Colony. James Campbell Distinguished Lecture, Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago; Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, 2000.

"I Tell You No Lies: Narration from Bipolar Illness." Davis Lecture in Medical Ethics. University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine; 7th International Congress on the History of Medicine, Galveston, Texas; Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Post-Doctoral Program, Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago, 2000.

Drawings of Reality: Pictorial Narrative of In-Patient Stays at a Psychiatric Hospital. York University, Canada; Society for Disability Studies, Washington, D.C.; Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute, 1999.

Book Artists' Round Table, organized by the Center for Book Arts, New York, at Connecticut College, 1999.

Ex Utero, Society on Literature and Science, Gainesville, Florida, 1999.

The Body: Sensation, Fantasy, and Medical Knowledge, Northwestern University Medical School, 1999.

Under My Skin: Curriculum Vitae, Story, and the Book, Pennsylvania State University, 1997.

Solo and Two-Person Shows

- 2005** **Anatomically Correct Woman**. Ann Starr and Linda Kramer. Corbett vs. Dempsey Modern Art, Chicago.
- 2003** **Normal/Abnormal: Bodies and Minds**. Solo show, and juror for concurrent group show. Woman Made Gallery, Chicago.
- 1999** **Home Construction**. Boston Architectural Center.
- 1998** **Inside In**. University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester.
Solo Show. Finish Limited, Boston.
- 1993** **Cradle and Grave**. Lillian Immig Gallery, Emmanuel College, Boston.
Curated by Kathleen Soles.
- 1991** **Suburban Bliss**. The Coffee Connection, Brookline and Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Selected Group Shows

- 2008** **Secrets and Lies**. 23 Sandy Gallery, Portland, Oregon.
Aftermath. Target Gallery, Alexandria, Virginia. Juried by Laurel Reuter.
- 2007** **15th Anniversary Exhibition**. Woman Made Gallery, Chicago.
- 2006** **Ohio Art League Annual Fall Juried Exhibition**. Columbus, Ohio.
Juried by Melissa Meyer.
Full Frontal: The Dirty, Lewd, Erotic Show. Corbett vs. Dempsey Modern Art, Chicago.

- 29th Small Works Show.** 80 Washington Square East Gallery, New York.
Juried by Jack Shainman.
- 2001** **The Book as Art.** Organization of Independent Artists, New York.
Book as Art XIV, Temptation. National Museum of Women in the Arts,
Washington. Juried by Krystyna Wasserman.
Drawing II International Juried Art Exhibition. Period Gallery,
Omaha.
- 2000** **Vital Signs: Drawing as Inquiry.** Creative Arts Workshop, New Haven.
Juried by Robert Reed.
23rd Annual Art on Paper Exhibition. Maryland Federation of Art,
Annapolis. Juried by Phyllis Rosenzweig.
2000 Bowery Gallery National Competition. Bowery Gallery, New
York City. Juried by Joan Snyder.
Drawing 2000 International Juried Exhibition. Period Gallery, Omaha.
Book Explorations 2000. The New Art Forum, Kingston, Massachusetts.
Third Annual International Juried Show. WomanMade Gallery,
Chicago. Juried by Mary Ross Taylor.
- 1999** **Eleventh National Drawing and Print Competitive Exhibition.**
Gormley Gallery, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore.
Juried by Jan Howard. *Purchase Award.*
All Media, Materials, Mixes, National Juried Exhibition. MUSE
Gallery, Philadelphia. Juried by Rick Snyderman.
Combined Talents: Florida National 1999. Museum of Fine Arts,
Florida State University, Tallahassee.
8th Annual National Juried Exhibition. Art Center of Northern New
Jersey, New Milford.
Merged Realities (Art and Science). Central Arts Collective, Tucson.
Juried by Joel Korten and Elizabeth King.
- 1998** **Annual Artist Member Exhibition.** Center for Book Arts, New York.
Juried by Virginia Bartow, Steve Clay, and Deirdre Lawrence.
Out of the Center: Artists' Books from the Center for Book Arts.
Charles E. Shain Library and Art Department, Connecticut
College, New London.
**12th Annual Women in the Visual Arts 1998 International
Competition.** Erector Square Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut. Juried by
Andrea Miller-Keller.
Book as Art XI. National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington.
Juried by Krystyna Wasserman.
International Juried Show. New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, Summit,
New Jersey. Juried by Nan Rosenthal.
- 1997** **No England, No Amsterdam II.** Real Art Ways, Hartford. Juried by
Kenny Schachter.
The Brain and Self. Copenhagen and Elsinore, Denmark.
Book as Art: Tenth Anniversary Exhibition. National Museum of
Women in the Arts, Washington. Juried by Krystyna Wasserman.

Early

Book as Art. National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington.
Juried by Krystyna Wasserman, 1996.

1996 Stockton National Drawing and Print Exhibition. The Haggin Museum, Stockton, California. Juried by Janet Bishop. *Purchase Award.*

A Woman's Place: Icons to Domesticity. Provincetown Art Association and Museum, Massachusetts, 1992.

New American Talent, 1989. Laguna Gloria Art Museum, Austin. Juried by John Caldwell.

Collections

- College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore.
- Haggin Museum, Stockton, California.
- Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago.
- Walla Walla (Washington) Inns.
- Wellesley College Club, Wellesley, Massachusetts.
- Wesleyan University Special Collections, Middletown, Connecticut.
- Private collections, including Janet Bean, Jane and Jim Beaver, Jill Breckenridge, Matts Gustafsson, Ludmilla Jordanova, Lou Mallozzi and Sandra Binion, Leah Oates, Louise Farmer Smith, Kathleen Soles.

Education

Forensic Anthropology seminar, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology and National Museum of Health and Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland.

Life Drawing with Timothy Hawkesworth, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1988.

M.A., English, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1975.

A.B., *magna cum laude*, with Distinction in English, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, 1973.