

# MARGARET MORGAN

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Born Sydney, Australia  
Lives in Los Angeles CA

## **EDUCATION:**

- 1994 MFA, UC Irvine
- 1991 Whitney Museum of American Art, Independent Study Program, New York, NY
- 1984 BA (Visual Arts), College of Fine Arts, UNSW, Sydney, Australia
- 1980 Dip. Ed (Double Art) Sydney Teachers College, University of Sydney, Australia

I see my practice as artist, writer, speaker, teacher, designer, gardener, supporter of the arts and organizer of artists – all this – on a continuum: My practice takes the form most suited to the task at hand and most readily able to be employed, given the exigencies of life and the applicability of the form to the project. I approach each with the same artistic sensibility: a search for truth-telling; beauty, albeit an often abject, strange and mindful beauty; an ethic of care; and a desire to share an experience of critical pleasure. I love objects but I feel their burden: I like to make things yet I make but few and they are varied and rarely repeated. In this my practice is scattered, leaves in a landscape, invisible to most, in all but the most subtle of ways. Yet it is embedded in how I live and work, and for this reason it remains palpable to a few, my best audience, and traceable when all my working life is put together.

## **PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**

Ongoing:

- Member, Drawing and Photography Committee, MoCA, Los Angeles
- Board of Directors, LA><ART
- Board of Directors, LA Philharmonic
- Board of Directors, Monday Evening Concerts

1985-4

- Committee Member, Artworkers' Union, Sydney

1984

- Board Member, Artspace, Sydney

**SELECTED GUEST LECTURES:**

- 2017 Family Practice: Art and Family Collaborations, CAA Annual Conference, organizer:  
Niku Kashef
- 2015 ‘Mothering Artists: Avant-Garde In the Here and Now’ presented for *Motherhood and Creative Practice; Maternal Structures in Creative Work*, Conference, London South Bank University, UK. Lecture.
- 2014 ‘Dead Mothers, From Bambi to Olaf’s Frozen Nose’ presented for Motherhood, Feminisms and the Future, School of Media and Communication, AMIRCI Annual Conference, RMIT University, Melbourne. Lecture.  
‘Dead Mothers, From Bambi to Olaf’s Frozen Nose’ presented for *The M Word, Real Mothers in Contemporary Art* symposium, The Feminist Art Project, Rutgers University, College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago. Lecture.  
‘Dead Mothers, From Bambi to Olaf’s Frozen Nose’, *Art and Feminism* seminar, Jane Polkingholme, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney. Lecture.  
‘What’s Shit Got To Do With It? A Feminist Pedagogy’, presented in Transgressive Teaching: Feminism in the Art and Art History Class symposium, organized by Jacqueline Millner, Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney. Lecture.
- 2004 ‘Bastard Conceptualism, Contemporary Art in Los Angeles,’ Inaugural International Visual Studies Conference, ARCO, Madrid, Spain
- 2003 ‘Toilet Training,’ Anna DeZeuze, AHRB Centre for the Study of Surrealism and its Legacies, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK. Lecture and screening.  
‘Toilet Training,’ Sue Malvern, Department of Art History, University of Reading, UK. Lecture and screening.
- 2002 ‘Toilet Training,’ Parveen Adams, *Culture and Shit*, The London Consortium, University College London. Lecture and screening.  
‘Toilet Training,’ Elisabeth Bronfen, American Studies, University of Zürich, Switzerland. Lecture and screening.  
‘Toilet Training,’ Yong Soon Min, University of California, Irvine, CA. Lecture and screening.
- Speaker, Constance Penley, ‘Hacking, Slashing, Poaching, Jamming,’ *Entertainment Value* conference, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- 1999 Ken Gonzales Day, Department of Art, Scripps College, Claremont, CA  
‘Toilet Paper,’ *Trash* symposium, Catherine Lord, College Art Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA  
‘Twelve Steps to Success For Women Artists,’ Irina D. Costache, Women Caucus for the Arts, College Art Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA  
Catherine Lord, Issues in Feminism, University of California, Irvine
- 1998 ‘The Gala Project’, Society for Photographic Education Regional Conference, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA

**SELECTED ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS and PROJECTS:**

- 2004 Video Spell 3: Reanimate, organized by Blair French,  
The Performance Space, Sydney, Australia (2-person show)
- 2003 *Toilet Training*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney,  
Film screening and conversation with Elisabeth Bronfen
- 2002 *A Pictorial Guide to Sanitary Defects*,  
Lehmann Leskiw + Schedler Fine Art, Zürich, Switzerland  
*A Pictorial Guide to Sanitary Defects*, Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, LA  
*Toilet Training*, Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, Los Angeles
- 2001 *Hotel Australia*, for 'The Australia Projects' commissioned by Juliana Engberg, Curator,  
Melbourne Festival for The Federation Festival, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2000 *Neues Wassercloset*, P77, Projektraum für Kunst, Zürich, Switzerland  
*Church*, Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, Los Angeles, CA  
*Traps*, Robert V. Fullerton Museum, organized by Eva Kirsch, San Bernadino, CA
- 1999 *Porcelain*, Römerturm, Galerie Inge Baecker, Cologne, Germany  
*Porcelain*, POSTdowntown, Los Angeles, CA  
*Century*, The Living Room, Special Projects in Contemporary Art, Santa Monica, CA
- 1997 *Out of Order*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne  
*Every Tap and Plughole Is a Mark of Progress*, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:**

- 2015 'Douglas Gordon in the Mirror,' *Douglas Gordon*, Australian Centre for Contemporary  
Art, Melbourne. Catalogue essay.
- 2013 UBMD and Artist's Statement, ed. Andrea Liss, "Maternal Aesthetics: The Surprise of  
the Real", Birbeck, University of London, *Studies in the Maternal*, 5, 1.  
<http://www.mamsie.bbk.ac.uk/>  
'Habitação', *Plantas E Plantas*, CAM, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal.  
Catalogue essay on Narelle Jubelin.
- 2011 'Home Truths', *The M Word, Real Mothers in Contemporary Art*, Demeter Press, York  
University, Canada. Chapter.  
'On Love and Politics and Fallen Shoes,' *ibid.* Interview with Mary Kelly.  
'Fragments,' *ibid.* Fiction, artist's pages.
- 2009 'Face Value,' Helen Grace, *IPO*, Korkos Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2008 'Curtain Call', *Narelle Jubelin*, Galeria Luís Serpa Projectos, Lisbon, Portugal.  
Catalogue essay.
- 2006 'Regarding Beauty,' ed. Amelia Jones, *A Companion to Contemporary Art since 1945*,  
Oxford, UK: Blackwell Publishing. Chapter.
- 2003 'The Plumbing of Modern Life,' eds. Ken Ehrlich and Brandon LaBelle, *Surface Tension*,  
*Problematics of Site*, New York, NY, DAP and Errant Bodies Press. Chapter.
- 2002 'The Plumbing of Modern Life', in *The Journal of Postcolonial Studies*,  
5, 2, September. Essay.
- 1998 'A Box, A Pipe and a Piece of Plumbing,' ed. Naomi Sawellson-Gorse,  
*Women in Dada*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. Chapter.
- 1997 'Too Much Leverage Is Dangerous' eds. D. S. Friedman and Nadir Lahiji,  
*Plumbing: Sounding Modern Architecture*, Princeton Architectural Press, NY.  
Chapter and cover illustration.

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS and PROJECTS:**

- 2007 *Shandyismus, Autorschaft als Genre*, organized by Helmut Draxler with Astrit Schmidt-Burkhardt, Secession, Vienna, Austria and Kunsthaus, Dresden, Germany
- 2006 *Maternal Metaphors*, organized by Myrel Chernick and Jennie Klein, Ohio State University Art Gallery, OSU, Athens OH
- 2003 *Orifice*, organized by Juliana Engberg, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, VIC  
*Hygiene*, organized by Mitra Abbaspour, Sweeney Art Gallery, UC Riverside, CA
- 2002 *Toilet Training*, LA Freewaves, organized by Chloe Zeigler, Mario's Furniture, LA
- 2001 *Enter*, organized by Johannes Meier, Baden-Wurtemberg Foundation, Stuttgart, Germany  
*EAST International*, juried by Mary Kelly and Peter Wollen, Norwich Gallery, Norwich School of Art and Design, Norwich, UK  
*Representing LA*, organized by Gordon Fuglie and Frye Art Museum, Laguna Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, CA  
*Song Poems*, organized by Steven Hull, Cohen, Leslie and Browne, NY, Angstrom Gallery, Dallas, TX and Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Los Angeles  
*MCA Unpacked*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney  
*In the Name of the Place*, member of GALA committee initiated by Mel Chin, with Spelling Television in Tele[visions], Kunsthalle Vienna, Guest Curator, Joshua Dechter  
 Basel Liste, represented by Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, Basel, Switzerland  
 Frankfurt Art Fair, represented by Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2000 *Representing LA*, organized by Gordon Fuglie, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA and Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, Texas  
*Neue Fotografie*, Galerie Schedler, Zürich, Switzerland  
 MoCA Art Auction, Los Angeles
- 1999 *Millennial Tension*, POSTwilshire, organized by Habib Kheradyar, Los Angeles  
*Drawing the Line*, organized by Kirk Delman, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, Claremont, CA  
*Building History*, organized by Maureen Connor, Apex Curatorial Projects, New York  
*The Bathroom Show*, organized by Marsea Goldberg, New Image Art, Los Angeles  
 Frankfurt Art Fair, selected by Susanne Vielmetter LA Projects, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1998 *Mother Smother Other Lover*, organized by elin slavick and Beth Grabowski, Hanes Art Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
*Different Looks: Reconsidering Vision, Authorship and the Mark of Pleasure*, organized by Ken Gonzales-Day, Sweeney Art Gallery, University of California at Riverside  
*Bathroom*, organized by Wayne Koestenbaum, Thomas Healy Gallery, New York  
*All This and Heaven Too*, Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, organized by Juliana Engberg and Ewen McDonald, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA  
*Trash*, organized by Catherine Lord, Barnsdall Art Center, Los Angeles
- 1997 'In the Name of the Place', member of GALA committee initiated by Mel Chin, with Spelling Television, in *Uncommon Sense*, organized by Julie Lazar and Tom Finkelppearl, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Kwangju Biennial, Korea; Grand Arts, Kansas City, Missouri
- 1996 *LACE Annuale*, organized by Suzanne Ghez of Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, for Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles