

Maria Gaspar

EDUCATION

- 2009 MFA Studio Arts, University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Art & Design
2002 BFA Painting with a Minor in Art Education K-12th grade, Pratt Institute School of Art & Design

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Chamberlain Award, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
Headlands Center for the Arts, Artist-in-Residence, Social Practice, Sausalito, CA
SAIC Nichols Tower Artist in Residency, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
Ox-Bow Visiting Artist, Ox-Bow School of Art, Saugatuck, MI
- 2016 Robert Rauschenberg Artist as Activist Fellowship, New York, NY
SAIC Faculty Enrichment Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2015 Joan Mitchell Foundation Emerging Artist Grant, New York, NY
Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant, New York, NY
Creative Capital Award, New York, NY
Experimental Sound Studio Artist Residency Award
Chicagoan of the Year in the Visual Arts, The Chicago Tribune
Artist as Activist, Sor Juana Woman of Achievement Award, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
2:2:2 Exchange at Project Row Houses, Resident Artist, Project Row Houses with the Hyde Park Art Center, Houston, TX
- 2014 Maker Grant Artist Award, Chicago Artist Coalition and Other Peoples Pixels, Chicago, IL
Propeller Award, Recipient of project award with collective, Multiuso, Threewalls Gallery and Gallery 400, Chicago, IL
- 2013 VOCALO Community Partnership, Project Recipient for one-year development and production partnership for audio interviews project at the Cook County Jail as part of the 96 Acres Project, Chicago, IL
National Endowment for the Arts – ArtWorks, Project Recipient for 96 Acres Project with support from Enlace Chicago and the Chicago Public Art Group, Washington, D.C.
Chicago Community Trust Grant, Project Recipient for 96 Acres Project with support from Enlace and the Chicago Public Art Group, Chicago, IL
Joyce Award, Finalist for Joyce Award in collaboration with Enlace Chicago for sound installations on 26th street in Little Village regarding The Cook County Jail, The Joyce Foundation, Chicago, IL
VOCALO, Recipient of storytelling radio workshop residency at WBEZ station, Chicago Public Radio, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, funding of artist book of flash fictions, Chicago, IL
- 2011 3ARTS Foundation, Nominee for Teaching Artist Award, Chicago, IL
- 2010 Art Matters Award, Nominee, New York City, NY
National Endowment for the Arts – Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth Grant, Project Recipient with support from the Chicago Public Art Group and Enlace Chicago for City As Site project, Washington, DC
Illinois Art Council Individual Artist Support Initiative Artist Project Grant, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Union League Civic and Arts Foundation Award, Recipient, Chicago, IL
La Pocha Nostra's International Performance Intensive Workshop Residency with Guillermo Gómez-Peña, MOCA Tucson, AZ
- 2008 Abraham Lincoln Fellowship Award, University of Illinois at Chicago, IL
- 2007 Sor Juana Festival Young Visionary Award, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Abraham Lincoln Fellowship Award, Recipient, University of Illinois at Chicago, IL
- 2006 Ragdale Foundation Artist Residency & Friendship Award, The Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL
- 2004 Richard H. Driehaus, Nominee, Individual Artist Award, Chicago, IL

LEADERSHIP

2012-2017 *96 Acres Project*, Founder / Lead artist in public art projects that engage the Cook County Jail and neighboring residents, Chicago, IL

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Brown Brilliance Darkness Matter*, National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
On The Border of What Is Formless and Monstrous, Experimental Sound Studio, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *All That Also Means To See*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *Oblation for A Parade*, UBS 12 x 12 New Artists/New Work, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 (Title Forthcoming), James W. & Lois I. Richmond Center for Visual Arts, Kalamazoo, MI
- 2016 *For Freedoms*, Curated by Hank Willis Thomas and Eric Gottesman, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
EXPO Chicago, Curated by Monique Meloche, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Incarceration Nation, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
Arresting Patterns: Perspectives on Race, Criminal Justice, Artistic Expression, and Community, African American Museum, Philadelphia, PA
Present Standard, Curated by Edra Soto and Josue Pellot, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *First Elmhurst Art Museum Biennial*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
Arresting Patterns: Perspectives on Race, Criminal Justice, Artistic Expression, and Community, Artspace, New Haven, CT
Into Body Into Wall, Jane Addams Hull House Museum, Chicago, IL
Spectra, UNO St. Claude, New Orleans, LA
After Today, Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
Minimale2, Leiter Alpineum Produzentengalerie, Lucerne, Switzerland
Material Normal Monumental, Riverside Arts Center, Riverside, IL
- 2014 *Public Secrets* (by Marinella Senatore), Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen, Switzerland
- 2013 *Pulso*, Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids, MI
El Normal Monumental, Garcia Squared Contemporary, Kansas City, MO
10 x 10 Exhibition and Silent Auction, Threewalls Gallery, Chicago, IL
Gaspar / Hall, The Franklin, Chicago, IL
- 2012 *Home: Public or Private*, 6018NORTH, Chicago, IL
WE: Out There, Reykjavik, Iceland
Living by Example (by Edra Soto and Dan Sullivan), Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Unfinished Business: Arts Education*, Jane Addams Hull House Museum, Chicago, IL
Territories, Marwen Foundation, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *Ground Floor*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
National, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
After Adelita: Myths, Heroes and Revolutionaries, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL
Maria Gaspar / Helene Maureen Cooper: New Work, Dominican University, River Forest, IL
- 2009 *Gained in Translation*, Eel Space, Chicago, IL
These Are Yours, Too, Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2008 *The Invisible Hand*, The Durand Art Institute, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL
Collection, Collection, Mess Hall, Chicago, IL

PERFORMANCES

- 2014 *Cook County Jail: The Visible and Invisible Archives*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2012 *Sightings*, Samband Íslenskra Myndlistarmanna (SÍM), Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2009 *Burying Brown* (Solo), South Side Community Art Center, Chicago, IL

- In Memory of ...* (Solo), Chicago Feminisms: Past, Present and Future, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
- La Pocha Nostra Performance*, The Historic Y, MOCA Tucson, AZ
- 2008 *Una Cancion Para Ti, Una Cancion Para Mi Y Unas Ilusiones...*, Pilsen Open Studios, Chicago, IL
- The Silent Message of the Museum* (by Theaster Gates), Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI
- Fluidity: 7 Hats in 48 Minutes* (by Theaster Gates), Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- 2007 *Memorial Gestures* (by Ernesto Pujol), Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- Escultura Social: A New Generation of Art from Mexico City* (by Maria Allós), Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2006 *OJO! Mujeres de Conciencia, La Petenera* (Solo), Esperanza Peace & Justice Center, San Antonio, TX

COMMUNITY-ENGAGED ART

- 2017 *Sounds for Liberation*, Visiting artist for site-specific project, Artspace, New Haven, CT
- Research + Development Lab*, Artist development of community-based project in Chicago, Threewalls Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Aqua Interlude and Reflection*, Co-lead artist for 1,600 sq. ft. mural with fifty young people at the Columbus/Roosevelt Underpass, After School Matters, Chicago Public ArtGroup, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *City As Site*, Lead artist, co-grant writer, and director for series of summer art projects based on temporary public art practices in the Lawndale communities of Chicago, National Endowment for the Arts, Chicago Public Art Group, Enlace Chicago, Chicago, IL
- We are an Important Investment in This World*, Lead artist for community mural with youth as part of violence prevention program, Enlace Chicago, Cease Fire Program, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *To Become*, Lead artist for summer public art project with community youth, Project Vida, Chicago Public ArtGroup, Chicago, IL
- 2007 *Arte En Las Calles*, Co-lead artist for art program working with homeless adults, youth and children at Plaza Zarco, BreakArts Organization, Mexico City, Mexico
- We Are, Nosotros Somos...*, Co-lead artist for mixed media mural with community youth, Paderewski School, Chicago Public Art Group, Chicago, IL
- Washington Park Public Art Project*, Co-lead artist for walkway design at Washington Park, Thompson Dyke & Associates, Chicago Park District, Chicago Public Art Group, Chicago, IL
- 2006 *Art at Work*, Lead artist for mosaic mural with high school youth, Marwen Foundation, Chicago, IL
- On Wings of Water*, Assistant artist for Ginny Sykes for O'Hare Airport mosaic with high-school youth, After-School Matters, Chicago Public Art Group, Chicago, IL
- 2005 *A Journey Through Everyday Life*, Lead artist for outdoor mural with high-school youth, Garfield Park Conservatory, After-School Matters, Chicago Public Art Group, Chicago, IL
- 2004 *Ice-Cream Dream*, Lead assistant artist for large-scale glass tile mural, Hector Duarte Studio, Western (Douglas) Pink Line Station, Chicago Public Art Group, CTA Arts in Transit Program, Chicago, IL

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT + COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

- 2015 *Maria Gaspar: Art Practice*, Artist visit and lecture in Jamal Cyrus' Youth Council Program, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston,
- Maria Gaspar: Art Practice*, Artist lecture on current art practice, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX
- 2014 *96 Acres Project*, Presenter on 96 Acres Project, Teachers for Social Justice Conference, Teachers for Social Justice, Chicago, IL
- Little Village Arts Center, Organizer for development of community arts center, Enlace Chicago, IL
- Inside, Outside, Upside*, Keynote Speaker for Xochipilli: Latinos in the Arts, Association of Latin American Student Festival, Jones College Prep, Chicago, IL
- Maria Gaspar: Art Practice*, Artist talk on art practice, Chicago High School for the Arts, Chicago, IL
- 96 Acres Project*, Artist talk on art practice, North Lawndale College Prep, Chicago, IL

- 2013 Visionary: Innovating Arts Practices in Little Village, Organizer for discussion regarding past and current arts programs and events taking place in the Little Village community of Chicago, Chicago Artist Month, Chicago, IL
CO-LAB, Co-lead artist for experimental workshop with MCA teaching artists, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Quality of Life Plan for the Arts in Little Village, Editor for second phase of Quality of Life Plan, Enlace Chicago and Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), Chicago, IL
21MINUS, Lead Artist for workshop and performance with ten Chicago youth during event organized by the Teen Creative Agency, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Art Buffet Performance, Co-lead artist with artist Jorge Lucero for performance with high-school youth, ALT-City Visual, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL
Public Evidence, Artist teacher for high school after-school art program that investigates public space, sitespecific art, and city interventions, Marwen Foundation, Chicago, IL
To Be Lost Is To Be Fully Present, Lead Artist for John Cage workshop with Chicago Public School teachers, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Maria Gaspar: Studio Practice, Guest artist lecturer for after-school program for youth, Good News Only, Chicago, IL
- 2011 Elevating the Everyday: Teaching as Performance, Lectured and led series of Fluxus based works using the MCA's galleries as performance space with Chicago Public School teachers, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2010 Why Art?, Artist talk on current work and art practice geared towards community youth, Yollocalli Arts Reach, The National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Art Narratives: Contemporary Mexican Art, Artist-Teacher for after school arts program for high-school youth, Marwen Foundation, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Does Place Matter?, Lead artist for performance art program with 6th-8th graders, Pros Arts Studio, Chicago
Maria Gaspar: Current Work, Artist lecture on current art practice and recent 12 x 12 MCA exhibit, Yollocalli Arts Reach, Chicago, IL
- 2008 Art and Democracy Workshop, Lead-Artist for a teacher education program culminating in a public performance art piece, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Murals in Chicago, Guest artist lecture on my public artwork, Yollocalli Arts Reach, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Enlace Arts Initiative, Arts Consultant in developing and founding arts programs in the Little Village community, Enlace Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2006 Enlace Arts Initiative, Arts Consultant in developing and founding arts programs in the Little Village community, Enlace Chicago, Chicago, IL
What is Installation Art? Lead-Artist for after-school installation art program with high school youth, After School Matters, Yollocalli Arts Reach, The National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Pre-College Program, Artist-teacher for intensive high-school summer arts program, Marwen Foundation, Chicago, IL
- 2005 Enlace Arts Initiative, Arts Consultant in developing and establishing arts programs in the Little Village community (West Side), Enlace, Chicago, IL
A.C.T. School Residency, Artist-Teacher for after-school teen arts program developed by Theaster Gates in West Garfield Park, Chicago, IL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anaya, Lucia. "Artists, Community Leaders Aim to Transform Cook County Jail Wall." The Gate Newspaper, May 20, 2013.
- The Barbershop Show with Richard Steele. "Cook County Jail: The Visible and Invisible (live interview)." Vocalo (90.7FM), April 26, 2013.
- Bertagnolli, Lisa. "Crain's 40 Under 40." Crain's Magazine, Dec. 5, 2016.
- Borelli, Christopher. "If Art Can't Fix Problems, What Good Is It?" Chicago Tribune, November 11, 2016.

Catolico, Eleanor. "Public Art Collaborative Interprets Jail Statistics." The Gate News, Aug. 19, 2015.

Chavez, Karma. "Maria Gaspar Discusses 96 Acres." WORT (89.9FM), Madison, WI, Aug. 19, 2015.

Clements, Alexis. "What Role Can Artists Play in Prison Reform?" Hyperallergic, April 28, 2016.

Cochran, Jessica. "Artist Profile." CS Magazine, Dec. 2010.

Correa, Cristina. *Translation* (Ekphrastic poem) after Maria Gaspar's *Almost True*, 2011, Plastic, thread, steel armature, fans, air. *Diálogo Journal*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (spring 2017): 192.

Cruz, Araceli. "11 Latino Social Justice Artists You Need to Know." Vivala, Sept. 29.

Demarest, Erica. "96 Acres, 40 Cars, 1000s of Stories: Residents Reflect on Cook County Jail." DNAinfo, Aug. 17, 2015.

Gaspar, Maria. "City as Site." Blurb.com, November 15, 2010.

Gaffin, Kyle. "10 of Chicago's Placemakers." Lumpen Magazine, June 26, 2015.

Galpin, Amy. *After Adelita: Myths, Heroes and Revolutionaries*. Exh. cat. Woman Made Gallery, 2010.

Girgenti, Maria. "Breakout Artists of the Year." Newcity, April 30, 2015.

Goldberg, Luna. "Visual Social Practice: Maria Gaspar's Activist Art." Fnews Magazine, Aug. 1, 2016.

Green, Sarah Urist. "Body in Place: Maria Gaspar." The Art Assignment, Mar. 31, 2016.

Greenberger, Alex. "Actual Revolution: Chelsea's Jack Shainman Gallery Transforms into Headquarters for an Artist-Run Super Pac." ArtNews, June 6, 2016.

Hamer-Light, Julia. "Pushing Paint." The Yale Herald, Sept. 18, 2015.

Hanna, Noah. "Review: After Today/Gallery 400." New City Magazine, July 7, 2015.

Hasan, Syeda. "Houston & Chicago Swap Artists in Residency Program" Houston Public Media, Feb. 16, 2015.

Hazel, Tempestt. "Radioactive: An Interview with Maria Gaspar." Artslant, July 11, 2016.

Hendrickson, Julia. "Territories: A Compendium (publication), Explosion House by Maria Gaspar, Chicago, 2012

Herrera, Olga U. *Chicago Latino Art Now Virtual Gallery, eGallery Guide*. Chicago: Inter-University Program for Latino Research, UIC in collaboration with the Smithsonian Latino Center, 2016, p. 38.

Hoffman, Rachel. "Writing and Performance Workshop Questions the Meaning of Power." The Gate Newspaper, Oct. 22, 2014.

Hyperallergic, Aug. 15, 2015.

Johnson, Catalina Maria. "The Browning of America, Beat Latino." podcast, Chicago Public Media, Sept. 25, 2015.

"Little Village Leader: Maria Gaspar." online <<http://enlacechicago.org/little-village-leader-maria-gaspar/>> Enlace Chicago, 2014.

Machado, Danilo. "Aesthetics and Social Justice: Arresting Patterns at Artspace." Artcritical, Aug. 24, 2015.

Mahjabeen Syed. "Maria Gaspar and Jennifer Reeder among 2015 Creative Capital Awardees." Newcity Art, Jan. 26, 2014.

"Maria Gaspar, City as Site." Blurb.com, Nov. 15, 2010.

Mariani, Katherine. "Art Sparks Dialogue About Cook County Jail." The Chicago Reporter, Oct. 27, 2014.

Mills (ZIN) Anthony. "Maria Gaspar and the 96 Acres Project (live interview)." All Real Radio at Project Row Houses, Houston, Oct. 23, 2015.

"The Morning Amp, Cook County Jail: The Visible and Invisible." Vocalo (90.7FM), Aug. 15, 2013.

Morris, Matt. "Artforum Critics' Picks." Artforum Magazine, Mar 25, 2016.

Mwalimu, Desiree. "Maria Gaspar's Enchanted Brown." INTUIT ART, Oct. 2009.

Omberg, Emily. "Making Murals, Enticing Communities." The Columbia Chronicle, Oct. 22, 2012.

Otwell, Rachel. "96 Acres Explores Incarceration with Radical Art," National Public Radio, Nov. 4, 2015.

Rigou, Vasia. "An Experiment in Reimagining Freedom: A Profile of Maria Gaspar," Newcity, April 19, 2016.

Romero, Anthony. "Organize Your Own: The Politics and Poetics of Self-determination Movements" (transcribed panel and presentation), Soberscove Press, Sept. 15.

Rosenberg, Tal. "Newcity's Art 50: the leaders of Chicago's visual culture of 2016." New City, Dec. 6, 2016.

Schmadeke, Steven. "Art Project Attempts to Humanize Cook County Jail." Chicago Tribune, Nov. 27, 2014.

Sharp, Sarah Rose. "On A Block in Chicago, A Participatory Project Visualizes Jail Data."

Sierzputowski, Kate. "Articulating the Unknown," INSIDE/WITHIN, December 2016. Online: <http://insidewithin.com/maria-gaspar/> Accessed August 1, 2017.

Stabler, Bert. "96 Acres and Project NIA: Building an Anti-Incarceration Infrastructure." In *Transactions*. Dublin, Chicago: Dialogues in Trans-Disciplinary Practice, June 9, 2015.

"Top Five Weekend Picks." Bad at Sports, Feb. 28, 2013

Useph, Misha. "Artist Reflect on Living Next to Cook County Jail." Medill Reports Chicago, Mar. 9, 2016.
Vargas, Cecilia. *El Material Normal Monumental*. Exh. cat. Garcia Squared Gallery, 2013.
Viera, Lauren. "Taking Over Underpasses: 40 Years On, Chicago Public Art Group Bonds Community, Creativity." Chicago Tribune, Nov. 21, 2011.
Walberg, Matthew. "Cook County Jail Could Provide a Canvas for Storytelling." Dec. 27, 2012
Wan, Darren. "A Radical Imagination: The 96 Acres Project." South Side Weekly, Feb. 16, 2016.
Wang, Dan S. "The City After Today, Political Art After Yesterday." Propositions Press 2.1, July 1, 2015.
Waxman, Lori. "All Together Now: A New Biennial in Elmhurst." Chicago Tribune, Jan. 14, 2016.
---. "The Best of 2015 in Chicago Visual Art." Chicago Tribune, Dec. 11, 2015.
---. "Chicagoan of the Year in Visual Arts: Maria Gaspar" Chicago Tribune, Dec. 23, 2014.
---. "Good Looking: A Survey of Contemporary Latino Art." Chicago Tribune, Feb. 24, 2016.
---. "Here's Why You Should Visit the National Museum of Mexican Art." July 6, 2016.
---. "Home Is Where the Feral Cats Watch T.V." Arts and Entertainment, Oct. 10, 2012
Weinberg, Lauren. "Chicago's Next Art Stars." TimeOut Chicago, Aug. 26, 2010.
---. "O'Conner Gallery Innovates at Dominican University." TimeOut Chicago, Feb. 9, 2011.
---. "Pushing (the city) limits." TimeOut Chicago, Feb. 10, 2011
"You and Me in the Morning Interview." WCIU, Oct. 4, 2010.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

MacArthur Foundation, Envisioning Justice Steering Committee Member, Chicago (2017)
Propeller Fund, Jury Member, Chicago (2016)
ACRE, Equity Committee, Chicago (2016-2017)
Chicago Home Theater Festival, Curatorial Board, Chicago (2015)
CDOT Placemaking Guidelines Committee, Metropolitan Planning Council, Chicago (2014)
National Endowment for the Arts, Grant Reviewer, Washington, D.C. (2014)
SAIC Admissions, Portfolio Reviewer, SAIC (2012-2016)
Part-Time Faculty Concerns Committee, Instructor Rep., SAIC (2012-2014)
The 606, (formerly The Bloomingdale Trail), Arts Committee, Ross Barney Architects, Chicago (2011)
Illinois Arts Council, Roster Artist, Chicago (2005-2010)
Little Village Arts Fest, Co-founder, Chicago (2005-2007)
Alianza Latino Organization, Founder, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn (1999-2002)

CONTACT

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