

JEFFREY CHELF

PERSONAL PROFILE

I am a curious and inquisitive artist and maker, interested in human centered solutions for uniquely contemporary problems.

With a decade of collaborative problem solving, my work has shifted to conceptualizing tangible solutions for community change.

ACHIEVEMENTS

International Demonstrator,
Published Magazine
Contributor, Nationally
Exhibiting Artist, Recognized
Fellow, Invited Collaborator

GET IN TOUCH

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

University of Wisconsin | Madison, WI

MFA Candidate (2019-May 2021)

Relevant coursework incl. Design Thinking, Sustainability, Visual Culture

Regenerative Design Institute | Bolinas, CA

Permaculture Design Certification (2013)

Michigan State University | East Lansing, MI

BA Anthropology (2007-2010)

EMPLOYMENT

Instructor | University of Wisconsin | 2020-present

Shop Manager | University of Wisconsin | 2019-2020

Owner & Educator | Jeff Chelf Woodworking | 2014-2019

Blacksmith Apprentice | Conrad Hicks South Africa | 2014

Boat Builder | Bent Wood Boat Building | 2015-2017

Educator & Boat Builder | Independence Seaport Museum | 2012-2013

Preservationist | Preservation Detroit | 2011-2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Personal Placemaking | Art + Lit Lab | Mar 2021

Instructor (Introduction to Art) | University of Wisconsin - Madison | 2020-present

Instructor (Foundations of Woodturning) | John C. Campbell Folk School | Nov 2017, Jan 2017, Jan 2018

Instructor (Multi-axis Turning) | John C. Campbell Folk School | Mar 2016

Instructor (Sticks & Stools Woodturning Basics & More) | John C. Campbell Folk School | Dec 2015

Instructor | Philadelphia Independence Seaport Museum | 2012-2013

EXHIBITIONS

- Winter Is Alive | Madison, WI | Feb 2021
- Cat State | University of Wisconsin – Madison | Oct 2020
- Ossuary | Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Milwaukee, WI | Jan 2020
- New Kids on the Block | University of Wisconsin – Madison | Dec 2019
- Open Relationship | University of Wisconsin – Madison | Nov 2019
- Shared Visions | Colorado Gallery of the Arts, Littleton, CO | Nov 2019
- On the Same Level | University of Wisconsin – Madison, Gallery 7 | Oct 2019
- Awesome Foundation Year-in-Review | Visual Art Exchange, Raleigh, NC | Apr 2019
- Echo Lake Artist Collaboration | Bucks County, PA | 2016, 2017, 2018
- Making Matters | Lawton, NJ | (Jun-Aug 2018)
- Art of the Scientist | Durham, NC | Jun-Aug 2018
- Contemporary South | Raleigh, NC | Mar-Apr 2018
- Durham Artist Guild 63rd Annual Juried Exhibition | Durham, NC | Aug-Oct 2017
- Horace Williams House Woodturning Exhibition | Chapel Hill, NC | May 2017
- Greenhill Winter Show | Greensboro, NC | Dec 2016
- Works in Wood | New Hope, PA | Nov-Dec 2016
- Raleigh Fine Arts Society Exhibition | Raleigh, NC | Mar 2015, Mar 2016
- Toe River Juried Arts Show | Spruce Pine, NC | Oct 2015

PERFORMANCES

- Dispute the Watershed | Madison, WI | Feb 2021 – In collaboration with Derek Kiesling & The Clean Lakes Alliance
- Neighborhood Center | Madison, WI | Nov 2020 – In collaboration with Ali Deane
- To Bring Water to Land | Madison, WI | Oct 2020 – In collaboration with Derek Kiesling
- Field Day | Cross Plains, WI | Aug 2020 – In collaboration with Derek Kiesling
- To Cut a Lake in Half | Dane County, WI | Feb 2020 – In collaboration with Derek Kiesling
- Blind Reproduction | Art Lofts Gallery, Madison, WI | Dec 2019
- Draw 4 | Art Lofts Gallery, Madison, WI | Nov 2019
- Duologue | Art Lofts Gallery, Madison, WI | Oct 2019 – In collaboration with Elizabeth Sheeler
- Potluck | Art Lofts Gallery, Madison, WI | Oct 2019 – In collaboration with Elizabeth Sheeler
- Eye Contact | Multiple Locations | 2019
- Rain Bike | Multiple Locations | 2019

DEMONSTRATIONS/TALKS

- "Performance as Product Design" Guest Speaker | Parsons School of Design, NY | Nov 2020
- American Association of Woodturners 32nd Annual National Symposium | Portland, OR | Jun 2018
- Carolina Mountain Woodturners | Asheville, NC | Jul 2017
- Capital Area Woodturners | Alexandria, VA | Apr 2017
- Montgomery Country Woodturners | Rockville, MD | Apr 2017
- Southern Piedmont Woodturners | Concord, NC | Oct 2016
- Sandhills Woodturners Guild | Southern Pines, NC | May 2016
- Piedmont Triad Woodturners | Greensboro, NC | Apr 2016
- Ignite Detroit | Detroit, MI | 2011

PUBLICATIONS

- Marissa Fessenden, "Scientific Images Make Dazzling Art in A Duke University Exhibit" | *Smithsonian Magazine* | Jul 2018

Authored Publications:

- "Noise in The Workshop: An Unseen Safety Hazard" | *American Woodturner* | Oct 2018
- "No Two Stems Alike: An Organic Collaboration" | *American Woodturner* | Dec 2017

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Anderson Ranch Arts Center, General Scholarship | Jul 2019
- Awesome Foundation Grant | Jan 2019
- Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Friends of Arrowmont Scholarship | Oct 2018
- CERF+, Get Ready Grant | Dec 2017
- Knoll Farm Better Selves Fellowship, Fayston, VT | 2017
- Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Art Auction Fund Scholarship | Sep 2017
- Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Steven E. & Carolyn J. Gottlieb Woodcraft Scholarship | Aug 2016
- Woodsprite Scholarship, John C. Campbell Folk School | Sep 2015