

EDIE FAKE

b. 1980, Evanston, IL

Lives and works in Twentynine Palms, CA

EDUCATION

2002 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Rhode Island School of Design

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Persuasions*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL

2023 *On The Wall: Edie Fake*, Providence College Galleries, Providence, RI

2022 *Night Life*, Rebecca Camacho Presents, San Francisco, CA
Drylands Wetspot, Kishka, White River Junction, VT

2021 *The Pieces*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
12th House, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY

2020 *You Gotta Vote*, Facebook 'Voting is Voice,' Fort Worth, TX

2019 *Labyrinth*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
Affordable Housing for Trans Elders, The Art Wall at UC Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA

2018 *Gut Rehab*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Structures Shift, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY

2016 Marlborough Chelsea, New York, NY

2015 *Grey Area*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Edie Fake for Trunk Show, Trunk Club, Chicago, IL

2013 *Memory Palaces*, Thomas Robertello Gallery, Chicago, IL

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCE PROJECTS

2025 *Winter Color*, Kishka Gallery & Library, River Junction, VT
Artist Relief Fundraiser Exhibition, Last Projects, Los Angeles, CA

2024 *Friends & Lovers*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
When the Spirit Moves You, curated by Elijah Wheat Showroom, Geary Contemporary, Millerton, NY
Cosmic Geometries II, Carrie Secrist Gallery, curated by Hilma's Ghost, Chicago, IL

2023 *Call Sol: The Enduring Legacy of Sol LeWitt*, The Art Gallery at Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT

- Reckless Rolodex*, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL
The Western Exhibitions Drawing Biennial, Chicago, IL
- 2022 *For Opacity*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
Cottagecore, Galerie Sultana, Paris, France
The Entelechians, curated by Rob and Eric Thomas-Suwall, Ruschman, Chicago, IL
Experiments in Transformation, BoxoPROJECTS, Joshua Tree, CA
Resplendent: Identity and Visibility in Comics, curated by Lynne Cooney, Montserrat College of Art, Beverly, MA
- 2021 *Chicago Comics: Future Forward*, Buddy, Chicago, IL
Chicago Comics: 1960s to Now, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
The Western Exhibitions Drawing Biennial, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Grouper, Broadway Gallery, New York, NY
- 2019 *Vignettes*, Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Queer Forms, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Queer California: Untold Stories, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
Queer Abstraction: Contemporary Queer Abstraction, Des Moines Art Center, IA
- 2018 *Surface/Depth: The Decorative after Miriam Schapiro*, curated by Elissa Auther with Angelik Vizcarrondo-Laboy, The Museum of Arts and Design, New York,
Declaration, curated by Stephanie Smith and Lisa Freiman, with Amber Esseiva, Johanna Plummer, and Lauren Ross. Institute for Contemporary Art, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
- 2017 *Occupancies*, Boston University Art Galleries, Boston, MA
The Nothing That Is: A Drawing Show in 5 Parts, curated by Matt Distel and Bill Thelen, The Carnegie, Covington, KY
Underlying system is not known, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *How High?* Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
Tomorrow Never Happens, Samek Museum, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA
Gist & Gesture, Kavi Gupta, Chicago
World Made by Hand, Andrew Edlin Gallery, NYC
- 2015 *Making Chances*, curated by John Neff and Lorelei Stewart. Gallery 400, Chicago, IL
Feminist Bookstore, curated by Jennifer Armbrust and Michelle Blade. Reading Frenzy, Portland, OR
The Gay Mafia is Real, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Friendship and Freedom, MASS Gallery, Austin, TX
- 2014 *Embodiment*. Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
The Stench of Rotting Flowers, Charlotte Street Foundation, Kansas City, MO
No Fate But What We Make. Rhodes' Clough-Hanson Gallery, Memphis, TN
- 2013 *Binary Lore*, Three Walls, Chicago, IL
How Do I Look, Roots and Culture, Chicago, IL
Edie Fake & Kevin Killian Secret Lives, Night Club, Chicago, IL
Naked Spaces: Architecture in Art from the Kinsey Institute Collection, Kinsey Institute Gallery, Bloomington, IN
- 2012 *Binary Lore*, Feldman Gallery, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR

Blaque Lyte, curated by Chris Kerr and Paul Nudd, Telephone Booth, Kanas City, MO
The Sexual Life of Patterns, A lecture performance for The Center For Experimental Lectures, PS1, New York
All Good Things Become Wild and Free, H.F. Johnson Gallery, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI

- 2011 *Bless This Mess*, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *FINGERS Tour*, A twenty-city and five-week queer art and performance tour, Collaboration with Lee Relvas
- 2008 *Queer Zines*, New York Art Book Fair, New York, NY
- 2007 *Rainbow Dawn*, Art In General, New York, NY, Collaboration with Lee Relvas
Sex In the City, Dumbo Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
Tent Show, Nikolaj Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark, Collaboration with Math Bass
Freundesfreundin, Schalter, Basel, Switzerland
Shared Women, LACE, Los Angeles, CA
- 2006 *Flex Your Textiles*, John Connelly Presents, New York, NY
PeaceCore Zine Tour, A twenty-city and five-week performance and book tour, Collaboration with Lee Relvas
- 2004 PILOT TV, *Nightgowns*, Chicago, IL

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, OH
Bank of Montreal Corporate Collection
Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, Columbus, OH
Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA
Des Moines Art Center, Iowa
Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection
Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
KADIST, San Francisco/Paris
Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, Bloomington, Indiana
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS
Progressive Insurance Corporate Collection, OH
RISD Art Museum, Providence, RI
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA
Thomas J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 [Little Stranger](#), Published by Secret Acres, Los Angeles
- 2014 [Memory Palaces](#), Published by Secret Acres, New York
- 2010 [Gaylord Phoenix](#) (collected), Published by Secret Acres, New York
- 2004-2006 [LTTR](#), Contributor to issues #3 and #5

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2012 Propeller Grant for The Chicago Alternative Comics Expo

- 2011 Ignatz Award for Outstanding Graphic Novel
- 2010 Breakout Artist, New City, Chicago
Critical Fierceness Grant for queer art in Chicago
- 2009 Printed Matter's Awards for Artists recipient
- 2004 City of Chicago CAAP Grant for Artists' Projects
- 2002 Pell Art History Award, RISD

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2025 Seven Days. Alice Dodge. "Winter Color' Brings Artists' Invented Worlds to Kishka Gallery." Jan. 8
- 2024 Financial Times. Francesca Tiana. "This exhibition wants to spirit you away." October 17, 2024.
Colossal. Grace Ebert. "Kaleidoscopic Paintings by Edie Fake Invoke the Spiritual Wisdom of Plants." April 12
- 2023 Hyperallergic. Lori Waxman, "Chicago's Drawing Biennial Has Something for Everyone." January 23, 2023.
- 2022 The New Yorker. Alexander MacLeod, "Once Removed." February 7, 2022. (illustration).
Hi Desert Star. Staff, "Champions of Change artist to discuss new work in Joshua Tree." March 18, 2022.
- 2021 The New Yorker. Fateman, Johanna. "Edie Fake" (review). December 2021
New City. Drexelius, Alexandra. "How to See Everything: A Review of Edie Fake at Western Exhibitions"
ArtNet. Lori Waxman, "Welcome to Pandemic Aesthetics: How the Health Crisis Is Reshaping Contemporary Art – and Changing the Way We Look at It, Too." July 1, 2021.
Chicago Tribune. Christopher Borrelli, "'Chicago Comics' show about cartoonists headlines the proposed 2021 calendar at the MCA." January 11, 2021.
NewCity. Kerry Cardoza, "Art Top 5: June 2021." May 28, 2021.
Chicago Tribune. Christopher Borrelli, "'Chicago Comics' at the MCA makes this plain: Comics should be seen as a Chicago thing." June 17, 2021.
NewCity. Annie Howard, "Tending to Queer Histories: Edie Fake Returns to Chicago With Two Exhibitions." June 28, 2021.
Chicago Reader. Dmitry Samarov, "Do comic strips belong in this museum?" June 29, 2021.
- 2020 Counting Knuckles. Lorraine Heitzman, "At Long Last ALAC." February 27, 2020.
The New York Times. Edie Fake, "The Diary Project: A Drawing Exercise to Help See a Beautiful Way Forward." August 21, 2020.
KOAA News5. Spencer Humphrey, "Murals go up in Colorado Springs to encourage voting." October 4, 2020.
Fort Worth Business Press. FWBP Staff, "Fort Worth among cities in Facebook voting project." October 5, 2020.
Colorado Springs Indy. Heidi Beedle, "Opinion: Queering the vote." October 14, 2020.
- 2019 The Seen. Coco Picard, "The Weight of a Line: Art and Comics." April 18, 2019.
Animation Magazine. Mercedes Milligan, "MoCCA Arts Festival Guests of Honor Announced." Jan 23, 2019.
- 2018 Art in America. Kyle Macmillan, "Edie Fake." Dec 1, 2018.
ArtNet. Joel Straus. "Chicago Art Advisor Joel Straus Recommends 8 Gallery Shows to See During EXPO Chicago." September 27, 2018.
New City. B. David Zarley, "Building the Body from the Inside Out, A Review of Edie Fake at Western Exhibitions." October 16, 2018.
The Smart Set. Chris Mautner, "Translating Identity: Reading L. Nichols and Edie Fake's memoirs." September 27, 2018.

- Juxtapoz Magazine. Joey Garfield, "Gut Rehab: Edie Fake's Elaborate and Maze-like Paintings @ Western Exhibitions, Chicago." September 14, 2018.
- Chicago Tribune. KT Hawbaker, "With 'Gut Rehab' at Western Exhibitions, Edie Fake connects trans bodies with queer architecture." September 13, 2018.
- The Paris Review. Renee Gladman and Edie Fake, "Cities of the Future, Their Color." Issue 225: Summer 2018.
- Culture. Ann-Derrick Gaillot, "Edie Fake's 'Little Stranger' is the Most Delightfully Weird, Touching Comic You'll Read This Year." July 10, 2018.
- An Interior. "Illustrated Identity." Summer 2018. Portfolio spread.
- Hyperallergic. Anne Swartz, "The Pattern and Decoration Zeitgeist." June 13, 2018.
- The Paris Review. "Announcing Our Summer Issue." June 5, 2018.
- The Architects Newspaper. The Editors, "Artist Edie Fake explores gender identity and sexuality through architectural drawings." June 1, 2018.
- Art News. Claire Sheldon, "Beyond the Surface: Miriam Schapiro's Endurina Leacy is on Full View at the Museum of Arts and Design." April 24, 2018.
- Hyperallergic. Alina Cohen, "How Miriam Schapiro's Feminist Work Transcended the Line between Art and Craft." (reproduction) March 29, 2018.
- 2017 Pilcher, Alex. *A Queer Little History of Art*. London: Tate Publishing, 2017.
- Hyperallergic. Orion R. Martin, "When Comics Abandon Narrative and Venture into Abstraction." July 27, 2017.
- The Standard. Los Angeles-art inspection, "The New Wave: 7 Emerging LA Artists You Should Know." July 20, 2017.
- The New York Times. Krista Burton, "I Want My Lesbian Bars Back." (illustration) April 14, 2017.
- 2016 i-D. Bryony Stone, "The queer artists of fire island." July 14, 2016.
- Artspace. Artspace Editors, "Surface Magazine Editor-in-Chief Spencer Bailey's Favorite Works from NADA New York 2016." May 4, 2016.
- Contemporary Art Daily. "Edie Fake at Marlborough Chelsea." April 21, 2016.
- Creator's Project. Gabrielle Bruney, "Intricate Architectural Drawings Are Allegories for Queer Bodies and Sex." April 2, 2016.
- 2015 Artnet News. Brian Boucher, "USC7 Dropout and Transgender Artist Edie Fake's Mesmerizing Drawings Explore Queer Geometries." June 8, 2015.
- The Seen. Kate Pollasch, "The Hairy Who & the Chicago Imagists," September 2015.
- New American Paintings. David B. Zarley, "Space: Edie Fake at Western Exhibitions." July 15, 2015.
- Artforum.com. Caroline Picard, "Critic's Pick: Edie Fake." July 1, 2015.
- Artnet. Caroline Massara, Kathleen "17 Must-See LGBTQ Exhibitions This Summer." June 25, 2015.
- New City. Cardoza, Kerry. "Portrait of a Gallery: Trunk Show." May 30, 2015
- Artforum.com. Katie Anania, "Friendship and Freedom." February 3, 2015.
- 2014 Los Angeles Review of Books. Joshua Michael Demaree, "Fake Places: The Work of Edie Fake." July 17, 2014.
- The Reader. Noah Berlatsky, "Edie Fake's Memory Palaces dazzles." May 11, 2014.
- The Pitch. Liz Cook, "Charlotte Street's Stench of Rotting Flowers: brilliantly decadent decay." April 22, 2014.
- Animal New York. Karen Peltier and Brandon Soderberg, "Edie Fake's Memory Palaces Bring New Life to Forgotten Queer Spaces." April 4, 2014.
- The Comics Journal. Graham Kolbeins, "Rad Queers: Edie Fake." Feb 5, 2014.
- The Hammer Museum Blog. Darin Klein, "CLOSE TO HOME: Spotlight on Local Artists at Printed Matter's LA Art Book Fair 2015 | Edie Fake." January 14, 2015.
- 2013 Journal of Medical Humanities. Brian Cremins, "Bodies, Transfigurations, and Bloodlust in Edie Fake's Graphic Novel Gaylord Phoenix." vol. 34, issue 4: December 2013.

- The Reader. Claudine Isé, “Art beyond binary at Three Walls.” July 2, 2013.
Nothing Major. Matt Putrino, “Edie Fake: Interview.” April 18, 2013.
art21 Magazine. Thea Liberty Nichols, “You Can’t Always Give and You Can’t Always Take.” April 9, 2013.
The Reader. Sarah Nardi, “Edie Fake doesn't care what's real.” February 12, 2013.
The Guardian Observer. Corrine Jones, “Gateways to Chicago’s Gay Past.” February 10, 2013.
Art Practical. Randall Miller, “From Chicago: Memory Palaces.” January 28, 2013.
Artforum. John Motley, “Binary Lore.” January 20, 2013.
Bad At Sports. Orendorff, Danny. “Edie Fake’s Ecstatic Afterlives.” January 11, 2013.
Chicago Magazine. Jason Foumberg, “Drinking with . . . Edie Fake.” January 11, 2013.
Hyperallergic. Alicia Eler, “Homage to a City’s Queer History.” January 11, 2013.
- 2012 Gaper’s Block. Bert Stabler, “A Theatre Within, Open to All: Edie Fake's Memory Palaces.” Dec 28 2012.
Bitch Magazine. Devyn Manibo, “Sm{art}: Queer Zine Machine, Edie Fake.” July 26, 2012.
- 2011 Bad At Sports. Caroline Picard, “How to Draw Your Own Door.” July 20, 2011.
The Rumpus. Zach Dodson, “The Rumpus Interview With Edie Fake.” May 17, 2011.
New City. Jason Foumberg, “Portrait of the Artist: Edie Fake.” February 21, 2011.

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EDIE FAKE's vantage point on climate catastrophe comes from living in the Mojave Desert, an environment imminently threatened by extractive exhaustion and biological collapse. Fake takes as his subject the harsh and absurd realities of a rapidly shifting place as well as the possibility of adapting to severely stacked odds. His intricate collages are inspired by his sandy surroundings in the high desert and continue to explore themes of queer community which have been at the core of his work for years. The collages recall illustrations from natural history catalogues and science textbooks and offer a representational foil to Fake's better-known abstract work, meticulously rendered gouache-on-panel paintings that distill investigations into architecture, alchemy, water scarcity, and ecological grief. Informed by looking at diatom art, desert sand, cellular and viral behavior, rising ocean levels, and as always with Edie Fake, the audacity of queer utopian imagining, his artistic practice mines the grammar of architecture to carve out space for bodies that have been othered and invalidated by dominant systems of knowledge. Fake's abstract representations of community form and collapse, cohere and dissipate, reflective of the real experience within queer lives and their ever-shifting constellations.

Fake's multi-media work — drawings, paintings, installations, comics, books and zines — has been exhibited in solo shows at Berkeley Art Museum, California; Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse; in New York City at The Drawing Center, Broadway Gallery and Marlborough Gallery and in group shows at the Museum of Art and Design, NY; Institute of Art, Virginia. His 2018 show at Western Exhibitions was reviewed in *Art in America*. Fake's work is held in the collections of the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, Ohio; Des Moines Art Center, Iowa; RISD Museum, Providence; KADIST, San Francisco; Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas; and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. He was one of the first recipients of Printed Matter's Awards for Artists and his Gaylord Phoenix collection of comics won the 2011 Ignatz Award for Outstanding Graphic Novel. Fake's work has been written about and featured in *Artforum*, *New York Times*, *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, *Art News*, *Art 21*, *The Guardian*, *Hyperallergic*, *The Comics Journal*, and *The Los Angeles Review of Books*. Edie Fake received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2002. Fake is represented by Western Exhibitions in Chicago and Broadway Gallery in New York and he currently lives and works in Twentynine Palms, California.