Leo Louise

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Leo Louise (they/them) is a queer and trans artist, maker, and educator based in Baltimore, MD. They transform found wood into sculptural objects that honor queerness, abundance, and cooperation in nature.

Group Exhibitions

2026	***2026 Faculty Exhibition,*** Shakerag Workshops, Mount Eagle, TN
2026	*The Active Power of Touch*, The Peale, Baltimore, MD
2026	***Rooted: A Spring Art Exhibition,*** Rawlings Conservatory, Baltimore, MD
2026	***Out Of Order: Trashed,*** Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
2025	*Fervor,* Hamilton Arts Gallery, Baltimore, MD
2025	***Out Of Order: Barbarella Queen of the Galaxy,*** Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD
2025	***Shit Show***, XoXo Gallery, Baltimore, MD
2024	***Faculty Exhibition: Session 6***, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME
2024	*New Shapes*, hosted by Not Real Art, online exhibition
2023	*Small Wonders* (Juried by Lillian Bayley Hoover), Circle Gallery, Annapolis, MD (Honorable Mention)

Gallery Affiliations

2026	**Pocosin Arts Gallery, Columbia, NC** – works available for purchase

Teaching Experience

2023-now	**Wood Instructor & Shop Monitor**, Station North Tool Library, Baltimore, MD
2027 (confirmed)	**Instructor**, *Exploring Textured Wood Surfaces*, North Country Studio Workshops, Bennington, VT
2026 (confirmed)	**Instructor**, *Wood Jewelry & Surface Embellishment*, Shakerag Workshops, Sewanee, TN
2026 (confirmed)	**Instructor & Demonstrator**, Rocky Mountain Woodturning Symposium, Loveland, CO
2025	**Instructor**, *Sculptural Spoon Carving*, Pocosin Arts School of Fine Crafts, Columbia, NC

Awards & Grants

2026, Spring	**Multitool Award**, Station North Tool Library, Baltimore, MD
2025, Fall	**Get Ready Grant**, The Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF+) In support of my professional development as a teaching artist.
2025, Fall	**Jordan Scholarship**, Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
2024, Summer	**Workshop Scholarship**, Pocosin Arts School of Fine Craft, Columbia, NC
2023, Summer	**Workshop Scholarship**, Pocosin Arts School of Fine Craft, Columbia, NC

Residencies

2025, Fall	**Maxwell/Hanrahan Guest Artist Residency**, Peter's Valley School of Craft, Layton, NJ

Artist Talks & Presentations

2026	***Queering Wood Craft: an LGBTQIA+ Woodworkers Roundtable Part 12b***, The Museum for Art in Wood Online Programming, January 10th, 2026, with Sterling Cruz-Herr

Relevant Experience

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2023-now	**Founder & Artist**, Thanks Friend Studio, Baltimore, MD
2026 (expected)	**TA** (Kate Hawes), *Wood Utensils for Fun & Function*, Pocosin School of Fine Crafts, Columbia, NC
2024	**TA** (Kate Hawes), *Holding Meaning, Extending Form*, Haystack School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME
2024	**TA** (Graeme Priddle & Lisa Klakulak), *Wood & Wool Collab*, Shakerag Workshops, Sewanee, TN
2023	**Part-Time Woodshop Assistant**, Heavy Paper Co. + Asé Design Studio, Baltimore, MD

Commissions

2024	**Leather-Dyed Bandsaw Box**, Private Collector, Baltimore, MD Bandsaw box with single drawer made for a local jewelry maker to match an object she created.
2025	**Upcycled Cedar Coffee Table**, Private Collector, Baltimore, MD Custom coffee table made from upcycled cedar dresser door.
2026	**Box for T-Rex**, Private Collector, Baltimore, MD Custom carved bandsaw box.

Artworks Contributed to Edited Volumes

2023	***Suboart Magazine***, Print Issue #10, September 2023. Pgs. 110-111.

Education

2007	High School Diploma, Baltimore School for the Arts, Baltimore, MD, USA
2011	BFA, New York University, New York, NY (Major: Music Production, Minor: Environmental Studies)

Mentorships

2023-now	Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler, mentors to my creative practice and teaching career
2026	Artist To Artist with Jeffrey Kent: Mentoring & Consultation

Associations

2023-now	**Member,** A Workshop of Our Own, Baltimore, MD