

CLAIRE BARTLEMAN
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CURRICULUM VITAE

I am a rural Ontario-based artist whose textile and sculptural work has been exhibited across Canada and in the US. I have taught at OCAD University, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and more recently in my community, sharing my knowledge with free classes at the local library. I hold both an MFA and MA from Western University. I recently founded a local artist-mother collective to create space for collaborative, child-inclusive artistic production and to challenge the isolation often experienced by caregiving artists. This collective practice informs and sustains my work.

My work centres on what I call *object debt*: a self-imposed ethical obligation that clings to things once they have absorbed time, memory, and care. Loved, handmade, and gifted objects accrue emotional value beyond the economic, transferring emotional responsibility from maker to keeper. I ask whether such objects are meant to be preserved, extended, or released.

I aim to challenge the patriarchal myth that art and motherhood are incompatible. Reworking Olive's textiles examines how emotional debts and maternal labour carried within sentimental objects are not meant to be resolved but tended to, through care and repair. Collaborating with Olive insists on motherhood as a generative condition within artistic labour. Through this work I claim, materially and publicly without irony, or shame: *I made this with and from my child. I exist both as artist and mother.*

EDUCATION

2019 MA Art History and Curatorial Studies **Western University**, London, ON

2018 MFA Visual Arts, **Western University**, London, ON

2015 BFA Drawing & Painting, **OCAD University**, Toronto, ON

2007 BFA Art History, **Concordia University**, Montreal, QC

SOLO & SMALL GROUP

2023 *Birth (Olive)* **Peterborough Regional Health Center** Peterborough, ON

2021 *I found a soft tasset to secure my senses and expose my strength* **Gallery Stratford**, Stratford, ON

2018 *Then Again, maybe I won't* **MKG127**, Toronto, ON

2017 *The last to go will see the first three go before* **SATELLITE Gallery**, London, ON
Twice Taken **Gallery Stratford Steelbox Art Lab**, Stratford, ON

2015 *Pattern Makers* **XPACE**, Toronto, ON

This is Not a Craft Fair, **Transit Space**, Toronto, ON

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *Give and Take* **Basin Arts**, Lafayette, LA
- 2025 *Sacred Motherhood* **Woman Made Gallery**, Chicago, IL
- 2023 *Member's Exhibition* **Artspace**, Peterborough, ON
- 2019 *Unmade* **Propeller Gallery**, Toronto, ON
Creative Hands **TAP**, London, ON
- 2018 *Twice Taken: Mother Heap* (Juried Installation) **The Artist Project**, Toronto, ON
- 2017 *Sleight of Hands* **ArtLab**, London, ON
- 2016 *Plexus* **DNA**, London, ON
Hard Twist **Gladstone Hotel**, Toronto, ON
Traces **Ryerson Art Space**, Toronto, ON
- 2015 *The Big Draw* **OCAD University**, Toronto, ON
Lacis **OCAD University Student Gallery**, Toronto, ON
- 2014 *Summer Emerging Artist Exhibition*, **Gallery 1313**, Toronto, ON
Salon VIII **Propeller Gallery**, Toronto, ON
Fresh Paint **Art Mur**, Montreal, QC
Grad Ex **OCAD University Graduation Exhibition**, Toronto, ON
The Big Draw **OCAD University**, Toronto, ON
- 2013 *Salon VII* **Propeller Gallery**, Toronto, ON
- 2012 *themomentwhenanappleistoohavyandhastofalldown* **Truck Gallery**, Calgary AB

RESIDENCIES

- 2025 **MOTHRA** Gibraltar Point, Toronto, ON
- 2024 **MOTHRA** Gibraltar Point, Toronto, ON
- 2023 **MOTHRA** Gibraltar Point, Toronto, ON
- 2017 **Harbourfront Center Textile Residency** Toronto, ON
- 2016 **Ryerson University and OCADU Art Camp** Toronto, ON
- 2015 **Emerging Artist Research Residency** Windsor University, ON
- 2012 **Performance Art Studies/MS:T Performance Art Festival** Calgary, AB

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- 2018 **Dean's Scholarship**, Western University
- 2018 **Ontario Graduate Scholarship**, Western University
- 2017 **Canada Graduate Scholarship**, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of

Canada

- 2017 **Jose Barrio-Garay Bursary**, Western University
- 2017 **Travel Grant**, Western University
- 2016 **Dean's scholarship**, Western University
- 2016 **Chair's scholarship**, Western University
- 2015 **Mrs. W.O. Forsyth Award for women painters**, OCAD University
- 2014 **Gallery 76 Student Gallery Award**, OCAD University
- 2013 **Project 31 Scholarship for Academic Excellence**, OCAD University

PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

- 2021 Artist Talk **Gallery Stratford** (Cancelled for Covid)
- 2018 Guest Lecture (Cross Cultural Issues in Craft)**OCAD University**
- 2018 Guest Artist Critique Night, **Hamilton Artist INC.**
- 2016 Artist Talk **OCAD University**
- 2014 Artist Talk **University of Windsor**

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2019 *Micah Adams* **Lilliput Gallery**, Toronto On
- 2019 *An Unbiased Review: After Karla Black* **Lilliput Gallery**, London On
- 2018 *The Soul of the Amethyst* Inaugural Group Exhibition **Lilliput Gallery**, London On
- 2014 *Lacis*, **OCAD University Student Gallery**, Toronto, On

PRESS

- Terry Bridge, *Gallery Stratford's Steelbox Art Lab features Twice Taken exhibit* Stratford Beacon Herald, August 30 2017, online.
- Amy Skodak, *Sleight of Hands Exhibit: Creating Something out of Nothing*, Western Gazette, October 5, 2017, online.
- No Author, *Work in Progress*, Akimbo Connects, Feb 2018, online.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sessional Instructor OCAD University

- 2023 CROS 3019-001 Complicated Bodies
GART 1004-002 Colour Exploration
- 2022 CROS 3019-001 Complicated Bodies
GART 1040-003 Drawing Across Disciplines

2021	GART 1004-001 Colour Exploration GART 1004-003 Colour Exploration
2020	GART 1016 Drawing Processes GART 1004-001 Colour Exploration
2019	GART 1004-002 Colour Exploration GART 1004-004 Colour Exploration CSLE N101 English for Art and Design Recruitment Course: The Creative Process GART 1016 Drawing Processes
2018	Landscape Painting (Continuing Studies)

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-2020	Adult Course Instructor Workman Arts
2018	Adult Course Instructor Gallery Stratford
2017-2019	Adult Course Instructor Art Gallery of Ontario
2016-2018	Teaching Assistant Western University

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

2020-2021	Educational Developer <i>Faculty Curriculum & Development Center</i> OCAD U
2019-2020	Coordinator Strategic Initiatives <i>Faculty Curriculum & Development Center</i> OCAD U
2017	Graduate Research Assistant <i>Craft Pedagogy and the Digital Challenge</i> OCAD
2014-2016	Program Assistant, First-Year Initiatives Writing & Learning Centre OCAD U
2014	Research Assistant <i>Feminist Art Conference</i> , OCAD U
2012-2014	Peer Tutor Writing & Learning Centre OCAD U
2011-2014	Supplemental Instruction and Workshop Leader Writing & Learning Centre OCAD U
2011-2012	Research Assistant Inclusive Design Research Centre, OCAD U