Leonard Streckfus was born in 1951 in Balimore, Maryland. He earned his BFA and MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. He also holds an MA in Art History from the University of Maryland.

The art of Picasso and Salvatore Scarpitta using found materials has been an enduring inspiration for Streckfus. His creative process involves the search for suggestive shapes among heaps of thrownaway objects which he “weaves” together to make poetic images in a kind of Surrealist simultaneity.

Highlights of Streckfus’s exhibition record include several shows in Italy, including “Kitsch oggi il kitsch” (curated by Gillo Dorfles), Triennale di Milano, 2012; a solo show at the Galleria Solaria Arte, Piacenza, 2002; two art fairs, “Bergamo Arte Fiera 2008” and “Cavalli in Piazza”, Piacenza, 2008; a solo show at the Galleria d’Arte Il Salotto, Como, 1989; the Concorso Internazionale di Sculture, Arona, 1996; the inaugural show at Musma, the museum of contemporary sculpture in Matera, 2006; and at the Libreria Garzanti, Milan, 1999.

USA shows include a solo show at the Italian Cultural Institute (curated by Luigi Sansone), New York, 2009, and a solo show at the Ward Center for the Arts at the St. Paul’s Schools, Brooklandville, Maryland, 2011. His work was included in “Tin, An Element of Surprise” (curated by Marlene True), Edwardsville Art Center, Illinois, 2010; “Second Nature: Recycled Materials Inspired by Animals, Plants and Insects” (curated by Michelle Stitzlein), Ohio Craft Museum, Columbus, 2009; “Found Objects: New Beginnings/the Art of Trash” (curated by Mari Ross), Public Works Museum, Baltimore, 2008; and “Trashformations” (curated by Lloyd Herman), Whatcom Museum of Art, Bellingham, Washington, 1997. His work has been represented in two shows at the Lancaster Museum of Art (PA) in 1998 and 2004 (curated by Cindi Morrison) and two shows at the Kentucky Derby Museum (1996, 1999) where he won the “Director’s Choice Award”. His work was selected for two Maryland Biennials at the Baltimore Museum of Art (1980, 1985), where his work was awarded a prize by Martin Puryear. Additional solo shows include the Academy of the Arts, Easton, MD, 1994, and the York College of Pennsylvania, 1998. He was selected for the Smithsonian Craft Show, Washington, DC, in 2003, 2005 and 2008.

He had solo shows at the Society for Contemporary Crafts, Pittsburgh, PA, 1997 and the Arts Club, Washington, DC (curated by Eric Denker), 2004. His work has been included in group shows at the Williamsburg Art Center, Brooklyn, NY, 2002; the Art Works Gallery, Newark, OH, 2003; the Greater Reston Arts Center, VA, 1997, 1998 (curated by Jack Rasmussen); and the Spruill Center for the Arts, Atlanta, GA, 1998, 2000, 2001. In Baltimore, he has exhibited at the Galerie Francoise (1991, 1993, 2005); Paper Rock Scissors (2002); Maryland Art Place (2006, 2003); the Creative Alliance (2007); the George Ciscle Gallery (1986) and the Steven Scott Gallery (1988, 2007). His work was selected for “Sculpture at Evergreen” (curated by Michael Brenson), Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 2000.