

Derosia

Em Rooney

b. 1983

Lives and works between Canaan, CT and New York, NY

EDUCATION

2012 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Madison, ME

2011 Master of Fine Arts, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA

2005 Bachelor of Arts, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA

SELECTED SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2026 Derosia, New York, NY (forthcoming)

2025 Road King, with Eric Veit, XYZ Collective, Tokyo, Japan

2024 Imagined Beauty Begins Now, Derosia, New York, NY

2023 Double Portrait, Paena, Mexico City

2022 Entrance of Butterfly, Derosia, New York, NY

2020 Women in Fiction, Francois Ghebaly, Los Angeles, CA

2019 You, Too, Know That You Live, Fons Welters, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2018 Ordinary Time, Bodega (Derosia), New York, NY

2016 The Word for Forest, Bodega (Derosia), New York, NY

Infinite Iotic, Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, OH

2014 Night Painting, Beverly's, New York, NY

2013 Flesh and Ground, The Good Press Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland, UK

2011 All Alone, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA

2010 Like Flex / Like Flex, Bodega (Derosia), Philadelphia, PA (with Strauss Bourque-LaFrance)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 The Aldrich Decennial: I am what is around me, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT

2025 Trees Never End and Houses Never End, Sky High Farm, Germantown, NY

Leather & Plastic, Zadock Pratt Museum, Prattsville, NY

64 South, Derosia, Germantown,

Remains, Bureau, New York, NY

2023 Anything can pass before the eyes of a person, Derosia, New York, NY

Plant a Weed, curated by Francesca Altamura, Jack Barrett Gallery, New York, NY

Silent Retreat, Dunes, Portland, ME

I ♥ NO GO HOME, Astor Weeks, New York, NY

2022 Conflict Assembly, September, Kinderhook, NY

New England Triennial, deCorva Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln, MA

Chambres d'Amis, Office Baroque, Antwerp, Belgium

Looking Back: The 12th White Columns Annual, organized by Mary Manning, White Columns, New York, NY

2021 Chewing Fat, curated by Nancy Lupo, Kristina Kite Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Boys & Girls, curated by Alex Berns, No Gallery, New York, NY

The Future in Present Tense, François Ghebaly, New York, NY

2020 There Will Come Soft Rains, Gallery Candace Madey, New York, NY

An Artist Age Mess, Bodega (Derosia), New York, NY

2019 Nurikabe, organized by Troedsson Villa, Tetsuo's Garage, Nikko, Japan

Peel, François Ghebaly, Los Angeles, CA

Creation of a Moment, KaviarFactory, Henningsvær, Norway

THINK OF ME, Adams & Ollman, Portland, OR

2018 Les Soirées de Paris, Crèvecoeur, Paris, France

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- Figure in a Landscape, Foxy Production, New York, NY
Group exhibition with Huong Ngo, Elizabeth Atterbury, and Gordon Hall, Document, Chicago, IL
Being: New Photography, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 2017 Rubbings, Skibum MacArthur, Los Angeles, CA
Webutuck Vuitton, curated by Carlos Reyes, The Re-Institute, Millerton, NY
redirecting, Simone Subal, New York, NY
We The Watchers Are Also Bodies, Hercules, New York, NY
- 2016 Under all this dirt the floor is really very clean, Motel, Brooklyn, NY
Dana Hoey & Em Rooney, Raising Cattle, Montreal, Canada
After the Sun, The Vanity Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Center for Experimental Lectures, Storm King Art Center, New Windsor, NY
- 2015 Kleenex Rose, Bodega (Derosia), New York, NY
Space Answers, Bannerette, New York, NY
- 2014 I Make Me Up: The Work of Robert Seydel and His Students, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
Sex Without Bodies, Temporary Agency, New York, NY
- 2013 Silhouettes, Fort Hamilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 B-Out , Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY
Wrest, Spectrum, New York, NY
- 2011 The Associates, 1717 Troutman Gallery, New York, NY
Night Swings, Bodega (Derosia), Philadelphia, PA
Gender Reel Art and Film Festival, Philadelphia, PA
A Love Supreme, Philadelphia Photo Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA
Woot!, The Ice Box, Philadelphia, PA
Vagabondage, curated by Candice Madey, Hunter College, New York, NY

LECTURES AND PANELS

- 2026 Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
- 2024 Hunter College, New York, NY
The University of California, Los Angeles, CA
- 2023 Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Emily Carr University, Vancouver, Canada
- 2022 The University of Southern Florida, Tampa, FL
- 2021 Yale University Sculpture Department, New Haven, CT
- 2019 Gary Metz Lecturer, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
- 2018 Forever in Transition: Reconsidering Art and Politics of the 1980s, Panel Discussion, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Visiting Critic, Columbia MFA Program in Visual Art, New York, NY
Visiting Critic, School of Visual Arts, MFA Summer program, New York, NY
Visiting Critic, Cranbrook School of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 2017 Visiting Artist Lecture, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
PENCIL, COIN, KEYBOARD, DRINKING GLASS, HUMAN HAND OR FINGER, Situations, New York, NY
- 2016 Remembering the 60's: Rowland Scherman Panel Discussion, Denison University, Granville, OH
Visiting Artist Lecture, Ohio University, Athens, OH
Center for Experimental Lectures, Storm King Art Center, New Windsor, NY
- 2015 Visiting Artist Lecture, Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, OH

SELECTED CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2017 Other Romances: Marissa Bluestone, Terry Evans, Emma Hedditch, Xylor Jane, Baseera Khan, Sable Elyse Smith, Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York, NY

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- 2015 Toward a Thinking Rug: Eileen Myles, Grady O'Connor, Eric Veit, Carmen Winant, and Zoë Wright, Banerette, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 Portraits in Convex Mirrors: Celeste Dupuy-Spencer, Marissa Bluestone, Yevgeniya Bares, Michael Berryhill, Leigh Ruple, Alex Cohen, Xinyi Cheng, Nickolas Roudané, Bannerette, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 How to be Brash in New Unreddened Spaces: Isle Murdock, Emre Kocagil, Elanor Aldrich, Shirah Neumann, Gabe Pionkowski, Anna So Young Han, Ash Ferlito, Mary Vétisse, The Bermont Lab, Skowhegan, ME
- Celeste Dupuy-Spencer: The Deal, The Nicola Midnight St. Claire, Online
- 2011 Joanna Seitz: Rooms, Tyler Photography Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- Elizabeth Atterbury and Ashley Clarke: Thieves in the Temple, Tyler Photography Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- Bryan Graf: Sun Room, Tyler Photography Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- Elyse Derosia: Natural Portrait, Tyler Photography Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

PUBLICATIONS

Women in Fiction, Zolo Press, 2025, Print (monograph)

Xylor Jane: Notebooks, 2019, Print

Masculini (contributor) by Nancy Lupo, 2015

18+: Whatever Bodies, Races, Things, Art Papers, 2013, Print

Love is in the Flowers, Good Press, 2013, Print

On Strauss Bourque-LaFrance, Performa Magazine Online, 2013

Night Swings, Bodega Press, 2012, Print Knees On Neck, Rhinoceros Event: Issue #2, 2012

Laurie Anderson at The Fabric Workshop, The Nicola Midnight St. Claire, 2012

Introspective /Retrospective, Fleisher/Ollman, The Nicola Midnight St. Claire, 2012

The Philadelphia Story: A Check Up, The Nicola Midnight St. Claire, 2012

SELECTED PRESS

"Leather and Plastic," R.H. Lossin, e-flux, November 14, 2025

"Leather and Plastic" Exhibition Explores Industrial Legacy in Prattsville, Brian K. Mahoney, Chronogram, July 22, 2025

Twilight Talks with Kevin Moore, CUNY TV, May 26, 2022, Television

Em Rooney's Entrance of Butterfly, R.H. Lossin, Art Agenda, May 13, 2022

Em Rooney, an interview with Wendy Vogel, Foundwork, October 25, 2021

Interview: Em Rooney on finish and embodiment in "Women in Fiction," Ashton Cooper, Artforum, December 15, 2020

Our Sense of Self and the Chaos of our Strongest Feelings, Emile Rubino, La Chauffage, Issue One, Print

Em Rooney Explores the Photograph as Something to Be Held, Rosalind Duguid, Elephant Magazine, August 18, 2020

Partial Accountings of Photography, Sheilah ReStack, BlackFlash Magazine, Issue 37.1, 2020

Em Rooney, Objectiv Magazine Issue 20, November 3, 2019, Print

Interview with Brainard Carey, Yale University Radio, July 4, 2019, Radio

Basel Roundup, Ingo Niermann, Art Agenda, June 18, 2019

Paris Internationale, Julie Ackermann, Beaux Arts, October 19, 2018

Em Rooney, David Everitt Howe, Art in America, June 1, 2018, Print

10 Galleries to Visit Now on the Lower East Side, Holland Cotter, The New York Times, April 26, 2018, Print

MoMA's 'New Photography' Series Asks What It Means to Be Human, André-Naquian Wheeler, i-D, March 27, 2018

MoMA's Gripping 'New Photography' Goes Behind the Lens, Alex Greenberger, ARTnews, March 22, 2018

MoMA's New Photography Show Is a Testament to Being Human, Sarah Valdez, Garage, March 22, 2018

At MoMA, Photography Doesn't Have to Reinvent Itself to be Radical, Scott Indrisik, Artsy, March 20, 2018

Being: New Photography 2018 at MoMA, Maisie Skidmore, British Journal of Photography, March 15, 2018

Being and Belonging at MoMA, Annika Klein, Aperture, March 15, 2018

What's New in Photogoraphy? Humanism, MoMA Says, Arthur Lubow, The New York Times, March 9, 2018

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Look Harder: Good Art Things to See This Week, Rachel Miller, Brooklyn Magazine, December 7, 2016

LA Critic's Guide, Olivian Cha, Frieze, September 2016

Em Rooney, Andrew Kachel, Artforum, January 2016

Em Rooney, 'The Word for Forest' at Bodega, ARTnews, January 22, 2016

Portraits in Convex Mirrors, Scott Robinson, Painting is Dead, October 12, 2014

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2024 Anonymous Was A Woman Grant Nominee

2019 MacDowell Colony Fellowship, Peterborough, New Hampshire

2017 Interstate Studio Residency, Brooklyn, NY

2016 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant

2015 Shandaken at Storm King Artist in Residence, New Windsor, NY

2013 Pollock-Krasner Grant for Emergency Fellowship

2011 A Love Supreme juried by Peter Barbary, First Prize

2010 Project Completion Grant, Temple University

2010 Teaching Assistantship, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, FL