

ERICA RAWSON

ericarawson.com | ericarawson@gmail.com | Lives and works in Denver, CO, USA

EDUCATION

2024 **BFA *summa cum laude***, Sculpture and Printmaking
Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2024 **Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO**
Undergraduate Senior Thesis Teaching Assistant
- Art Studio Senior Experience: Exhibition and Thesis (BFA)
- Art Senior Experience (BA)

2018 – 2022 **Community College of Denver, CO**
Associate Instructor (instructor of record)
- Creative Welding
- Introduction to Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
- Introduction to Gas Metal Arc Welding
- Basic Shielded Metal Arc I
- Blueprint Reading for Welders and Fitters
- Oxyacetylene Joining Processes
- Allied Cutting Processes
- Safety for Welders
Workshops taught: Welding for Artists, Women in Welding

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2025 ***Breaking Boundaries***, upcoming, Downtown Aurora Visual Arts (DAVA), Aurora, CO

2024 ***worlds un/fold_v.01***, NewArt.City, virtual
Bust, Pirate Contemporary Art, Lakewood, CO
BFA Thesis Exhibition, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO
Thesis project: *I Moved Ground and Dust to Keep You Here*
Committee: Dr. Yunjin La-Mei Woo and Prof. Matthew Jenkins
Denver Performance Art Week, Emmanuel Gallery, Denver, CO
Born from Nature, Tivoli Turnhalle, Denver, CO
MetroNow! Emmanuel Gallery, Denver, CO

2023 ***Good Vibrations***, Museum of Outdoor Arts, Greenwood Village, CO
featured group works: ***Burst, Embrace, Our Little World*** (2023-2024)
solo work: ***Brutal Delicacy***, in permanent collection of the Museum of
Outdoor Arts, Greenwood Village, CO
Socially Engaged Artists' Residency, The Matchbox, Denver, CO
Cloud Cover, (solo) The Matchbox, Denver, CO
Nestscapes, (solo) Gallery 199, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO

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where to / where from, Gallery 199, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO

2022 **One Dozen Caresses**, Glasscase, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO
Spring Showcase, Gallery 199, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO

2015 **Denver Art Spotlight**, Denver Art Society, Denver, CO
Movement, (solo) The Matchbox, Denver, CO

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & ARTIST TALKS

2024 “**Advanced Interdisciplinary Studio Forum**,” visiting artist, (Moderator: Anne Yoncha)
Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO, November 2024

“**Studio Foundations 3D**,” guest lecturer, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO,
November 2024

“**Departure: An Evening of Creative Deviation**,” panelist, as part of *The Last Call* with
Kirsten Lewis, Denver, CO, October 2024

“**Domestic Alchemy: Rotting Fruit, Patinaed Metal, and the Radical Freedom of
Letting Go**,” presenter, 13th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference, Metropolitan
State University of Denver, CO, April 2024

“**What is Integrated Media?**” visiting artist, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO, May 2024

“**Advanced Interdisciplinary Studio Forum**,” visiting artist, (Moderator: Yunjin Woo)
Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO, January 2024

PUBLICATIONS

2024 **Metrosphere**, *Born from Nature*, original artwork, Vol 41, Issue 1

2021 **Metrosphere**, *To Where from Here*, original artwork and poetry, Vol 40, Issue 1

MEDIA COVERAGE

2024 **Denver Post**, “*Want to know what young artists are thinking? Just look at the objects
they make*,” Ray Rinaldi, April 28, 2024, E1, E3. [Link](#) [Paywall-free](#)

Shoutout Colorado, artist interview, “*Erica Rawson | Artist*,” (online)

My Met Media, featured artist, Denver, CO, April 2024

CanvasRebel Magazine, artist interview, “*Meet Erica Rawson*,” (online)

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CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024 **Center for Visual Arts**, BFA Thesis Exhibition, Denver, CO
- 2020 – present **The Matchbox Collective**, Denver, CO

AWARDS

- 2023 **Merit Scholarship in Sculpture**, Anderson Ranch, Aspen, CO
- 2022-2023 **MSU Denver Foundation Achievement Scholarship**, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO
- 2021 – present **President’s Honor Roll**, Metropolitan State University of Denver, CO

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATIONS

- 2021 – present **The Matchbox Collective**, Art Director, Denver, CO
- Lead and oversee public art projects and community events, fostering creative engagement among local residents while strengthening community ties
 - Curate inclusive exhibitions, honoring the legacies of local artists and promoting underrepresented voices, resulting in a broader platform for diverse narratives
 - Advocate for preserving artistic spaces, championing the needs of emerging artists in the face of urban development pressures, ensuring access to visible spaces outside of the white cube
- 2023 **Museum of Outdoor Arts’ Design and Build Fellowship**, Greenwood Village, CO
- Guided a diverse team of nine interns, mentoring them in artistic techniques, project development, and professional growth
 - Managed day-to-day operations, overseeing project planning, budgeting, time management, and conflict resolution to ensure the seamless progression of the program from ideation to installation at MOA’s Marjorie Park
 - Provided one-on-one mentorship in creative problem-solving and interdisciplinary approaches, encouraging students to think critically and push boundaries
- Socially Engaged Artists’ Residency (SEAR) Fellowship**, Denver, CO
- Collaborated with a team of fellows to design and implement a comprehensive and inclusive residency program for MSU Denver students, overseeing all aspects of planning and development
 - Facilitated an application process that attracted a diverse group of artists, ensuring equitable opportunities for participation
 - Coordinated studio sessions and critiques, providing residents with valuable feedback and guidance throughout the program, which culminated in a month-long exhibition

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- 2022 – 2023 **Junoworks**, Metal Fabricator, Commerce City, CO
- Fabricated and assembled large-scale public art sculptures for local and nationwide installations, adhering to design specifications
 - Applied advanced MIG, TIG, and stick welding techniques on metals including corten, stainless steel, aluminum, brass, and steel
 - Integrated diverse materials such as fiberglass and wood into sculptures, demonstrating adaptability in mixed-material processes
- 2013 – 2020 **Derb Design and LS Welding + Design**, Designer and fabricator, Denver, CO
- Advanced from apprentice to partner and owner, managing design, fabrication, and business operations
 - Crafted custom pieces for residential and commercial clients, blending aesthetic design with structural integrity
 - Utilized CAD software for precise design and planning, ensuring project feasibility within time and budget constraints
 - Established strong client and community relationships through collaborative and client-focused project execution
- 2018 – 2022 **Colorado State Board Certified for Occupational and Technical Education**
Post-Secondary Manufacturing, Production, and Repair
- 2018 – 2022 **AWS Structural Welding Code-Steel**

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- 2019 **The Matchbox Collective**, Community Arts Engagement, Denver, CO
- 2017 – 2018 **RedLine Contemporary Art Center**, Youth Art Mentor, Denver, CO