

michelle samour

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TEACHING

Professor of the Practice Emerita, SMFA at Tufts University (2022)
Professor of the Practice, School of the Museum of Fine Arts (SMFA) at Tufts University (2016-2021)
Faculty, School of the Museum of Fine Arts (SMFA), *Print and Paper Area* (1985-2015)
Master Papermaker

EDUCATION

1981 Diploma, The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
1975 BFA, Tufts University, Medford, MA

GRANTS & AWARDS

2018 Daynard Faculty Travel Grant to research the sustainability practices of French paper mills
2014 Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship in Drawing
2010 SMFA Faculty Enrichment Grant
Received funding toward a Visual Artist Residency at the Banff Centre, Canada
2008 Excellence in Teaching Award, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
2007 Massachusetts Cultural Council Finalist, Crafts
2004 SAC (Society of Arts and Crafts) New England Artist Award
2003 Cushman Family Fund, SMFA Faculty Enrichment Grant
Travel and research, historic papermaking mills and museums, France
2003 Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship in Crafts
2001 Massachusetts Cultural Council Finalist, Crafts
2000 Massachusetts Cultural Council Finalist, Works on Paper
1999 Massachusetts Cultural Council Finalist, Crafts
1999 Cushman Family Fund, SMFA Faculty Enrichment Grant
Travel and research, historic papermaking villages, Japan
1997 Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant, Visiting Artist, Acton Public Schools
1992 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, SMFA Faculty Enrichment Grant
1988 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, SMFA Faculty Enrichment Grant
1983 Boston / Strasbourg Sister City Grant

RESIDENCIES

- 2018** Scholar-in-Residence, Tufts University European Center, Talloires, France
- 2017** Open Studio Residency, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Island, ME
- 2014** Visiting Artist Residency, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
Worked with BFA seniors at the U. of Johannesburg to teach sculptural papermaking, resulting in a public installation at the University. Co-taught a print & paper course/cultural exchange with SMFA, U. of Johannesburg and Artist Proof students and faculty
- 2012** Visiting Artist Residency, P.R.I.N.T. Press, University of North Texas, Denton, TX
Invited to work with Master Printmaker, Erika Adams, on an edition of lithographs. Lectured on my work and gave critiques to students
- 2010** Visual Artist Residency, Banff Centre, Canada

PRESENTATIONS

- 2022** Invited Panelist, *Material Drawing Redux: Drawn to Touch*
Panel conversation with artists Debra Weisberg, Julia Shepley and Audrey Goldstein, addressing the innovative and varying breadth of approaches in contemporary drawing. Moderated by Katherine French, former Director of Catamount Arts, VT
- Invited Panelist, *Drawing to Touch: Expanded Drawing Practices*
Panel conversation with artists Debra Weisberg, Julia Shepley and Audrey Goldstein, addressing the innovative and varying breadth of approaches in contemporary drawing. Moderated by Deborah Disston, Director of the McIninch Art Gallery, SNU
- 2021** Invited Panelist, *Mapping Borders and Boundaries*
Presentation of work from my exhibition *Mapping Borders and Boundaries*, at the Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA, in conversation with Nisa Ari, PhD, Lecturer, Art History, Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts University of Houston; Jessica Gerschultz, PhD, Associate Professor & Director of Graduate Studies Department of African and African-American Studies, University of Kansas and Diana Abouali, PhD, Director of the Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, MI. The speakers explored the relationship between Palestinian and Middle Eastern craft and modern and contemporary art from that region and the Arab Diaspora
- 2020** Invited Panelist, *Women in Art and Science: The Criticality of Hope*, sponsored by Catalyst Conversations in partnership with the Broad Institute and Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Conversation inspired by Bina Venkataraman's recent book, *The Optimist's Telescope; Thinking Ahead in a Reckless Age*.
Panelists: Bina Venkataraman, Cigall Kadoch, Michelle Samour, Maggie Stark

- 2020** Invited Panelist and Moderator, *Tied to Nature*, North American Hand Papermakers Conference. Presentation of the interdisciplinary work in paper of Michelle Samour, Lynn Sures, May Babcock & Megan Singleton
- 2017** Presenter, *Pulparazzi: On the Road*, Southern Graphics Conference, Atlanta, GA, SCAD
Four members of the pulp painting/papermaking collective, Pulparazzi, discuss the collective's varied work influenced by locations around the globe
- 2016** Guest Lecturer, *Debbie McMahon Fiber Arts Symposium*, Southwest School of Art, San Antonio. Presentation of my work in relationship to fiber and 'the thread'
- 2015** Presenter/Author, *Too Much is Never Enough: Collection and Consumption in the Victorian and Digital Ages*, SECAC (Southeastern College Art Conference), Pittsburg, PA
- 2017** Presenter/Panel Chair, *Leading the Paper Chase: Contemporary Artists featured by Hand Papermaking, Inc.*, Dard Hunter Conference, Atlanta, GA
- 2011** Presenter, SGC International Conference, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Presented my work and the work of SMFA students, gave demonstrations of my work with paper pulp
- 2010** Participating Artist, The 2010 Pulp Painting Symposium, Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX
Eleven artists from around the country invited to work and share ideas and processes about their work with pulp painting

SELECT ONE AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2021** *Michelle Samour: Mapping Borders and Boundaries*, Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA
- 2020** *Worlds of Marvel*, The Broad Institute, MIT, Cambridge, MA
- 2015** *NatureTech*, Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA
- 2015** *It's Biological*, Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- 2013** *Drawn and Mirrored*, New Bedford Art Museum, New Bedford, MA
- 2011** *Truth and Transience*, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston, TX
- 2010** *Wired Eyes*, The McIninch Art Gallery, Southern New Hampshire University, NH
- 2003** *Michelle Samour*, Concord Art, Concord, MA
- 1983** *Michelle Samour*, Museum of Modern Art, Strasbourg, FR
- 1982** *Out of The Woods*, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

SELECT MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

- 2023** *Papertown*, Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA
- 2000** *Metamorphosis*, John Michael Kohler Art Center, Sheboygan, WI
- 2015** *(in)Organic*, Racine Art Museum, Racine WI
- 2009** *Material Drawing*, Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
- 2008** *Society of Arts and Crafts: NE Artists Award Winners*, Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA
- 1999** *deCordova Annual*, deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA
- 1982** *Making Paper: Papermaking USA*, American Craft Museum, NYC, NY
- 1999** *The deCordova: Six Decades*, deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023** *Denature*, Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA
- 2022** *Material Drawing Redux: Drawn to Touch*, Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury, VT
- 2022** *Material Drawing Redux*, Piano Craft Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2021** *Poetic Botany*, Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- 2020** *Art on Science/26 Etudes*, Librairie Kleber, Strasbourg, FR
- 2020** *Materiality*, juried online exhibition, North American Hand Papermakers
- 2020** *Currents*, North American Hand Papermakers members exhibition
- 2019** *Organic Complications*, Trident Gallery, Gloucester, MA
- 2019** *Pulp and Process*, Society of Arts and Crafts, Boston, MA
- 2019** *Pulparazzi: Painting with Pulp*, Jamestown Art Center, Jamestown, RI
- 2018-2019** *Art on Science*, juried collaborative project with scientists and artists from Boston and Strasbourg, France, French Cultural Center, Boston, MA
- 2018** *Violence Transformed*, Aidekman Art Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA
- 2018** *Pushing Paper*, Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY, Juror's Award, Paul Wong, juror
- 2016** *Full Circle*, Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX
- 2016** *Methodologies*, Madelon Powers Gallery, East Stroudsburg University, PA
- 2016** *Negative Space in Handmade Paper: Picturing the Void*, Robert C. Williams Museum of Hand Papermaking, Atlanta, GA
- 2016** *Inspired by Paper – 30 years of IAPMA*, traveling to Germany, Bulgaria, Austria, France & Poland
- 2015** *Cut.Paper.Fold*, ConcordArt, Concord, MA
- 2014** *Paper-Made*, Jamestown Art Center, Jamestown, RI
- 2014** *Fabriano 1264*, Italian Embassy, Washington D.C.
- 2014** *Contemporary Watermarks*, Museum of Paper and Watermarks, Fabriano, Italy
- 2013** *Amateras*, International Paper Art Exhibition, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2012** *The Par Avion Project*, Conrath Gallery, Strasbourg, FR
- 2012** *The Par Avion Project*, French Cultural Center, Boston, MA
- 2012** *Forms in Flux*, Grossman Gallery, SMFA, Boston, MA
- 2012** *Soft Science*, Illes Gallery, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA
- 2010** *Boston/Strasbourg Sister City Exhibition*, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA
- 2009** *A Fresh Look: Meredyth Hyatt Moses Selects*, Gallery Naga, Boston, MA
- 2008** *Networking the Void*, Meditech, Canton, MA
- 2007** *20th Drawing Show*, Mills Gallery, Boston, MA. Juried by Magdalena Campos-Pons
- 2007** *Material Drawing*, GASP, Brookline, MA
- 2007** *Primarily Paper: An International Invitational*, Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, MD
- 2006** *Craftforms*, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
- 2006** *Friends of Dard Hunter*, Canal Warehouse, Chillicothe, OH
- 2006** *New Art 06*, Kingston Gallery, Boston, MA. Curated by Susan Greenberg, Yale U. Art Gallery
- 2005** *The Boston Printmakers 2005 Print Biennial*, Boston University 808 Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2005** *8th National Prize Show*, Cambridge Art Association. Curated by Joseph Thomas, MassMOCA
- 2005** *Translucence: Forms in Paper*, Brookfield Craft Center, Connecticut
- 2004** *SAC Artist Awards*, Society of Arts and Crafts, Boston, MA
- 2003** *The Art of Drawing*, Concord Art, Concord, MA

- 2002** *New Art 02, Kingston Gallery, Boston, MA. Best in Show*
2001 *Mass. Cultural Council Grant Recipients & Finalists, SAC, Worcester Center for Crafts*
2000 *International Women's Art, SOHO20 Gallery, New York City, NY*
2000 *New Art Y2K, Kingston Gallery, Boston, MA. Curated by Susan Stoops*

ADDITIONAL EXHIBITIONS

Surface: New Form/New Function, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts; Dix Artistes Americains, La Laiterie, Strasbourg, FR; Women and Paper, Clark University, Worcester, MA; Nancy Graves Chooses Works on Paper, Artspace, CT; Handmade Paper, Liberty Gallery, Louisville, KY; Handmade Paper, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA; Architectonic Art, Boston Architectural Center, Boston, MA; Art For Your Collection, RISD Museum of Art, Providence, RI; Art As Architecture, Thomas Segal Gallery, Boston, MA

SELECT COLLECTIONS

deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
Liberty Mutual Headquarters, Plano, Texas
Boston Partners
Acadian Asset Management, Boston, MA
Meditech Corporation, Westwood, MA
International Paper Company, NYC
Prudential Insurance Company, Boston MA
Bank of New England, MA
Fidelity Management Company
Banff Centre, Canada
Arizona State University Library
University of Alberta Library, Canada
RISD Library, RI
Florida Atlantic University Libraries, Florida
University of Michigan Library
University of Iowa Library
Michigan State University Library
Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking, Atlanta GA
Ohio University Library, Athens OH
Columbia College, Chicago IL
Lafayette College, PA
University of the Arts, PA
Metropolitan Museum of Art, Watson Library, NYC
Southern NH University

COMMISSIONS

Boston Partners
International Paper Company Headquarters, NY
Bank of New England New Bedford, MA
Private Site-Specific Sculpture Ipswich MA

SELECT VISITING ARTIST/GALLERY TALKS

- 2023** Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA
- 2023** Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA
- 2019** Society of Arts + Crafts, Boston, MA
- 2017** Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX
- 2015** Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- 2015** Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA
- 2014** Montserrat College of Art, Beverly, MA
- 2014** University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2013** New Bedford Art Museum, New Bedford, MA
- 2012** Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
- 2012** University of North Texas, Denton, TX
- 2011** UMass Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA
- 2011** Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- 2011** Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, TX
- 2010** American School of Paris, FR
- 2010** Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH
- 2009** Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
- 2008** Meditech Corporation, Canton, MA
- 2007** GASP Gallery, Brookline, MA
- 2007** Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Silver Spring, MD
- 2000** Kohler Art Center, Sheboygan, WI
- 1999** deCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA

SELECT PRESS / PUBLICATIONS

Sculpture magazine, “Debra Weisberg & Material Drawing Redux,” B. Amore March 22, 2022

Critic’s Pick by Cate McQuaid, *Boston Globe* March 4, 2022, “Holding the Center Still by Debra Weisberg and Material Drawing at the Piano Factory”

WBUR the ARTery “Artist Michelle Samour Transcends Borders and Boundaries” by Pamela Reynolds March 01, 2020

Author, “Performative Paper,” *Hand Papermaking*, vol. 35, no. 1 (Summer 2020): 37–40

“Pulparazzi: Painting with Paper” by May Babcock, *Hand Papermaking*, Winter 2019

Massachusetts Cultural Council, Artsake, Artist’s Voice: Michelle Samour, May 7, 2017
<http://artsake.massculturalcouncil.org/blog/artsake/index.php/2017/05/05/artists-voice-michelle-samour/>

INQUIRY – Michelle Samour: Artist

Program: Inquiry

Host: Mark Lynch

Station: WICN Public Radio

Date: May 13, 2015 – 2:30pm

Description: Tonight on Inquiry we speak with artist Michelle Samour, whose work was recently on exhibit at the Fitchburg Art Museum. Her work is about the aesthetics of the natural world and our obsession with classification and collecting. Eyes and viruses are just a few of the inspirations for her work, which is made with pigmented abaca fiber among other materials. Tune in for a fascinating talk with a very unique artist.

Link: www.wicn.org

Artscope, November/December 2015

“Cut.Paper.Fold” by James Foritano

Boston Globe, Oct. 13, 2015

“Weather, Worship, and Whimsy” by Cate McQuaid

Author, *Hand Papermaking*, “Preserving the Story of Paper: A Conversation with the Koretsky’s”
Summer 2014

Surface Design magazine, Spring 2013, “First Person”

THE FRONT ROW:

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Program: The Front Row

Station: KUHF News 88.7 / Houston Public Media

Date: April 19, 2011 – 8:00pm

Description: Visual artist, Michelle Samour, guides us through her installation, Truth and Transience, at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Using handmade paper, paint and light boxes, Ms. Samour creates an environment that is part science and part imagination, and which allows us to explore the microscopic biological world of viruses-beautiful in their infinite variety of colors and patterns but also potentially deadly...

Link: www.houstonpublicmedia.org

Hand Papermaking Magazine, “2010 Pulp Painting Symposium in San Antonio”, Vol. 25, No.2,
Winter 2010

Lynn Sures, Beck Whitehead

The Boston Sunday Globe, April 12, 2009

“Drawn to go beyond pen and paper,” by Cate McQuaid

ARTnews Magazine, May 2009

Reviews: National, "A Fresh Look: Gallery NAGA Boston," by Joanne Silver

Hand Papermaking Magazine, Winter 2007

“Pulp Function,” reviewed by Michelle Samour

The Boston Globe, November 28, 2003

“The visceral power of textures is the fiber of their work,” by Cate McQuaid

The Concord Journal, October 23, 2003

"Fiber Art exhibit opens at Art Association," Michelle Samour, Page 3

Fiberarts Magazine, September/October 2002
Vol. 29, No.2 Cover, Featured Artist
"The Largest Reaches of Life," by Micah Pulleyn

Beat Magazine, May 2002
Cover, Featured Artist
"Pulp Fiction," by Beth Surdut

The Boston Globe, July 12, 2002
"Group show at Kingston has range, substance," by Cate McQuaid

The Boston Herald, January 19, 2001
"Grace is in the details at craft exhibit," by Joanne Silver

Hand Papermaking Magazine, Summer 2001
Vol. 16 No. 1 Anniversary Issue, Selected Artist

The Beacon, July 26, 2001
"Papermaking as an art form leads to grant for local artist," by Michael Wyner

Hand Papermaking Magazine, Summer 2000
Cover, Featured Artist
"Wondering Outloud," by Michelle Samour

The deCordova Annual 1999 Catalogue, Nick Capasso

The Boston Globe, 1999
"Art in cycles at the deCordova Annual," by Christine Temin

AFFILIATIONS

National Collegiate Hand Papermaking Triennial, facilitator, 2016, 2019

Hand Papermaking, Inc. Board member (2011-2017) - Hand Papermaking, Inc.'s print and online publications chronicle the finest work in the field, while advancing the scholarship and production of handmade paper and paper art.

IAPMA (International Association of Hand Papermakers and Paper Artists)

NAHP (North American Hand Papermakers), an organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of hand papermaking and book arts.