

ROSA LEFF

HAND CUT PAPER

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EDUCATION:

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Master of Science in Elementary Education, May 2012

Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY
Bachelor of Arts, May 2011
Concentrations: Writing, Education and Language (Spanish)

Instituto Superior De Arte, Havana, Cuba
Apprenticeship with Alejandro Cordobés, 2009

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2023 **Solo Exhibition**, Canton Museum of Art, Canton, OH, *Upcoming*
2021 **Mildest Dreams**, Luann Carra Gallery, Baltimore, MD
2020 **In Pursuit of Happiness**, Washington County Arts Council, Hagerstown, MD
2020 **Papercut Polaroids**, Soapbox Arts, Burlington, VT
2020 **Expectation/Reality**, The Art League, Alexandria, VA
2019 **Then & Only**, The Bromo Seltzer Arts Tower, Baltimore, MD
2019 **Perfectly Misunderstandable**, District Arts, Frederick, MD
2019 **Between**, Jubilee Arts, Baltimore, MD
2019 **Gallery Takeover**, Night Owl Gallery, Baltimore, MD
2019 **Pigeons and Power Lines**, Delaplaine Arts Center, Frederick MD
2018 **Half Truth**, High 5 Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
2018 **Papercut Pop Up**, Ruckus Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS:

2022 **Remembrances, Recollections, and Retrospect**, The Delaware Contemporary, Wilmington, DE, *Upcoming*
2021 **#mask: Creative Responses to the Global Pandemic**, Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, NM
2021 **Shanghai International Paper Art Biennale**, The Fengxian Museum, Shanghai, China
2021 **Latinx Spotlight**, Motor House, Baltimore, MD
2021 **Monochrome**, 311 Gallery, Raleigh, NC
2021 **The Big Show**, Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD
2021 **Ordinary Objects, Extraordinary Times**, District Arts, Frederick MD
2021 **National Juried Exhibition**, Delaplaine Arts Center, Frederick MD
2021 **Urban Landscapes**, Beacon Gallery, Boston, MA
2020 **Under 500**, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD

- 2020 **Philadelphia's Freedom**, National Liberty Museum, Philadelphia, PA
- 2020 **Us: What Divides Us and What Unites Us?**, Touchstone Gallery, Washington D.C.
- 2020 **Paper Works**, The Mansion at Strathmore, N. Bethesda, MD
- 2020 **Out of Order: Annual Benefit Exhibition**, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
- 2020 **Women's Caucus For Art Philadelphia: Black Lives Matter**, Virtual Exhibition.
- 2020 **Colors of Hope**, Da Vinci Art Alliance, Philadelphia, PA
- 2020 **National Juried Exhibition**, Delaplaine Arts Center, Frederick MD
- 2020 **As It Should Be**, Gallery CA, Baltimore, MD
- 2020 **Artists in the time of Coronavirus**, Artblog, Digital Exhibition
- 2020 **Ten**, Paradigm Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2020 **January Open**, The Art League at The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA
- 2019 **Spotlight Series**, Touchstone Gallery, Washington D.C.
- 2019 **The Gift of Art**, Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic, Fairfax, VA
- 2019 **Urban Tales**, InSquare Art, Baltimore, MD
- 2019 **Back & Forth**, Marian Van Landingham Gallery, Alexandria, VA
- 2019 **Paper In Places**, Gallery 3700, Arlington, VA
- 2019 **China-U.S.-Japan Paper-Cutting Exchange Exhibition**, Xianyang Worker Art Gallery, Xianyang, China
- 2019 **July Open**, The Art League at The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA
**Honorable Mention for "Race Street"*
- 2019 **South Philly: Pretty and Gritty**, Da Vinci Art Alliance, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 **May Open**, The Art League at The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA
- 2019 **pa•per**, Paradigm Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 **Out of Order: Annual Benefit Exhibition**, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
- 2018 **Under 500**, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
- 2018 **The Food Container Project**, James Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 **December Open**, The Art League at The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA
- 2018 **One House Project**, BlackRock Center for the Arts, Germantown, MD
- 2018 **CraftNOW**, The Kimmel Center, Philadelphia PA
- 2018 **America Undone**, Suzanne Roberts Theater & Mount Airy Art Garage, Philadelphia PA
- 2018 **September Open**, The Art League at The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA
- 2018 **What's Cooking?**, Guild of American Papercutters' National Museum, Sommerset, PA
- 2018 **Art Hop Takoma**, Takoma, MD
- 2018 **Out of Order: Annual Benefit Exhibition**, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
- 2018 **Making Israel Real**, Temple Judea Museum, Elkins Park, PA
- 2018 **International Variety**, James Oliver Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 **America From Sea To Shining Sea**, Open Space Gallery, Rockville, MD
- 2017 **Under The Knife**, Hicks Art Center Gallery, Newtown, PA
- 2016 **JOG 10: The 10th Anniversary Show**, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 **City Arts Salon**, Sharktown, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 **Rhapsody In Our Mind**, Boston Street Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

COLLECTIONS

- 2021 **Museum of International Folk Art**, Santa Fe, NM
- 2021 **The Colored Girls' Museum**, Philadelphia, PA

GRANTS & AWARDS:

- 2021 **The Harris Award**, Sommerset, PA
This award honors a member of the Guild of American Papercutters who has made outstanding contributions to the organization and has contributed something extraordinary to the art of papercutting.
- 2021 **Municipal Art Society of Baltimore Artist Travel Prize**, Baltimore, MD
Funds from this award will allow me to spend one week in New York learning traditional Mexcian papercutting from Blanka Amezkuua. I will then spend a month in Puebla, Mexico learning from the master who taught her.
- 2021 **Regional Independent Artist Award**: Baltimore, MD
I was given this award by the Maryland State Arts Council in recognition of my promise and artistic achievement.
- 2021 **Baltimore Office of Promotion & Art: Development Grant**, Baltimore, MD
Funds from this grant allowed me to purchase materials and modify my studio to be able to create large scale works.
- 2020 **The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation**, Philadelphia, PA
Funds from this grant will allow me to create a series of life-size papercut self-portraits in my various roles demonstrating that not only can Black people be all things, but a single Black woman can be a dozen things all at once.
- 2020 **Maryland State Arts Council: Professional Development Grant**, Baltimore, MD
The Council provided funding for me to attend The Guild of American Papercutters' Conference which was canceled due to Covid-19. The Council generously allowed me to use the grant to fund an upcoming exhibition.
- 2019 **Maryland Arts Summit Scholarship**, Baltimore, MD
Funding allowed me to attend the inaugural Maryland State Arts Summit to learn from and network with members of the arts community throughout the state.
- 2017 **Making Israel Real**, The Philadelphia Jewish Federation, Philadelphia, PA
Funding allowed for the study of Jewish art history and creation of works in response to the current state of Israel.

SELECTED MEDIA:

Puig, Alicia. "**Top 10 Tips For Plein Air.**" *All She Makes*, All She Makes, 13 August. 2021, www.allshemakes.org/blog/plein-air-tips.

Lee, Rob. "**Rosa Leff.**" Getting To The Truth In This Art Podcast, 9 Aug. 2021, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/getting-to-the-truth-in-this-art-rosa-leff/id1497950772?i=1000531462386>.

VoyageBaltimore. "**Rising Stars: Meet Rosa Leff.**" VoyageBaltimore Magazine | Baltimore's Most Inspiring Stories, 9 Aug. 2021, voyagebaltimore.com/interview/rising-stars-meet-rosa-leff-of-riverside/

Editor of *First Cut Magazine: A Publication of the Guild of American Papercutters*, 2017- 2021.

Jenkins, Mark. **“Review | In the Galleries: Rosa Leff”** *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 6 Nov. 2020, www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/art-gallery-shows-dc/2020/11/05/b43111ce-1c77-11eb-90dd-abd0f7086a91_story.html.

Johns, Carter. **“Elevating Black Arts: Power of Penn Stories.”** *Power of Penn*, The University of Pennsylvania, 18 Aug. 2020, https://powerofpenn.upenn.edu/elevating-black-arts/?utm_source=kfg&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=issue_20.

Zuccarini, Christy. **“Rosa Leff: Hand Cut Paper Artist.”** *Made In Isolation*, 24 June 2020, www.madeinisolacion.org/rosa-leff.

Kopf, Suzy. **“Art AND: Rosa Leff.”** *BmoreArt*, BmoreArt, 20 May 2020, <https://bmoreart.com/2020/05/art-and-rosa-leff.html>.

Harmon, Patti. **“Sarah Lawrence Alumni Magazine.”** *Sarah Lawrence Alumni Magazine*, 2020, p. 61. <https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/magazine/mind-the-gap/alumni/gallery.html>.

Jenkins, Mark. **“Review | In the Galleries: Places In Paper.”** *The Washington Post*, WP Company, 28 Nov. 2019, www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-at-american-university-museum-a-world-of-atmosphere/2019/11/27/1f8ddf88-0f9a-11ea-9cd7-a1becbc82f5e_story.html.

Maiorano, Grace. **“New Exhibition at Paradigm Explores the Possibility of Paper.”** *South Philly Review*, 29 Apr. 2019, southphillyreview.com/2019/04/29/new-exhibition-at-paradigm-explores-the-possibility-of-paper/.

Krysa, Danielle. **“pa-per {a group show}.”** *The Jealous Curator* /// *Curated Contemporary Art*, 23 Apr. 2019, www.thejealouscurator.com/blog/.

Sierzputowski, Kate. **“Imitation China Plates and Layered Cut Paper Animals Explore the Sculptural Potential of Paper in a New Exhibition at Paradigm Gallery.”** *Colossal*, 19 Apr. 2019, www.thisiscolossal.com/2019/04/paper-paradigm-gallery/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A%2Bcolossal%2B%28Colossal%29.

Roach, Imani. **“Rosa Leff Talks About Contemporary Cut Paper.”** *Artblog*, 11 Nov. 2018, <https://www.theartblog.org/2018/11/rosa-leff-talks-about-contemporary-cut-paper/>.

Leff, Rosa. **“In Reflection.”** <https://www.thepaulreview.com/>, PAUL: Philadelphia Arts and Urban Literary Review, 1 Apr. 2017, www.thepaulreview.com/.

Laudenslager, Evan Paul. **“Landscapes of Shadow and Line.”** *Artblog*, 9 July 2016, www.theartblog.org/2016/07/landscapes-of-shadow-and-line-rosa-leffs-papercuts-at-boston-street-gallery/.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

2021-Present Member, The Paper Artist Collective
2020 Member, Women's Caucus for Art, National Organization
2019- Present Member, Xianyang Papercutters Association, Xianyang, China
2019- Present Member, Gallery 75, Alexandria, VA
2019- 2020 Member, Torpedo Factory Artists' Association, Alexandria, VA
2018- Present Vice President of Digital Communications, Guild of American Papercutters, Somerset, PA
2018- Present Member, The Art League, Alexandria, VA
2017- Present Member, Guild of American Papercutters, Somerset, PA