

## BIO

Gelah Penn's work expands the language of drawing in sculptural space. Recent solo exhibitions include: Undercurrent (Brooklyn, NY); Baker Center for the Arts/Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA); Amelie A. Wallace Gallery/SUNY Old Westbury (Old Westbury, NY); Foley Gallery, Bookstein Projects (New York, NY); and ICEHOUSE Project Space (Sharon, CT). Recent group exhibitions include the Center for Maine Contemporary Art (Rockland, ME); Felician University (Rutherford, NJ); Odetta, Equity Gallery, Kentler Int'l Drawing Space, and The Yard (New York, NY). Her work is in the collections of the Weatherspoon Art Museum (Greensboro, NC), Arkansas Arts Center, (Little Rock, AR), Columbus Museum (Columbus, GA), Brooklyn Museum Library (Brooklyn, NY) and Gund Library/Cleveland Institute of Art (Cleveland, OH). Reviews of her work have been published in *Art in America*, *The New York Times*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *d'Art International*, *Whitehot Magazine*, *artcritical*, and featured in *Sculpture Magazine*, *Art Maze Mag* and *Peripheral Vision Press*. Penn has received a Tree of Life Individual Artist Grant and fellowships from the Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, Yaddo and MacDowell. After years in NYC, the artist now lives and works in rural Connecticut.

## STATEMENT

In my site-responsive installations and constructed drawings, I assemble experiences of visual ambiguity and psychological unease. Through cutting, layering, tearing, stapling and stretching synthetic materials, I foreground internal conceptual and formal dualities: substance and immateriality, cohesion and fragmentation, object and image. My aim is to choreograph events of perceptual incident. My hope is that this conflation of disparate parts – mark, shadow, geometry, gesture, concord, dissonance – results in some sort of vertiginous whole. My interest in film and fiction informs the work.

## CV & PRESS LINKS

b. Beaver Falls, PA  
Lives and works in rural Connecticut

selected solo exhibitions

2020

*Uneasy Terms*, Undercurrent, Brooklyn, NY

2019

*WHITEOUT*, ICEHOUSE Project Space, Sharon, CT

2017

*High Tide*, Baker Center for the Arts, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA (catalogue)

*Situations and Polyglots*, Amelie A. Wallace Gallery, SUNY College at Old Westbury, Long Island, NY (catalogue)

2015

*Polyglot Y Unhinged*, Lori Bookstein Fine Art, Open Window Project, NYC  
*Double Indemnity + Polyglots*, Foley Gallery, New York, NY

2010 *Shadow of a Doubt*, Carl Berg Projects, Los Angeles, CA

2009

*Clash By Night*, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT

2008

*The Narrow Margin*, Rowan University Art Gallery, Glassboro, NJ

2006

*Detour*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY

*Swing Time*, Dam Stuhltrager Gallery, Project Room, Brooklyn, NY

2005

*On Dangerous Ground*, Realform Project Space, Brooklyn, NY

2001

*Gelah Penn: Recent Work*, 354 Exhibitions, Brooklyn, NY

selected group exhibitions

2021

*The Stubborn Influence of Painting*, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, CO, curated by Kate Petley (upcoming)

*Here and There*, Cove Street Arts, Portland, ME, curated by David Row (upcoming)

2020

*XS*, Alfa Gallery, Miami, FL

*Booth 07 Online Viewing Rooms*, Alfa Gallery, Miami, FL

*Art Off-Screen*, international online exhibition, curated by Eileen Jeng

*Drawing Challenge III*, Jason McCoy Gallery, New York, NY

*USPS Art Project* (traveling exhibition), collaborations, curated by Christina Massey

2019

*Liz Atz and Gelah Penn: SPLICE*, The Yard, New York, NY, curated by Eileen Jeng

*Thisness and Whatness*, Felician University, Rutherford, NJ, curated by Scott Reeds

*Femmes Fatales: Ebb Tide*, ODETTA/Chelsea, New York, NY

*Inversions: Contemporary Art Influenced by the Architecture of Louis Kahn*, Gallery RIVAA, Roosevelt Island, New York, NY, curated by Melinda Wang

*The Idiosyncratic Pencil Resharpened*, Harper Gallery, Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC

2018 *Onyx*, Alfa Gallery, Miami, FL

*Consciousness*, Alfa Gallery, Miami, FL

*Flat???*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY, curated by William Stover

*Material*, Alfa Gallery, Miami, FL

*Beyond Black & White*, Westbeth Gallery, New York, NY

*The Idiosyncratic Pencil*, Harper Gallery, Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC

2017

*Materiality: The Matter of Matter*, Center for Maine Contemporary Art,

Rockland, ME

2017:1947, Equity Gallery, New York, NY

Give Voice, LMAK Projects, New York, NY

Noir: Defining the Melodrama, Longwood Art Gallery, Bronx Council on the Arts, Bronx, NY

2016

SFAI Alumni Exhibition, Diego Rivera Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, curated by Katya Min

Selections from the Collection, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC

PLACE: Monumental Drawings by Dawn Clements, Cynthia Lin, Gelah Penn, Fran Siegel, Equity Gallery, New York, NY

Sideshow Nation IV: Thru the Rabbit Hole, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2015

Volume 2: Black & White, Schema Projects, Brooklyn, NY

Diphthong, Shirley Fiterman Art Center of BMCC, New York, NY

Seeing Sound: New Works by Jane Harris, Alex Paik, Gelah Penn, Odetta Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Sideshow Nation III: Circle the Wagons, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Paperazzi IV, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2014

Global Books, Bibliotheque Municipale Louis Nucera, Nice, France

Plane Talk(ing): Richard Bottwin, Connie Goldman, Gelah Penn, Key Projects, Long Island City, NY

Art on Paper 2014, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC (catalogue)

6018 Wilshire, Edward Cella Art & Architecture, Los Angeles, CA

Large and Small, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY

Sideshow Nation II: At the Alamo, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Paperazzi III, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2013

The Language of Painting, Lesley Heller Workspace, New York, NY

CONstruct/ConSTRUCT, Clark University, Schiltkamp Gallery, Worcester, MA

Paper, AndrewShire Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Paper, Mirror, Torn, Brian Morris Gallery, New York, NY

Sideshow Nation, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Paperazzi II, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2012

Paper Band, Jason McCoy Gallery, New York, NY

Cut Up, Storefront Bushwick, Brooklyn, NY

Morphed, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

The Annual: 2012, National Academy Museum, New York, NY (catalogue)

Textility, Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit, NJ (catalogue)

Paperazzi, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2011

Chain Letter, Samson Projects, Boston, MA

Summer Paper, Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

2 + 2 = 4, Elizabeth Harris Gallery, New York, NY

On the Wall/Off the Wall, Lori Bookstein Fine Art, New York, NY

Paper 2011, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*It's All Good: apocalypse now*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2010

*Off the Wall*, Allegra LaViola Gallery, New York, NY

*Paper Works*, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*It's a Wonderful 10th*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2009

*Gelah Penn*, Daniel Brodo, David Brody, Jancar Gallery/Jancar Projects, Los Angeles, CA

*Drawing Itself: A Survey of Contemporary Practice*, Brattleboro Museum, Brattleboro, VT

*Multi[Ply]*, Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ

*UrbanSuburban*, Kansas City Jewish Museum, Overland Park, KS

*Partners in Art and Life*, Brooklyn Public Library, New York, NY, curated by Lynn Saville

*Summer Session*, Dam Stuhltrager Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*Inside Abstraction*, Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

*Degrees of Density*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY, curated by Marilyn Symmes, Arkansas Arts Center and Columbus Museum

*Linear Abstraction*, McKenzie Fine Art, New York, NY

*It's a Wonderful Life*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2008

*Present, Perfect, Continuous*, Nurtureart, Brooklyn, NY

*The Persistence of Line*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY, curated by Charlotta Kotik

*Your Documents Please*, Museum of Arts and Crafts, Itami, Japan (traveling exhibition: Budapest, Berlin, Bratislava, Guadalajara, New York. (catalogue)

*Site 92: Phase II*, Smack Mellon, Brooklyn NY

*The Notion of Line*, Alpan Gallery, Huntington, LI

*Peace*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2007

*Radius*, Metaphor Contemporary Art, Brooklyn, NY

*Variations in Black & White*, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY

*War is Over "Again,"* Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2006

*New Works: Chris Martin, Leslie Roberts, Gelah Penn*, Holiday, Brooklyn, NY

*Major Drawings*, Carl Berg Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

*Parts to the Whole*, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA, curated by Elizabeth M. Grady

*War is Over*, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2005

*Gyrations*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY

*Project Diversity*, Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn NY

*New '05*, Nurtureart at Spike Gallery, New York, NY

2004

*Drawings: Form, Content, Materials*, Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, Narrowsburg, NY

Merry/Peace, Sideshow Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2003

354 Exhibitions, Brooklyn, NY

2001

*Momenta Art Benefit*, Momenta Art at White Columns, Brooklyn & New York City, curated by Eric Heist

2000

*The Brooklyn Project*, Semi-Public at 354 Exhibitions, Brooklyn, NY

1999

Pierogi 2000 flatfiles

1998

Eich Space, NYC

*Seeing Money*, Rotunda Gallery, New York, NY

1995

*Buoys: Marking the Place*, Art Initiatives/Bill Bace Gallery, NYC, curated by Bill Bace (catalogue)

1994

Sculpture Center, New York, NY

*Mass Exposure*, Art Initiatives, New York, NY

1993

*Songs of Retribution*, Richard Anderson Gallery, New York, NY, curated by Nancy Spero

Sculpture Center, New York, NY

1992

*On Paper*, Sculpture Center, New York, NY, curated by Peter Hristoff  
fellowships/awards

FID Prize Finalist, 2017

Tree of Life Individual Artist Grant, 2016

Yaddo Visual Artist Fellowship, 2014

Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, 2010-11, Brooklyn, NY

Saatchi Online Magazine Critic's Choices, 2006

MacDowell Visual Artist Fellowship, 1989

selected collections

Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR

Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC

The Columbus Museum, Columbus, GABrooklyn Museum Library, Brooklyn, NY

Cleveland Institute of Art, Gund Library, Cleveland, OH

Chase Manhattan Bank, New York, NY

Fox Rothschild, LLP, Philadelphia, PA

NV/da Architects, New York, NY

O'Neill McVoy Architects, New York, NY selected bibliography and links

[Cohen, David. Fendrich, Laurie. McAdam, Barbara. Trouillot, Terence. "The Review Panel: Discussing Curtis Tawalst Santiago, Willa Nasatir, Gelah Penn, Joanna Poussette-Dart," \*artcritical\*, March 11, 2020](#)

[WM staff. "Gelach Penn's Way Into Her Work is Through Materials," \*Whitehot Magazine\*, March 2020](#)

[Mendelsohn, John. "Gelach Penn: Uneasy Terms at Undercurrent," \*dArt International Magazine\*, Feb. 25, 2020](#)

[Sarah Cascone/Tanner West, "Editors' Picks: 16 Things Not to Miss in NY's Art World This Week," \*artnet\*, Feb. 10, 2020](#)

[The Menu, Visual Arts. "Gelach Penn On Uneasy Terms," \*Quiet Lunch\*, Jan. 28, 2020](#)

["Featured Artists," \*artmaze mag\* \(London\), Autumn Issue #9, 2018](#)

[Gleeson, Scott. "Gelach Penn's Dynamics," \*Peripheral Vision Press\*, March 9, 2018](#)

[McGlynn, Tom. "Dust and Footsteps Shining," \*Gelach Penn: High Tide\*, Baker Center for the Arts, Muhlenberg College, exhibition catalogue, October 2017](#)

[Schwabsky, Barry. "Nuances Matter," \*Gelach Penn: Situations and Polyglots\*, Amelie A. Wallace Gallery, SUNY College at Old Westbury, exhibition catalogue, Apr. 2017](#)

[Yi, Hyewon, Ph.D. "Constructive Improvisation," \*Gelach Penn: Situations and Polyglots\*, Apr. 2017](#)

[Landi, Ann. "Under the Radar: Gelach Penn," \*Vasari21\*, March 6, 2017](#)

*Artists to Artists, Vol. 2 (2002-2016)*, Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, 2016 (catalogue)

*Making History Bushwick*, Arts in Bushwick, 2016 (catalogue)

Panero, James. "Gallery Chronicle," *The New Criterion*, Nov. 2015

Corio, Paul. "Seen in New York, September 2015," *Painters' Table*, Oct. 7, 2015

[Mendelsohn, John. "The Ghost in the Machine: Diphthong at the Fiterman," \*artcritical.com\*, Oct. 5, 2015](#)

[Panero, James. "Gallery Chronicle," \*The New Criterion\*, Oct. 2015](#)

[Stevenson, Jonathan. "Revitalization by Contamination: Object'hood at Lesley Heller Workspace," \*Two Coats of Paint\*, Aug. 2, 2015](#)

[Mermall, Madeleine. "Object'hood at Lesley Heller Workspace," \*Arte Fuse\*, Aug. 8, 2015](#)

Laster, Paul. "9 Things to do in the NY Artworld Before July 24," *observer.com*, July 20, 2015

Editors. "9 Art Events to Attend in New York City This Week," *artnews.com*, July 20, 2015

Russinof, Anne. "Gelach Penn at Foley Gallery," *Gallery Travels*, June 8, 2015

[Silvis, John. "Geloh Penn," What I Am Seeing, Nov. 21, 2014](#)

[Scozzaro, Carrie. "Out of the Ordinary: Geloh Penn Uses Unconventional Materials to Make Her Mark," \*Inlander\*, Nov. 7, 2013](#)

Cohen, David.  
"Artcritical Pick: Paper Band at Jason McCoy Gallery," *artcritical.com*,  
Aug. 2012

[Joy, Christopher; Keeting, Zachary. "Geloh Penn, Feb. 2012," \*Gorky's Granddaughter\*, May 3, 2012](#)

Behnke, Paul. "Morphed@Janet Kurnatowski Gallery, Structure and Imagery,"  
Feb. 19, 2012

Price, Marshall N. "Constellation: The 2012 Annual," National Academy  
Museum, Jan. 2012 (catalogue)

[Birmingham, Mary. "Shifting Dimensions in Textility;" Mattera, Joanne. "Material Means: Diverse Practices, Common Threads;" Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, "Textility," exhibition catalogue, Jan. 2012](#)

Samelson, Henry. "Geloh Penn," Buddy of Work, Apr. 7, 2012

Hurst, Howard. "Summer in Dumbo: A Visit to the Sharpe Foundation,"  
*Hyperallergic*, July 6, 2011

Naves, Mario. "Art in Brooklyn. Who Knew?" Too Much Art, June 25, 2011

Contarino, Vince. "The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation The Space Program  
Open Studios," KCLOG, Apr. 23, 2011

[Rosoff, Patricia. "Geloh Penn: Surface Tensions," \*Sculpture Magazine\*, Nov. 2010, Vol. 29, No. 9](#)

[Kalm, James. "Off the Wall at Allegra LaViola Gallery," \*Rough Cuts: YouTube\*, July 10, 2010](#)

Martin, Karen. "Degrees of Density at Arkansas Arts Center," *I  
nArkansas.com*, July 2, 2010

Barrick, Nicole. "Allegra LaViola Gallery Opens Show with Sculptural Works  
Attached to the Wall," *artdaily.org*, June 3, 2010.

Ward, Terry. "Off the Wall at Allegra LaViola," *M Magazine*, 2010.

[Catlin, Roger. "Clash By Night: Shadows Become Art," \*Hartford Courant\*,  
Aug. 20, 2009](#)

Symmes, Marilyn. "Degrees of Density," Kentler International Drawing  
Space, exhibition brochure, June 2009

Butler, Sharon. "I like line, too," *Two Coats of Paint*, Jan. 22, 2009

Wong, Denise. "Present, Perfect, Continuous," *Nurtureart*, exhibition  
brochure, Nov. 2008

Kotik, Charlotta. "The Persistence of Line," Kentler International Drawing Space, exhibition brochure, June 2008

[Genocchio, Benjamin. "Drawings Set Apart in a World of Lines," \*The New York Times\*, Mar. 9, 2008](#)

Budick, Ariella. "Review: Serena Bocchino, Gelah Penn, Art at Alpan," *Newsday*, Mar. 7, 2008

[Frank, Peter. "Geloh Penn: Drawinstallations," Rowan University Art Gallery, exhibition brochure, Jan. 2008](#)

Deliso, Meredith. "Smack Mellon Breaks Out of the White Cube in Dumbo," *Brooklyn Heights Courier*, January 2008

[Miller, Leigh Anne. "Geloh Penn at Kentler and Dam Stuhltraeger," \*Art in America\*, Oct. 2006](#)

[Frank, Peter. "Major Drawings at Carl Berg Gallery," \*Artweek\*, Apr. 2006, vol. 37, issue 3](#)

Ollman, Leah. "Around the Galleries: Major Drawings at Carl Berg," *The Los Angeles Times*, Mar. 10, 2006

[La Rocco, Ben. "Geloh Penn, International Drawing Center," \*The Brooklyn Rail\*, Mar. 2006](#)

[Schmerler, Sarah. "Geloh Penn: Detour," Kentler International Drawing Space, exhibition brochure, Jan. 2006](#)

Rosof, Libby. "Parts of What's Up," Roberta Fallon and Libby Rosof's Artblog, Jan. 8, 2006

Kalm, James. "Critics Pics: Geloh Penn at Realform Project Space," *Wagmag*, May 2005

Bace, Bill. "Buoys: Marking the Place," exhibition catalogue, 1995

Henry, Gerrit. "Reviews," *ArtNews*, Nov. 1982

selected artist essays, interviews, publications

["Studio tour: Geloh Penn" video, Ely Center of Contemporary Art, Aug. 24, 2020](#)

["Geloh Penn: Art Uncovered with Kimberly Ruth," \*BTRtoday\*, Aug. 18, 2020](#)

["A Conversation with Tom McGlynn and Geloh Penn," \*Undercurrent\*, April 3, 2020](#)

["Geloh Penn, Uneasy Terms," \*Undercurrent\*, Feb. 11, 2020](#)

["Clare Churchouse and Geloh Penn: Cross-Pollination," \*Expanded Drawing\*](#)



[Practices, Feb. 25, 2020](#)

["Gelah Penn: Confounding Parameters," Expanded Drawing Practices, April 27, 2017](#)

["Our Community: Gelah Penn," NY Artists Equity, Aug. 2016](#)

["One Question, One Answer: Gelah Penn," Romanov Grave, May 27, 2016](#)

["PLACE O & A: Dawn Clements, Cynthia Lin, Gelah Penn, Fran Siegel, Jonathan Rider," May 2016](#)

["On Process: Gelah Penn," Tilted Arc, Apr. 7, 2015](#)

["Gelah Penn," What I am Seeing Now, studio visit with John Silvis, Nov. 21, 2014](#)

["Gelah Penn" Gorky's Granddaughter, video interview with Christopher Joy & Zachary Keeting, Feb. 2012](#)

["Chroniques," artist Gelah Penn, poet Claude Minière; an artist book project of publisher Gervais Jassaud/Collectif Génération, 2011](#)

["Criss Cross," Gelah Penn, NYFA Current, Oct. 2011](#)

"Limits," *Allotrope*, Issue #03, Oct. 2011

["Featured Artist: Gelah Penn," Making the Art Seen, Nov. 2010](#) curatorial projects

2016

*PLACE: Monumental Drawings by Dawn Clements, Cynthia Lin, Gelah Penn, Fran Siegel*, Equity Gallery, NYC, curated by Gelah Penn and Jonathan Rider

2015

*Diphthong*, Shirley Fiterman Art Center of BMCC, NYC, curated by Stephen Maine and Gelah Penn

*object'hood*, Lesley Heller Workspace, NYC, curated by Inna Babaeva and Gelah Penn

related professional activities

[White Columns Curated Artist Registry](#), New York, NY

Baker Center for the Arts, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA, artist talk, 2017

SUNY College at Old Westbury, Old Westbury, NY, artist talk, 2017

California State University, Long Beach, CA, visiting critic, 2017

Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, Spokane, WA, 2013

College Art Association, 101st Annual Conference, "Painting: The Elastic Frontier," panel, 2013

SUNY New Paltz, adjunct lecturer, 2012

Christie's Education, NYC, guest lecturer, 2012

School of Visual Arts, NYC, guest lecturer, 2016, 2012, 2011

SUNY Purchase, NY, guest lecturer, 2010

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, guest lecturer, 2010

Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT, artist talk, 2009

Lehman College, NYC, guest lecturer, 2008, 2007

Rowan University Art Gallery, Glassboro, NJ, artist talk, 2008  
Dam Stuhltrager Gallery, "Women in the Arts," NYC, panel, 2006  
Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY, artist talk, 2006  
education  
San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA; BFA  
Also Brandeis University & University of Maryland

[Instagram](#)