

DAMEON LESTER

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EDUCATION

- 2005 Completed Coursework for MA in Special Education • California State University • Los Angeles, CA
2004 Mild to Moderate Teaching Credential, Level 1 • California State University • Los Angeles, CA
2000 MFA • Emphasis in Sculpture & Art Theory • University of Nevada • Las Vegas, NV
1995 BFA *cum laude* • Emphasis in Sculpture • Virginia Commonwealth University • Richmond, VA
1995 *Study Abroad* • Technikon Natal • Durban, South Africa
1993-94 *Study Abroad* • Loughborough College of Art & Design • Loughborough, England

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 *The Ethnocentric Nature of Line* [Solo Show] • Irvine Valley College Art Gallery • Irvine, CA
DigitalArt.LA • LA Center For Digital Art • Los Angeles, CA • *Rita Gonzalez, LACMA, Juror*
MOCA FRESH! Silent Auction • The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA • Los Angeles, CA
OC Art Grant • Juried Competition & Catalogue • Santa Ana, CA
Phyllis J. Lutjeans, Juror • Honorable Mention
Roll Up Long Beach • Jet Studios • Long Beach, CA
Works of Paper [Solo Show] • Fifth Floor Gallery • Los Angeles, CA
Mail Art Festival 2009 • Galeri Shah Alam • Persiaran Tasik, Shah Alam, Malaysia
The Art of Communication • Gallery RFD • Swainsboro, GA
11th Annual Postcards From the Edge Benefit • VISUAL AIDS • New York, NY
- 2008 *Naturally Synthetic* • @space Gallery • Santa Ana, CA
- 2003 *Vegas Baby!* • Elevation Gallery • Atlanta, GA
- 2001 *Artificial Structures* • Raid Projects • Los Angeles, CA
- 2000 *MOMA Members Show* • Alumni Center & Grant Gallery, UNLV • Las Vegas, NV
Student Art Show • Donna Beam Art Gallery, UNLV • Las Vegas, NV
Kim Dingle, Juror • Juror's Merit Award
Fantastic Plastic: Shapescapes • Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art • Las Vegas, NV
New American Talent: The Fifteenth Exhibition • TFAA • Multiple Locations, Texas
David Pagel, Juror • Juror's Merit Award
- 1999 *Tri-Art Show* • Government Center • Las Vegas, NV
Annual Auction: Y2Chaos • Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art • Las Vegas, NV
Fuzbreed: The Halfway Showing • Grant Hall Gallery, UNLV • Las Vegas, NV
Graduate Student Exhibition • Marjorie Barrick Museum • Las Vegas, NV
Student Art Show • Donna Beam Art Gallery, UNLV • Las Vegas, NV • *Ingrid Calame, Juror*
MOCA Members Show • Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art • Las Vegas, NV
Uctious Youth, Action Space • Los Angeles, CA • *Curated by Steve Criqui*

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS *continued*

- 1998 *Gradbag* • Grant Hall Gallery, UNLV • Las Vegas, NV
The Lab • Las Vegas, NV
Subversive Souvenirs • Contemporary Arts Center Gallery • Las Vegas, NV
 Curated by John DeFazio
- 1997 *Public Installation* • Northern Illinois University • DeKalb, IL
- 1995 *Senior Exhibition* • James Center • Richmond, VA
Student Juried Show • Anderson Gallery, VCU • Richmond, VA
Inaugural Exhibition • Durban Arts Center • Durban, South Africa
- 1994 *LCAD Student Show* • Loughborough, England

Residencies

Vermont Studio Center • Johnson, VT • May – June 2010

Bibliography

David Pagel, *New American Talent: The Fifteenth Exhibition*, Show Catalogue, Texas Fine Arts Association, February 2000.

John DeFazio, “Exercises in the Theoretically Uncollectible,” *Subversive Souvenirs*, Spring 1998.

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS

- 2010 Vermont Studio Center • Artist Residency Grant
- 2009 OC Art Grant • Honorable Mention
- 1998-00 Graduate Assistantship • UNLV
- 1997-98 Private Scholarship • UNLV
- 1995 Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship • VCU • Technikon Natal
- 1993-94 Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship • VCU • Loughborough College of Art & Design

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ARTIST STATEMENT

My interest in the un/consciousness between human nature and nature is a prevailing subject in my art. The evolution of this relationship always creates a certain harmony and discord in the artwork.

A basic repeated pattern, line, or form, helps direct the conversation within a work of art. The art's outcome is determined greatly by how this conversation progresses within the inherent restrictions of a particular process, material, and/or space. The evolution of the work can develop into a seemingly purposeful design or an attempt to find an aesthetic in chaos. Many of the materials used are consumer objects produced from raw resources or natural materials fabricated into a synthetic. In turn, I reconstitute these man-made objects and materials back into some semblance of a natural form.

The art attempts to reconcile the natural and man-made into some form of a shared expression. However, save a few eloquent anomalies, the art often reveals an awkward, forced relationship of oppositions that, in themselves, have a certain innate beauty and peculiarity. The art's repetitive processes and forms often parallels the misguided ingenuity and time spent on the absurd outcomes propagated by our conflict within ourselves and with nature. The disconnect between subconscious, waking state, and the consciousness of nature, generates the endless repetitive forms in my search to understand this fractured and convoluted relationship.