

Desirée Alvarez
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Desirée Alvarez is an award winning painter/poet exploring connections between plants, animals, and humans through a spectrum that includes painting, drawing, installation, fabric, animation, and printmaking.

POETRY PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- 2020 *Raft of Flame*, Omnidawn Lake Merritt Contest Award, selected by Hoa Nguyen, Omnidawn Publishing
2016 *Devil's Paintbrush*, May Sarton New Hampshire Book Award, Bauhan Publishing

Anthologies:

- 2022 *Stronger Than Fear: Poems of Empowerment, Compassion, and Social Justice*, edited by Carol Alexander and Stephen Massimilla, Cave Moon Press
2020 *Uni-Verse Poetry - Prints - Proofs by Visionary Humans*, edited by Anna Ehram and Katherine Jackson, Battery Journal
2019 *Other Musics: New Latina Poetry*, edited by Cynthia Cruz, University of Oklahoma Press
What Nature, edited by Timothy Donnelly, B.K. Fischer, and Stefania Heim, MIT Press
2016 *The Traveler's Vade Mecum*, edited by Helen Klein Ross, Red Hen Press

Poems published in journals including *The Iowa Review*, *Ecotone Magazine*, *Lit Hub*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Poetry Magazine*, *Fence Magazine*, *Prairie Schooner*, *La Presa Journal*, *Boston Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Black Renaissance Noire*, *Luna Luna Magazine*. Pushcart Prize nomination, 2011; Finalist National Poetry Series 2019, 2011; Finalist, *Boston Review* Annual Award, 2016, 2013, 2008; Finalist, *The Iowa Review* Poetry Prize, 2011; Finalist, Dorset Prize, *Tupelo Press*, 2011

AWARDS

- 2021 Foundation for Contemporary Art Grant, New York, NY
2018 Omnidawn Lake Merritt Poetry Award, book award for *Raft of Flame*, selected by Hoa Nguyen
Brooklyn Poets Whitman Bicentennial Poetry Contest Award, selected by Mark Doty
2015 May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize, Bauhan Press, book award for *Devil's Paintbrush*
2013-2014 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace Grant
2011 New York Foundation for the Arts, Artist Fellowship Award

- Prairie Schooner Glenna Luschei Poetry Award
- 2006 Urban Artist Initiative/ NYC Special Project Grant for New Work
- 2005 Cork 2005 European Cultural Capital Award, Ireland
- 2003 New York Foundation for the Arts, Artist Fellowship Award
- 2001 The Robert D. Richardson Non-Fiction Award, *Denver Quarterly*
- 1998 American Academy of Arts and Letters, Willard L. Metcalf Award
- 1997 New York Foundation for the Arts, Artist Fellowship Award

SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND LARGE SCALE INSTALLATIONS

- 2023 *On the Waterfront*, curated by Maddy Rosenberg, BWAC, Brooklyn, NY
- 2020-2022 *Plant Cure*, Brooklyn Botanic Garden Conservatory Garden, Plant Cure/Brooklyn Botanic Garden, March – November exhibition of work created during year long artist residency
- 2019 *Plant Cure/Brooklyn exhibiton*, Long Island University Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 *Rendez Vous des Singuliers/Davejean*, Davejean, France, installation
New York City Poetry Festival, installation & interactive performance, Governors Island, NY, NY
- 2016 *Amor Fati*, animated video featured at *Luna Luna Magazine*,
<http://www.lunalunamagazine.com/blog/a-video-poem-by-desire-alvarez>
- 2015 *Back to Life*, New York Foundation for the Arts, curated by David Terry, St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 Solo painting exhibition, Central Booking Gallery, New York, NY
Uncanny Spaces, Bennington College, Bennington, VT
- 2013 Solo painting exhibition, Piermont Straus Gallery, Piermont, NY
Text Out Of Context, Hewitt Gallery of Art, Marymount Manhattan College, New York, NY
Booked, Williams Center for the Arts, Lafayette College, Easton, PA
- 2012 *The Print Booked*, NOCCA (New Orleans Center for Creative Arts) Galleries, New Orleans, LA
Phoolan Devi Opera Project, sets and costumes, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
- 2011 *Of Weeds and Wildness: Nature in Black & White*, Mandeville Gallery, Union College, Union, NY
- 2011-2010 *Book of Birds* installation, Central Booking Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 *New Prints*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY, curated by Philip Pearlstein
Solo painting exhibition, Minor Memorial Gallery, Roxbury, CT
- 2009 *Other Other II High Visibility*, Nathan Cummings Foundation, New York, NY
- 2008 *Artist Commentary*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY,
- 2007 *4 Women*, Taller Boricua, New York, NY
- 2006 *Vanishing Point*, California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA
CORK 2005, Sirius Arts Center, Cobh, Ireland
Paris/New York, Center for Book Arts, New York, NY

- Dialogue*, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
- 2005 *Solo exhibition*, Le Temple, Lacaze, France
Dialogue, Abrons Art Center, New York, NY
Innovations in Contemporary Printmaking, Housatonic Museum, Bridgeport, CT,
Dialogue, Cité des Arts, Paris, France
Going Under, painting installation, film directed by Eric Werthman, starring
Roger Rees
- 2004 *Impresionante! Innovative Prints by Contemporary Puerto Rican Artists*,
International Print Center, New York, NY
The Alumni Show, Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
- 2003 *Solo exhibition*, SUNY Rockland, Rotunda Gallery, Rockland, NY
Sideshow, Queens Theater in the Park, Queens, NY
Solo exhibition, Koussevitzky Art Gallery, Berkshire Community College,
Pittsfield, MA
- 2001 *Solo exhibition*, St. Peter's Church, New York, NY
- 1998 *Solo exhibition*, Art Resource Transfer Inc., New York, NY

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Among Friends*, Equity Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021 *Weatherproof!* NDSM Fuse Wunderkammer, Amsterdam, Holland
Telephone, International Collaborative Project, curated by Nathan Langston
- 2019 Art on Paper Fair, Pier 36, Central Booking Gallery, New York, NY
Among Friends, Entre Amigos, Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center, New York,
NY
Studio Stars, Roxbury, CT
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Auction, New York, NY
- 2018 *Among Friends*, Brooklyn, NY
Fossil Tales, Central Booking Gallery, New York, NY
Sympathetic Magic, Westbeth Gallery, New York, NY
- 2016 *The Secret Laws of Art*, Portfolio Project, 3G, New York, NY
Central Booking Gallery, group exhibition
- 2015 *Rema Hort Mann Foundation Art Auction*, New York, NY
Print Exhibiton curated by Roberta Waddell, National Arts Club Grammercy Park,
New York, NY
- 2013 *thREAD*, Central Booking Gallery, New York, NY
The Readymade Flea, The Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
New Prints 2012, Visual Arts Gallery, University of Texas/Austin, Austin, TX
- 2012 *Winter Benefit exhibition*, New York International Print Center New York, NY
Autumn Prints, exhibition New York International Print Center New York, NY
Love & Heartbreak, Piermont Straus Gallery, Piermont, NY
- 2011 *Oceans, Rivers and the Fish that Swim*, Piermont Straus Gallery, Piermont, NY
Group exhibition, Condemned to be Free, Satellite Space, Central Booking
Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

- Women Artists*, New York City College of Technology, Brooklyn, NY
- 2009 *New Prints Winter*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY
New Prints, Anchor Graphics, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
Faculty Exhibit, Grace Gallery, New York City College of Technology, CUNY, Brooklyn, NY
Hispanic Women Artists, Grace Gallery, New York City College of Technology, CUNY, Brooklyn, NY
Weather Report, an international drawing collaborative, Ajara Art Museum, Batumi, Georgia
- 2008 *New Prints 2007/08*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY
Group exhibition, Gallery 4H, Philadelphia, PA
Faculty Exhibit, Grace Gallery, New York City College of Technology, CUNY, Brooklyn, NY
- 2007 *Faculty Exhibit*, Grace Gallery, New York City College of Technology, CUNY, Brooklyn, NY
- 2006 *New Prints Fall*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY
NY Fall Prints, curated by Carrie Moyer, Lower East Side Printshop, New York, NY
Summer Prints, Lower East Side Printshop, New York, NY
- 2005 *Hope Box, Weather Report*, Kosova Art Gallery, Pristina, Kosova
Roman Petrovic Gallery, Sarajevo, Bosnia
Weather Report, Centar Za Kulturu, Mostar, Herzegovina
SKC Gallery, Belgrade, Serbia, Hope Box
- 2004 *New Prints 2004/Spring, curated by Barry Walker*, International Print Center New York, New York, NY
Group exhibition, Art for Living, NY, NY
Hopebox Drawings, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Hopebox, Spark!, Johannesburg, South Africa
Hopebox, Mind's I Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
Hopebox, NSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa
- 2003 *Weather Report*, Virtual Museum of Contemporary African Art
- 2002 *Reactions*, Library of Congress, Washington, DC
Memory & Metaphor, Abrons Art Center, Henry Street Settlement, New York, NY
Reactions, Exit Art, New York, NY
- 2001 *Hope Box*, Queensland College of Art Gallery, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia
The Thirty-Seventh Juried Exhibition, The Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, NY
- 2000 *Yaddo Artists*, Williamsburgh Art & Historical Center, New York, NY
Weather Report, Mai Gallery, Hanoi and Blue Art Centre, Ho Chi Minh City
- 1999 *Exhibition of Work by Newly Elected Members and Recipients of Honors and Awards*, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY
The Selected Files: NY Artists of Latin American Heritage, El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY
Invitational Exhibition of Painting & Sculpture, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY

- 1998 *Druckgrafik aus New York*, Galerie Station 3, Vienna, Austria
The Tip of the Iceberg: A Response To NY Museums, Dorfman Projects, New York, NY
Cover, Dave Muller's Three Day Weekend, Los Angeles, CA
- 1996 *Fusion Gravado*, University of Columbia, Bogota, Columbia
Survey, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
- 1995 *Grafiker Falubiennalen 95*, Dalarnas Museum, Sweden
Fabrication, The Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, Orange, CA,
Multimediation, Art Center, Pasadena, CA

TEACHING

- 2020 Poets House, poetry workshop
- 2002-Current Assistant Professor, Adjunct Faculty, New York City College of Technology, CUNY, Brooklyn, NY. Courses in color theory, graphic design, aesthetics, painting, drawing, art history
- 2015-Current Adjunct faculty, The Juilliard School, New York, NY, Liberal Arts department. Courses: Art & Aesthetics; Citizenship, Art, and Politics
- 2016-2018 Artists Space Teaching Artist, Poet-in-Residence, Expanded Art Ideas Program, P.S. 140 and Artists Space Gallery, Tribeca, NY, NY
- 2017 Visiting Artist Lecture, Mangion Memorial Craft Talk, Kittery Art Association, Kittery, ME
- 2015 Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, guest lecturer, ANIMOVE seminar, Front Royal, VA
- 2011 Visiting artist lecturer, Union College, Schenectady, NY
 Visiting artist, Shepaug School, Washington, CT
- 2006 Visiting artist, Waterford Institute of Technology, MFA program, Waterford, Ireland
 Artist lecture, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork, Ireland
 Cork Printmakers, woodblock and etching workshop, Cork, Ireland
 Visiting artist, California College, California, PA
- 2005 Visiting artist, SUNY Rockland, Rockland, NY
- 2004 Visiting artist, SUNY Rockland, Rockland, NY
- 2003 Visiting artist, Hunter College MFA program, CUNY, New York, NY
 Visiting artist, SUNY Rockland, Rockland, NY
- 1994-2003 Sanctuary for Families, New York, NY, Volunteer Art Coordinator, children's program for victims of domestic abuse

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
 Bachelor of Arts, Fine Art and English, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
 Master classes with Lucie Brock-Broido, Poetry Director, School of the Arts, Columbia University

New School for Social Research, New York, NY, graduate tutorial with Bernard Flynn in Merleau-Ponty's phenomenology
The Animation Studio, Animation Intensive with Marty Abrahams & Kat Llewellyn, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
Empire State College, Empire Studio Program, Studio Space Grant, New York, NY
Academie Port-Royal, Paris, France
Atelier Mac'Avoy, Paris, France
Syracuse University, fine art and art history program in Florence, Italy

Languages: Fluent in French; Reading: Spanish

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESIDENCIES

2022-2020 New York Historical Society, New York, NY
2019-2020 Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY
2015 Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, artist-in-residence, Front Royal, VA
2012 Poets House Emerging Poets Fellowship, New York, NY
2007-2005 Lower East Side Printshop Keyholder Fellowship, New York, NY
1999-2000 Painting Space 122, P.S. 122, New York, NY
1998 Yaddo Art Colony, Saratoga Springs, NY
Manhattan Graphics Center Fellowship, New York, NY
Lower East Side Printshop Special Edition Fellowship, New York, NY

SELECTED PRESS

2020 *Kenyon Review*, *Raft of Flame* review
Publishers Weekly, *Raft of Flame* review
Library Journal, Best work of 2020, Historical Witness
Ms. Magazine, Poetry 2020 Roundup, Poetry for the Rest of Us
2018 *Boston Review*, What Nature Poetry Forum, "Diary of the Ghost of a Mestiza"
Ragazine, Public Poetry/ Airtime, essay
2017 *The Pleiades Book Review*, "Dolls, Freaks, Art: American Poets Creating a New Mythology" by Christine Butterworth-McDermott (essay on Alvarez's *Devil's Paintbrush*, Castle's *Doll God*, and Swartout's *Odd Beauty*, *Strange Fruit*)
2016 *Publishers Weekly*, book review
<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-87233-218-8>
San Francisco Book Review, book review
<http://sanfranciscobookreview.com/product/devils-paintbrush-poems/>
Sabotage Reviews, book review by Alice Allen
2013 *The Villager*, "A (Downtown) Room of One's Own," December
The Villager, "Word up! Artists reopen gallery in 'novel' fashion," October
Central Booking Magazine, "Desirée Alvarez: Words and Images," interview and artist project
Central Booking Magazine, "Text Out of Context"

- 2012 Betty Cunningham Gallery, Pearlstein catalog essay
Central Booking Magazine, November, Exhibition Catalog: Booked
Central Booking Magazine, September, Interview & Artist Project
- 2011 *Zocalo Public Square*, essay on aesthetics (for event with Brad Cloepfil and Gus Van Sant at The Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, CA)
Times Union, Albany, NY, "Of Weeds and Wildness at Union College Explores Dualities in Art and Nature," Steve Barnes, February 10, 2011
All Over Albany, "Of Weeds and Wildness at Nott Memorial," Bennett V. Campbell, February 10, 2011
The Free Gorge, "A Review: Of Weeds and Wildness"
Concordensis, Union College, "Nature in the dead of winter?" Rachel Steiner, January 27, 2011
ArtBeat: What To See - Nippertown!, January 12, 2011
- 2010 *The Litchfield County Times*, CT, "Nature and Art Together in Exhibit in Roxbury"
The Housatonic Times, CT, "Peaceable Kingdom"
Voices, CT
Haberart.com, review
- 2006 Tweed Museum, University of Minnesota, Philip Pearlstein catalog essay
7 Very Different Plays, cover art, Broadway Play Publishing
Acrylic-Resist Etching, Collagraphy, Engraving, Drypoint, Mezzotint, Carol Robertson and Robert Adam
- 2005 *Arts and Metiers Printmaking Today*, October
Haberart.com, "Making Books"
Grand Street News, November
 Michael Kimmelman, *The Accidental Masterpiece*
- 2002 Michael Kimmelman, *The New York Times*, "Real Flesh, Not Perfect or Prurient"
- 2001 *Denver Quarterly*, University of Denver Press, "The Model as Painter and Painted," essay
- 2000 *The New York Times*, "The Lonely Life of a Free Spirit," Sunday, April 30
- 1999 *Art in America*, "Awards," July
- 1995 Michael Duncan, "Fabrication: Formal, found and funky," catalogue essay

CURATORIAL/ BOARD AFFILIATIONS/ PANELS/ FILM

- 2022 Canal Park Conservancy, Executive Board of Directors, New York, NY
 Art Republic Space, Board of Directors, New York, NY
- 2020 *Plant Cure* Roundtable Panel at Brooklyn Botanic Garden
- 2016 – 2019 New York Foundation for the Arts, Artist Advisory Board
- 2013 Curator, International Print Center New York, *Autumn Prints Exhibition*
- 2012 Panelist, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Awards
- 2011 Film, *Naked Vision*, Underbelly Films, a documentary on Philip Pearlstein
- 2010 Panel, Betty Cunningham Gallery, "Pearlstein/Held: Five Decades" roundtable discussion with Chuck Close, Robert Storr, Dorothea Rockburne, Joe Santore, Chris Martin, Bill Bailey, Phong Bui and Bill Conlon

- 2009 Co-Curator, *The Wall: The Art of Peter Sis*, Walter Reade Theater Gallery, Lincoln Center, New York, NY
- 2009 Juror Panelist, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
- 2007 Juror Panelist, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
- 2005 Curator, *New Prints*, International Print Center New York, New Prints 2005, with Judy Hecker, Assistant Curator, MOMA and Michael Steinberg
Juror Panelist, New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship
- 2003-2009 Executive Board, Board of Directors, Lower East Side Printshop, New York, NY

POETRY READINGS

- 2023 AWP Conference Seattle, Omnidawn poets
BWAC, Ecopoetry reading, Brooklyn, NY
- 2022 Burnham Library, Bridgewater, CT
- 2020 Battery Journal, book launch for anthology, *Uni-Verse*
Poets House, Omnidawn poets fall reading
Berl's Poetry Shop, Omnidawn poets fall reading
Moe's Books, Omnidawn poets book launch, Berkeley, CA
Community of Literary Magazines & Presses poetry reading, "Poetry & Protest," with Malcolm Tariq & Cyrée Jarell Johnson, Berl's Brooklyn Poetry Shop
Cobra Milk, Brooklyn, NY
AWP Conference Main Stage Reading with Omnidawn poets
- 2019 The Painting Center, New York, NY
The Golden Notebook, Woodstock, NY
FENCE Winter/Spring 2019 podcast
Walt Whitman Ceremonial Street Naming Ceremony, Brooklyn, NY
Smack Mellon Gallery, Brooklyn Poets Walt Whitman Bicentennial Poetry Contest, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 Kittery Art Association, Kittery Point, ME
- 2016 New York Public Library, Main Branch, 476 Fifth Avenue
Portsmouth Poet Laureate Series, Portsmouth, NH
Hollywood, *The Traveler's Vade Mecum* book launch, Lakeville, CT
The Juilliard School
- 2013 Poets House residency fellowship reading
- 2012 Poets House, Emerging Poets Residency Program reading
The Juilliard School, The Three Muses Poetry Series
- 2011 Trinity Church, Bach at One Series
- 2008 Artists Space