

SWOON



Born in 1977 in New London, Connecticut; grew up in Daytona Beach, Florida. Lives and work in Brooklyn. Graduated from Pratt Institute, NY.



Caledonia Curry, who exhibits her artwork under the name SWOON, is a classically trained visual artist and printmaker who has spent the last 14 years exploring the relationship between people and their built environments. Her early interventions in the urban landscape took the form of wheat-pasting portraits to the walls of cities around the world, and her public practice has expanded to using art to rebuild communities and humanize today's most pressing social and environmental issues.

Influenced by German Expressionist prints, Egon Schiele, Gustav Klimt, Alphonse Mucha, as well as Indonesian shadow puppets or the work of Gordon Matta-Clark, Swoon has mastered the use of papercut to play with positive and negative forms in a conceptual exploration of the urban environments. Often found in a magnificent state of decomposition, her wheapasted figures integrate the street so as to create a temporary public work of art.

SWOON co-founded Konbit Shelter in 2010, an artist's response to the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti that same year. Other community-based endeavors include collaborating on the construction of musical architecture in New Orleans, and a neighborhood revitalization project in North Braddock, PA. Alongside her place-based

work, she has a studio practice of drawing, printmaking, architectural sculpture, and installations.

From 2007 to 2009, SWOON designed and organized a fleet of boats built in found material with a group of street performers (musicians, actors). The first project named "Miss Rockaway Armada" became in its most developed form "Swimming Cities of the Switchback Sea" then "Swimming Cities of Serenissima". These monumental installation of floating sculptures were shown in 2008 at Deitch Projects Gallery, New York. Three of these rafts were then routed to Venice on the occasion of the inauguration of the Biennale of Arts 2009.

Since the loss of her parents in 2012 and 2015, she has been using more than ever her art practice to foster healing, even referring to it as a balm, and she has built opportunities for therapeutic recovery from trauma through her community-based compassion projects. Her approach is inclusive, authentic and, working as a catalyst for positivity.

SWOON's work has been collected and shown internationally at galleries and museums, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Brooklyn Museum; the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; the Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati ; The Mori Museum, Tokyo.

Her latest artistic developments include stop motion movies made from paper installations.



selected exhibitions

2018

New Works, Galerie LJ, Paris, Solo show
Catastrophe and The Power of Art, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Group show
Mirari Minima, Snow Contemporary, Tokyo, Solo show
Beyond The Streets, Los Angeles, Group show, commissaire : Roger Gastman
Art From The Streets, ArtScience Museum, Singapore, Group show

2017

SWOON - The Canyon : 1999-2017, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Early career retrospective, commissaire: Steven Matijcio
Cross The Streets : 40 anni di Street Art e Writing, MACRO, Rome, Group show
To Accompany Something Invisible, Allouche Gallery, New York, Solo show
Haven, Skissernas Museum, Lund (Suède), Solo show

2016

Juxtapoz x Superflat, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, Group show, commissaires : Evan Pricco et Takashi Murakami
Library Street Collective, Detroit - 'The Light After' - Solo show
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit - 'Thalassa' - Installation monumentale dans le Great Hall
MIMA (Millenium Iconoclast Museum of Art), Bruxelles - 'City Lights' - Exposition inaugurale avec Maya Hayuk, Faile et Momo, installation insitu
Chandran Gallery, San Francisco - 'Witch-Wife' - Double solo show avec Monica Canilao

2015

Unrealism, Moore Building, Miami Design District, Miami, Exposition collective organisée par Larry Gagosian, commissaire : Jeffrey Deitch.
Coney Island: Visions of an American Dreamland 1861-2008, Brooklyn Museum, New York, Exposition collective
Open Source: Engaging Audiences in Public Space, Philadelphia Mural Arts Programs, Philadelphie, Exposition collective.
Coney Island: Visions of an American Dreamland 1861-2008, Wadsworth Museum, Hartford (Connecticut), Exposition collective

2014

Submerged Motherlands, The Brooklyn Museum of Art, NYC, Exposition personnelle.
Nuit Blanche, Paris, Intervention sur la Gare Masséna, 13e arrondissement.
Expressions Urbaines, Institut Bernard Magrez, Bordeaux, Exposition collective.

2013

Motherlands, Galerie LJ, Paris, Exposition personnelle.
Hecho en Oaxaca, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Oaxaca, Exposition collective, curateur Carlo McCormick.

2012

Second Ural Industrial Biennale of Contemporary Art, Ekaterinburg, Russie, Section "Special Projects".
The Folding of a Known World, Galleria Patricia Armocida, Milan, Exposition avec M. Canilao et D. McNett.

2011

Murmuration, Black Rat Projects, Londres, Exposition personnelle.
Fourth Moscow Biennale, Moscou, Section "special projects: Arthouse Squat Forum".
Art in the Streets, Geffen MOCA, Los Angeles, Exposition rétrospective, curateur Jeffrey Deitch.
Anthropocene Extinction, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Installation personnelle monumentale, curateur Pedro Alonso.
Thalassa, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Installation personnelle monumentale.

2010

Fata Morgana, Galerie L.J., Paris, Exposition personnelle.
Viva la Revolucion, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Exposition collective, curateur Pedro Alonso.

2009

Swimming Cities of Serenissima, Venise, Projet parallèle à la Biennale d'art contemporain
Squinches and Pendentives, Urban Art Info, Berlin, Exposition collaborative avec Ben Wolf.

2008

Swimming Cities of Switchback Sea, Deitch Projects, New York, Exposition personnelle.
The Way That We Rhyme, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, Exposition collective.
Feral, The Luggage Store, San Francisco, Exposition en collaboration avec Monica Canilao.
Drown Your Boats, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, Exposition personnelle.

2007

Santa's Ghetto, Bethleem, Projet collectif à l'initiative Banksy.
Swoon, Chris Stain & The Polaroid Kidd, Galerie LJ, Paris, Exposition collaborative.
Heap, The Black Rat Press, Londres, Exposition collaborative avec M. Canilao et D. Ellis.
Canciones del Mundo al Revés, MU, Eindhoven, Exposition collaborative avec le pochoiriste Pancho.
The Burning House, New Image Art Gallery, Los Angeles, Exposition collaborative avec Faile et David Ellis.

2006

La Boca del Lobo, Black Floor Gallery, Philadelphie, Exposition avec P. Soloveichik et A. Corrie.
Since 2000 : Printmaking Now, MoMA, New York, Exposition collective.
Generation USA, PinchukArtCentre, Kiev, Exposition collective.

2005

Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami, Installation pour le stand Deitch Projects.
SWOON, Deitch Projects, New York, Exposition personnelle.
Greater New York, PS 1 Contemporary Art Center, New York, Exposition collective.

Graffiti, The Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, Exposition collective.

2004

Good World, Contemporary Arts Center, Publico, Cincinnati, Exposition conjointe à l'exposition Beautiful Losers.
Ill Communication, Urbis, Manchester, Exposition collective.
Something Else, The Vinyl Factory, Londres, Exposition collective.

2002

Evolutionaere-Zellen, Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst (NGBK), Berlin, Exposition collective pour la remise des prix.
Swoon loves Solovei, Urban Art Info, Berlin, Exposition avec P. Soloveichik.

permanent collections

Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York
Chrysler Museum of Art, Detroit
Collection Nicolas Laugero Lasserre (Art42), Paris
Collection Bernard Magrez, Bordeaux
Deitch Projects, New York
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit
Fondation Claudine & Jean-March Salomon pour l'Art Contemporain, Annecy
Goldman Properties, Miami
Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, Massachusetts
Millenium Iconoclast Museum of Art (MIMA), Bruxelles
Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis
MUCA (Museum of Urban and Contemporary Art), Munich
Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York
PS1 Contemporary Arts Center, New York
Russian Museum, St. Petersburg
Sammlung Reinking, Hamburg
Tate Modern, Londres
Tudor Investments, New York
Urban Nation Museum, Berlin