

## MICKEY SMITH

Mickey Smith (b.1972 Minnesota, USA) is an award winning conceptual photographer based in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

Smith's photography is a striking and poignant reflection of human history through her documentation of simple, provocative titles found on library shelves and second hand book stores around the world.

Smith's work continuously explores the state of entropy within libraries, as we witness information systems shift, digitize and collections become deaccessioned. Her artworks explore the life cycle of publications and the dedicated labour of those who care for them. The artist's playful capturing of words and scale transcend the spines on which they appear, to create conceptual, anthropological works, which document significant moments in time.

"By focusing on the minutiae of books and magazine stacks, and blowing them up, Smith heralds the benefits of an open mind and a democratic tradition." – D. Abbot, Art New Zealand

In 2022 Smith exhibited her TIME & AGAIN series with the European Cultural Centre at the Venice Biennale. In 2024 Smith presented her largest-to-date public exhibition at the Law Warschaw Gallery, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. The exhibition features acclaimed projects VOLUME, Denudation, and As You Will: Carnegie Libraries of the South Pacific and will travel through 2024 – 2025 to the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota, USA, and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.

Smith's work has been included in numerous exhibitions throughout Aotearoa, the United States, China and Russia. Her works belong to numerous public and private collections, including the Museum of Modern Art Library, Sheldon Museum of Art and Weisman Art Museum. She has received grants and awards from the McKnight Foundation, CEC Arts Link, Americans for the Arts and Creative New Zealand.

The artist holds a BA in Photography from Minnesota State University, USA (1994) and a Diploma in Jewellery Design from Hungry Creek Art & Craft School, Aotearoa (2019).

# SANDERSON

## BIOGRAPHY

**BORN:** 1972, Duluth, MN, USA **LIVES:** Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

**EDUCATION:** Diploma in Jewellery Design, Hungry Creek Art & Craft School, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2019); Bachelor of Arts in Photography, Minnesota State University Moorhead (1994)

**AWARDS:** Macalester College Artist-in-Residence, St. Paul, MN 2023-2024; Obscura Foundry Commission Award 2022; Creative New Zealand Grantee 2016, 2017; Public Art Year in Review, Americans for the Arts Project Winner 2010; PV Studio Residency, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico 2010; LMCC Manhattan Community Arts Fund Grantee 2009; Florida Public Art Permanent Commission Recipient, University of Florida 2009; CEC Artslink Artist-in-Residence, St. Petersburg, Russia 2008; Contemporary Art in Traditional Museums, St. Petersburg, Russia 2008; Society for Contemporary Photography Artist-in-Residence, Kansas City, MO 2007; Photolucida Top 150 Critical Mass Photographer 2006, 2007; FORECAST Public Artworks Public Art Affairs Grantee 2007; McKnight Foundation Artist Fellowship for Photography 2006; Oberholtzer Foundation Artist-in-Residence, Mallard Island, MN 1994-2004, 2007

**COLLECTIONS:** Museum of Modern Art Library, New York, NY; The British Library, London, UK; Center for Photography at Woodstock, Woodstock, NY; Dorsey & Whitney, Minneapolis, MN; Fidelity Corporate Art Collection, Boston, MA; Fredrickson & Byron, Minneapolis, MN; Jenny Metaverse DAO; Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore, MD; Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN; Miami-Dade; Public Library, Miami, FL; Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul, MN; Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND; The National Library of New Zealand, Aotearoa New Zealand; Northland Collection, Saint Paul, MN; North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, ND; RAW DAO; Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE; University of Florida, Gainesville, FL; Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN

**UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:** Mickey Smith: Morphologies, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND March 2025; Domesticated, Sanderson Contemporary, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, March 2025

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS:** Mickey Smith: Morphologies, Law Warschaw Gallery, Saint Paul, MN September 2024; Mickey Smith, Danziger Gallery, Online + AIPAD, New York, NY April 2024; Architettura, CLAMP, New York, NY 2023; New Outlook, Sanderson Contemporary, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2022); Say When, Sanderson Contemporary, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2020); Mickey Smith, Jasmax, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2017); Cultivate it as you will... Te Tuhi, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland (2015); Harboured, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Pōneke Wellington (2015); Denudation, Invisible-Exports, New York, NY (2012); Tell You What, Land of Tomorrow, Louisville, KY (2011); Believe You Me, Invisible-Exports, New York, NY (2010); Collocations, Georgia College State University, Milledgeville, GA (2010); You People, Invisible-Exports, New York, NY (2008); Volume, Alvar Alto Library, Voyburg, Russia (2008); Contemporary Art in Traditional Museums, PRO ARTE Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia (2008); New Collocations, Center for Photography at Woodstock (2008); Forever Govern Ignorance, Carleton College Gould Library, Northfield, MN (2007); Mickey Smith:

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New Works, Kathy Dowell Art, Kansas City, MO (2007); BIO, Minnesota Center for Photography, Minneapolis, MN (2006); Volume, Open Book, Minneapolis, MN (2005); In the Stacks, Minnesota History Center, Saint Paul, MN (2005)

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:** Banned Gordon Parks Gallery, Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis (2024); Summer Show Veronique Wantz, Minneapolis (2023); Banned Traffic Zone Center for Visual Arts Minneapolis (2023); Between Digital + Tangible The Billboard Creative Los Angeles (2022) Obscura NFT Art Biennial European Cultural Centre Venice (2022); Summer Group Show Sanderson Contemporary (2021); Offsite Royal Jewellery Studio (2020); Summer Showcase Sanderson Contemporary (2019); Graduate Exhibition Hungry Creek Art & Craft School; As You Will Depot Artspace (2018); Requiem for the Bibliophile Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (2014); A Different Kind of Order: The ICP Triennial Photobook Installation (2013); International Centre for Photography (2013); 50 Gifts for 50 Years Sheldon Museum of Art (2013); The Unseen Eye Blue Sky Gallery (2012); Bloodyminded The Wye (2012)

**SOLO PUBLICATIONS:** Mickey Smith: Morphologies. Published by Macalester College, 2024  
As You Will: Carnegie Libraries of the South Pacific. Published by Te Tuhi 2018 Deundation. Mickey Smith with text by W.M. Hunt. Published by Hassla 2012 [Forthcoming] Mickey Smith: Volume with text by Louis Menand. Seeking Publisher 2025

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:** Smith, Mickey. Mickey Smith: Morphologies. Published by Macalester College, 2024; Mickey Smith speaks at Pecha Keucha Auckland. Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, 19 April 2023, <https://vimeo.com/861132300>; Mickey Smith artist talk at CLAMP. 11/2/23. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQ2TG4jWRKI&t=419s>; Dr. Grant Scott, Podcast: A Photographic Life featuring Mickey Smith, United Nations of Photography, Podcast: episode 216, 22/6/22; 'An in-depth Q&A with artist Mickey Smith on her thought-provoking exhibition New Outlook', Denizen, 15 March 2022; Matheson, Maddy. Interview: Pull Focus with Mickey Smith. Art Collector Online, 10 March 2022, <https://artcollector.net.au/video-pull-focus-with-mickey-smith/>; Ezzo, Danielle. TIME&AGAIN: An Interview with Mickey Smith, Obscura Journal, 20 March 2022, Clark, Andrew. Exhibition Review: Matters of Time by Mickey Smith, PhotoForum, 1 October 2020; Devitt, Simon. (2020, 26 September) Interview with photographer Mickey Smith, Instagram, <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CFIFrQRs731/>; Freeman, Lynn. (2020, 13 September) Photographer Mickey Smith remembers "bound periodicals" Standing Room Only. Radio NZ. <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/standing-room-only/audio/2018763817/photographer-mickey-smith-remembers-bound-periodicals>; McPhearson, Mary. Review of AS YOU WILL: Carnegie Libraries of the South Pacific, by Mickey Smith. PhotoForum online, January 2019; 'Life is not always straightforward' Polly Crockett, Arts Management Network, Nov 2019; 'Mickey Smith and the Carnegie Libraries' Lynn Freeman, RNZ Standing Room Only, Sep 2018; 'Photographer pays tribute to Andrew Carnegie.' Wendy Nissen, RadioLIVE, Sep 2018; 'As You Will... Carnegie Libraries in the South Pacific' Mickey Smith with essays by Charles Walker + Gabriela Salgado, published by Te Tuhi, 2018; 'Harboured by the Harbour: An inn for tired travellers' Jodi Meadows, Enjoy Public Art Gallery, Feb 2015; 'Flash Forward Tenth' hardcover by Magenta Foundation, 2014; 'Architecture Glass Art' Franz Mayer of Munich, 2013; '50 Gifts 50 Years' Sheldon Museum of Art, 2013; 'Denudation' Mickey Smith with essay by W.M. Hunt, published by Hassla, 2012; 'Issue No.21,' Unless You Will, 2012;

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'BLOOD' hardcover by Trunk Books, 2012; 'The Book that Changed My...' GQ, Jun 2011; Postcard issue 2.12 with John Lamb, Abe's Penny, Feb 2011; 'Mickey Smith' The Last Magazine, Oct 2010. Theme Magazine [Issue #23] edited by Marc and Sara Schiller, Jul 2010; Artist Project, Tod Lippy, ESOPUS [Issue #13] Oct 2009.

**RESIDENCIES:** PV Studio, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (2010); Contemporary Art in Traditional Museums, St. Petersburg, Russia (2008); Society for Contemporary Photography, MO, USA (2007); Oberholtzer Foundation, MN, USA (1994 - 2004, 2007)

**ART FAIRS + BENEFITS:** Aperture Foundation, Art Chicago, Art Platform Los Angeles, Artspace Projects, Aotearoa Art Fair, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Center for Photography at Woodstock, Dallas Art Fair, Frankfurt Book Fair, Magenta Foundation for the Arts, Minnesota Center for Photography, NADA Art Fairs in Miami, New York + Cologne, The New York Art Book Fair, North Dakota Museum of Art, PULSE Miami, SCOPE Miami, Silver Eye Center for Photography, VOLTA New York, Watermill Center

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