

COURTTNEY COOPER

b. 1977, Cincinnati, OH

Lives and works in Cincinnati, OH

SOLO and TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 Western Exhibitions, Chicago
Zincinnati Ohio USA: The Maps of Courtney Cooper, Curated by Matt Arient, Inuit Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *Maps + Legends: The Art of Robert Bolubasz and Courtney Cooper*, Visionaries + Voices, Cincinnati, OH
- 2013 "Golden German Beer in Rainbow Kool-Aid Colors", V+V Northside Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
Cincinnati Everyday: Cole Carothers and Courtney Cooper, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH
- 2011 *Rainbow Fish*, Findlay Market, Cincinnati, OH.
Cincinnati USA: Before Meets After, PAC Gallery, Cincinnati, OH.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *The Nothing That Is: A Drawing Show in 5 Parts*, curated by Matt Distel and Bill Thelen, The Carnegie, Covington, KY
- 2015 *Maps + Legends. Visionaries + Voices*, Cincinnati, OH
- 2014 *We do what we like and we like what we do*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2013 *Studio Visions: Recent Work from Visionaries + Voices and Studioworks*, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY
- 2012 *Indirect Observation*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Full Of Color, Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center, Covington, KY
Terraced, Visionaries +Voices Northside Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
- 2011 *Celebrity*, Visionaries +Voices Northside Gallery, Cincinnati, OH
Urban Express, Visionaries +Voices Northside Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Cincinnati Art Museum

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2017 [Brut Force](#). Kodjabasheva, Ani and McHugh, Brendan. "Imagined Spaces at the 2017 Outsider Art Fair". January 31, 2017.
[The Headband](#). Mille, Julia. "Outsider Art Fair New York City 2017". January 26, 2017. (video)
[artnet](#). Boucher, Brian. "12 Great Affordable Artworks at the 2017 Outsider Art Fair". January 20, 2017.
- 2016 [ArtForum](#). Morris, Matt. "Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art." March 2016
[Disparate Minds](#). [Courtney Cooper](#). May 10, 2016
[NewCity Art](#). Reichert, Elliot. "Courtney Cooper/Intuit." March 2016

- Disparate Minds. “Courtney Cooper.” May 10, 2016.
New City. Fidler, Luke A., “Review: Courtney Cooper/Intuit”. March 15, 2016.
ArtForum. Morris, Matt. “Courtney Cooper.” by Matt Morris. March, 2016.
TimeOut. Long, Zach. “Zinzinnati Ohio USA: The Maps of Courtney Cooper.” January 4, 2016.
- 2015 Disparate Minds. “Courtney Cooper.” June 11, 2015.
- 2014 New City. Toale, Erin. “Review: We do what we like and we like what we do/Western Exhibitions.” July 3, 2014.
- 2013 City Beat. Durrell, Jane. “City as Subject: Carol Carothers and Courtney Cooper share their perspectives at Cincinnati Art Museum” July 3, 2013.
AEQAI. Banner, Keith. “Super Cooper: Art Without Words” May 22, 2013.
- 2012 New Media Bureau. (video). Pennybaker, Sam. “Drawing Cincinnati: Courtney’s Vision” June 13, 2012.
- 2011 AEQAI. Banner, Keith. “Outsiderness” May 15, 2011.
VisualLingual. Drozd, Maya. “Downtown Cincinnati Drawings by Courtney Cooper” April 12, 2011.
2 + 2 = 5. Banner, Keith. “Courtney Cooper.” April 10, 2011.

RESIDENCIES

Visionaries + Voices, 2004-present

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Courtney Cooper draws large elaborate and exuberant maps of Cincinnati, by hand, from memory. Gluing together pieces of found paper from his job at a grocery store, Cooper's obsessive drawings, rendered with ballpoint pens, map out neighborhoods in his hometown in remarkable detail. He often walks the streets of the city, committing all the places he visits down to memory, a process that he has been using since he was a child. His maps depict more than just streets and monuments, often addressing the season in which it was made, current events and projects going on locally, like the WEBN fireworks or Oktoberfest or the Taste of Cincinnati, even going back into the drawings to update them when new buildings are constructed or torn down. Throughout the sprawling maps are written thoughts and phrases hidden beneath the landscape and revealed within the open white space of the paper, as noted in Matt Morris' review on *artforum.com*: "But the party above belies the social tensions below: Gradually, one notices scrawled writing layered underneath Cooper's landscapes, the text erupting in the blank passages of the streets."

Cooper's solo show at Intuit: The Center for Intuit and Outsider Art in Chicago in spring of 2016 was reviewed in *artforum.com* and *New City*. His 2-person show (with Cole Carothers) at [The Cincinnati Art Museum](#) in 2013 was reviewed in *CityBeat* and *AEQAI* and he has exhibited extensively in the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area including the Contemporary Art Center and The Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center, Covington, KY and is a studio resident at [Visionaries + Voices](#), a non-profit arts organization that provides support for artists with disabilities, offering them professional studio space and that allows them to grow professionally and personally. He is represented by Western Exhibitions, Chicago and will have his first solo there in fall of 2016.