



> texture



> expression



Jessica Burko

Jessica Burko is a mixed-media artist who combines traditional photography with encaustic medium. She has been exhibiting her work since 1985 in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States, including on the set of Ben Affleck's 2010 film, *The Town*. Burko holds a BFA in Fine Art Photography from Rhode Island School of Design, and an MFA in Imaging Arts and Science from Rochester Institute of Technology. In addition to being a practicing artist, Burko works as Director of Marketing with Kingston Gallery in Boston, MA. She is also an independent curator with more than thirty exhibitions produced since 2001. Burko regularly lectures and leads Arts Marketing workshops with organizations such as the Danforth Art Museum, MASS MoCA's Assets for Artists Program, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Burko is originally from Philadelphia, and currently works from her studio in Boston's South End, while the Roslindale neighborhood is home to her family.

"Quiet/Loud addresses themes of personal identity, balancing mother, artist, and individual, while endeavoring to emerge whole from the complicated soup of being human."

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HOURS

Check website for weekly hours



Jessica Burko

Artist Statement: *Quiet/Loud*

Maintaining a sense of self while navigating expected roles of modern womanhood feels like flying and drowning, like I am perpetually in a state of elation, deep exhaustion, and tense bewilderment all rolled into one. *Quiet/Loud* addresses themes of personal identity, balancing mother, artist, and individual, while endeavoring to emerge whole from the complicated soup of being human.

In this generation of becoming parents later in life, mothers are expected to maintain their professional status along with being the nurturer, chef, housekeeper, chauffeur, bookkeeper, and event planner. Visualizing the contradiction between asserting an identity as an individual and being lost in the onslaught of losing oneself in parenthood is portrayed by being silenced and blinded, of teetering on a precipice populated by broken, disembodied toys. Presenting self-portraits beneath encaustic medium is my way of quieting the penetrating sounds of life while also surrendering to its insistence. The many-step process of creating the works and the overall installation is imbued with both meditative and monotonous motion driven by the need to reconcile the disparity of suffering and love.

Creating the work in *Quiet/Loud* is my way of finding place, meaning, purpose, and a feeling of time in lieu of its actuality. The capture of self-portraits in motion speaks to the multi-tasking pace of each day, while also visually embodying the connection between conscious, subconscious, and unconscious through action and reaction. Through the depiction of this frenzied motion and the use of fairy-tale phrases scrawled on walls, I am working to establish a thread between mind, body, and the relentlessness of parenting.

Education

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York, MFA, Imaging Arts and Sciences – 1999

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island, BFA, Fine Art Photography – 1996

Selected Exhibitions & Honors

2017

ArtProv, *Quiet/Loud*, solo exhibition, Providence, RI

Providence Art Club, *Making Your Mark*, curated by Kathryn Wat, Chief Curator, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Providence, RI

Providence Art Club, Recipient of the Maxwell Mays Gallery Best In Show award for *Just then the spell was broken*, Providence, RI

2016

Uforge Gallery, *Juror's Choice*, curated by Liz Devlin/Flux Boston, Jamaica Plain, MA

Brookline Arts Center, Artists Marketplace, Brookline, MA

2015

9 Cummins, *Layer by Layer: Encaustic Art by Boston Women*, artist curated exhibition as part of Roslindale Open Studios, Roslindale, MA

Atlantic Wharf Gallery, *Artist/Educator/Mentor*, Boston, MA

Boston Public Library, *Dreamscapes and Memories*, solo show, West Roxbury, MA

Wedeman Gallery, Lasell College, *Paper/Cut: The Contemporary Collage Show*, Newton, MA

Papercuts JP, *Small Works*, Jamaica Plain, MA

2014

Piano Craft Gallery, *ART 100*, Boston MA

FPAC Gallery, *Fort Point Open Studios Group Show*, Boston, MA

Atlantic Wharf Gallery, *Big Picture II*, Juried by Randi Hopkins, Boston, MA

Danforth Art Museum, Swartz Gallery, *Creative Community*, Curated by Katherine French, Framingham, MA

Atlantic Wharf Gallery, *Nostalgia*, A Fort Point Arts Community exhibition, Boston, MA

2013

Red Sun Press, Exhibition of work by Jessica Burko, Jamaica Plain, MA

Photographic Resource Center, Boston University/Endicott College, *Unconventional Inventions: Innovative, Unusual, and Alternative Approaches to Photography*, Carol Grillo Gallery, Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts, Beverly, MA

Scollay Gallery, Boston City Hall, United South End Artists group show, Boston, MA

2012

Artists Crossing Gallery, February group show, Boston, MA

Rochester Museum of Fine Arts, solo exhibition, Rochester, NH

2011

Samson Projects, *Chain Letter*, an invitational exhibition, Boston, MA

Danforth Museum of Art, *Off The Wall*, Annual Juried Exhibition, Framingham, MA

Uforge Gallery, *JP To Me: Defined by Light*, Inaugural Invitational, Jamaica Plain, MA

Massachusetts Statehouse, *From Our House to Yours*, Boston, MA

2010

South Shore Arts Center, *Media Mix*, juried exhibition, Cohasset, MA

The Little Gallery Under The Stairs, *VOICES: Mothers Who Create*, Lynn, MA

2009

Warner Brothers Pictures Inc., work by Jessica Burko on set of *The Town* by Ben Affleck, Boston, MA

Waste Not Want Not, *Inaugural Exhibition*, Providence, RI

Gallery 1581, Graduate School of Psychoanalysis, *Inside Out*, Brookline, MA

2008

City of Boston PaintBox Program, invited artist to produce public art, Boston, MA

New England Bio Labs, Ipswich, MA

Insomniac Press, work by Jessica Burko as cover art, *iswas*, by Jenny Sampirisi, Ontario, Canada

Providence Art Club, *All Media Juried Exhibition*, Providence, RI

Boston City Hall, *Women's History Month Invitational*, Boston, MA

Boston Public Library, *History, Story Warmth: QUILT*, West Roxbury, MA

2007

Huron Valley Council for the Arts, *WOMEN STORIES: QUILTS*, Highland, MI

Gallery 181, *New Voices, International Juried Exhibition*, Lawrence, MA

Newspace Center for Photography, *Among Us and Curious, National Juried Exhibition*, Portland, OR

Penn Medicine, Spring 07 Issue, published works by Jessica Burko, Philadelphia, PA

Room Of One's Own, Issue #29:4, published works by Jessica Burko, Vancouver, BC

2006

Fiber Art Center, *Small Works: Spirits and Shrines*, Amherst, MA

Gallery 1581, Graduate School of Psychoanalysis, *1000 Words*, Brookline, MA

Piano Factory Gallery, *City Women: Boston Community Artists*, Boston, MA

2005

Elise Mankes Studio, *Collections*, Marblehead, MA

Resnikoff Gallery, *Light: An Exhibition of Area Photographers*, Roxbury, MA

Boston Public Library, *Jessica Burko – figure/ground*, West Roxbury, MA

Collections

Bay Cove Human Services, Boston, MA

Courtney Love Cobain, CA

Families in Transition (The Family Willows), Manchester, NH

Holy Family Hospital, MA

La Alianza Hispana, Boston, MA

Littleton Group Home, Littleton, MA

MassBay Community College, MA

Massasoit Community College, Brockton, MA

Museum of Fine Art, Roshester, NH

New England Bio Labs, Ipswich, MA

Phil C. Bradley Housing Partnership, MA

Roxbury Community College, Boston, MA

The Institute for Health & Recovery, Boston, MA

Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., CA

Year Up, Inc., Boston, MA