

JOHN SPARAGANA

[1958, Lives & works between Catskill, NY, Houston, TX & Chicago, IL, USA]

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Projectile, Basket Books & Art, Houston, TX, USA
Reviver, Corbett vs Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2022 *John Sparagana: Splendid Isolation (Forces at Work)*, Sicardi | Ayers | Bacino, Houston, TX, USA
- 2021 *Projectile*, Soccer Club Club, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2019 *Shatter*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2017 *John Sparagana: Breather*, Sicardi | Ayers | Bacino Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
Superman Variations, Susanne Vielmetter Projects, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- 2016 *Themesong Variations*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2013 *Crowds and Powder*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2012 *Geronimo*, Rice University Public Art Program, BRC, Rice University, Houston, TX, USA
- 2011 *Going Down For The Third Time*, Bryan Miller Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
Geronimo, Sox, Berlin, Germany
Between The Eyes, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2009 *The Crisis Professionals*, CTRL Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
- 2008 *John Sparagana*, CTRL Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
- 2007 *Afternoon Hallucinogenic*, Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, NY, USA
- 2006 *What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw*, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2005 *People Everywhere are Stoned*, Mixture Contemporary Art, Houston, TX, USA
- 2004 *People Everywhere are Tired*, Modern Culture, NY, USA
Sleeping Beauty, Mixture Contemporary Art, Houston, TX, USA
- 2002 *I Wait For You Every Night*, Rice University Media Center, Houston, TX, USA
Swoon, Wall Installation, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
- 2001 *Sublime*, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Hubcab, Diamond, Star, Halo, Corbett vs Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
Nothing is, Sun Ra and Other's Covers, JUGB, Cologne, Germany
- 2023 Document Space, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2022 Art Dallas Contemporary Fair, Sicardi Ayers Bacino Booth, Dallas, TX, USA
Art Expo Chicago, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
Art Basel Miami, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Miami, FL, USA
- 2021 *Subtext*, Sicardi | Ayers | Bacino, Houston, TX, USA
Unframed, Sicardi | Ayers | Bacino, Houston, TX, USA
- 2020 *Cosmic Meteorites & Other Burners*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA

- 2018 *Under Erasure*, Pierogi Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2017 *World Dance: Selections from the Collection of JoAnne Gonzales Hickey*, Denver Art Museum Denver, CO, USA
Small Sculpture, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
RAIR@50, Beyond the Gift of Time, Roswell Museum and Art Center, Roswell, NM, USA
- 2016 *MoCP at 40*, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College, Chicago, IL, USA
Terms of Use: Reproducing the Photographic Image, Glass Curtain Gallery, Columbia College, Chicago, IL, USA
Tunnel of Silence, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA
- 2015 *Other Planes of There*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL, USA
Bemis Painters, 1985-2005, Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, Omaha, NE, USA
- 2014 *Miguel Ángel Rojas & John Sparagana: El Cuerpo Sutil*, Sicardi | Ayres | Bacino Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
Without you I am nothing, Heldart, Berlin, Germany
Cargo Space, Inova, Milwaukee, WI, USA. A&D Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2013 *Albert Oehlen, Markus Oehlen, Joyce Pensato, Mattias Schaufler, John Sparagana, Rebecca Warren*, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, Germany
Albert Oehlen & John Sparagana, STUDIOLO, Zürich, Switzerland
Anological, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City, UT, USA
To Open Eyes: Art and Textile from Bauhaus to the Present, Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany
- 2012 *Utopia/Dystopia: Construction and Destruction in Photography and Collage*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), TX, USA
Rarely Seen Contemporary Works on Paper, Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA
Domino Effect, Galerie Catherine Bastide, Brussels, Belgium
The New Art Dealers Alliance Fair, Corbett vs. Dempsey, New York, NY, USA
New Contemporaries, Art Cologne, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Cologne, Germany
- 2011 *Synecdoche*, Bourouina Gallery, Berlin, Germany
I All Alone Beweep My Outcast State, Kruger Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
Remix: Selections from the International Collage Center, Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, USA
- 2010 *Eraserhead*, Fruehsorge Contemporary Drawings, Berlin, Germany
Hide and Seek, Aratia Beer, Berlin, Germany
"Entre chien et loup," Galerie Vidal Saint Phalle, Paris, France
Ah Wilderness, Ebersmoore, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2009 *Olio*, Tony Wight Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2007 *Antennae*, Houston Center for Photography, TX, USA
The Exquisite Snake, Bloch Museum of Art, Evanston, IL, USA
Bold Saboteurs, Collage in Chicago, Corbett vs. Dempsey Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2006 *Making/Breaking*, Two-person exhibition with Anni Holm at the Moser Performing Arts Center at University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, USA
Full Frontal, Corbett vs. Dempsey Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
GEEP, Oresman Gallery, Smith College, Northhampton, MA, USA

- In This House That I Call Home*, Western Project, Los Angeles, CA, USA
In Sight, Recent Additions To The Permanent Collection, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2005 *Kiss Me Long and Hard*, Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, NY, USA
Post-Photography, Changing Role-Move Over Gallery, Naples, Italy
Girls of Summer, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA
Pages, I Space, Chicago, IL, USA
No Monument, The Guest Room Project, Chicago, IL, USA
Dating Data, Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2004 *GEEP*, Cell 77, Edinburgh, Scotland
John Sparagana & Laura Mosquera, Bright Group showroom, Chicago, IL, USA
NADA Art Fair, Miami, Mixture Contemporary, Houston, TX, USA
Editor's Choice, John Sparagana & Laura Mosquera, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL, USA
State of Affairs, Savage Art Resources, Portland, OR, USA
Sketchbook: Collaboraction, Chopin Theatre, Chicago, IL, USA
You're No Photographer, Bad Dog Gallery, Dekalb, IL, USA
- 2003 *re:LAX*, DCKT Gallery, New York, NY, USA
NADA Art Fair, Miami, Mixture Contemporary, Houston, TX, USA
Collectible, Northern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
Re-Action, Jan Weiner Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA
John Sparagana, Ann Strautberg, Dornith Doherty: FotoFest 2002, James Gallery, Houston, TX, USA
- 2001 *Beefcake/Cheesecake: Sex, Flesh, Money and Dreams*, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Ana, CA, USA
Operating Systems, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, CA, USA
Collage 2001, Etherington Gallery, Vineyard Haven, MA, USA
- 2000 *Eros*, Municipal Exhibition Hall, LaRoque Thimbault, France
Shake the Coat, Northpark University Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
Teenie Weenie, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX, USA
- 1999 *It Looks Easy: A Cross Section of Recent Painting in Chicago Gallery 400*, School of Art & Design, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA
Is This a Joke or What? Feminism, Humour and Contemporary Art in Texas, O'Kane Gallery, University of Houston-Downtown, TX, USA

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- 2003 Ucross Foundation, Clearmont, WY, Residency Fellowship
 2001 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
 1996 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
 1995-96 Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, New Mexico, Artist-in-Residence Program
 1992 Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Texas, Individual Artist's Grant
 1988-89 Mid-America Arts Alliance/National Endowment for the Arts

- 1987-88 Bemis Project/Alternative Worksite, Omaha, Nebraska, Residency Fellowship
 1987 Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, Residency Fellowship
 1985-87 Stanford University Department of Art, Stanford, California, Full Fellowship

LECTURES, PANELS, AND CRITIQUES

- 2009 University of Chicago, Graduate Critiques
 2005 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fiber and Material Studies Department,
 Slide Lecture
 and Graduate Critiques
 "Plasticity and Emergence," Society for Literature, Science and the Arts, Panel
 American University, Washington, D.C., Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
 Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
 2004 Brown University, Providence, RI, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
 Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, TX, Slide Lecture
 "Vision and Art: The Biology of Seeing," Rice University, Houston, TX, Panel
 2002 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Graduate Art History Seminar, Slide Lecture
 Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
 Society for Contemporary Photography, Kansas City, MO, Slide Lecture
 University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Slide Lecture, Graduate Critiques
 2001 Rice University, Houston, TX Scholars Forum, Slide Lecture
 "Representational Painting: Responding to Contemporary Issues and Timeless
 Themes," Northpark University, Chicago, IL, Panel
 1998 Glassell School, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, Guest Critic
 Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL, Graduate Critiques
 University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, Slide Lecture, Graduate
 Critiques
 University of Texas of the Permian Basin, Odessa, TX, Slide Lecture, Graduate
 Critiques
 Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, Slide Lecture
 1997 University of Illinois at Chicago, Graduate Review Panel
 Northern Illinois University, Graduate Critiques
 1996 Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
 Roswell Museum and Art Center, Roswell, NM, Slide Lecture
 Bennington College, Bennington, VT, Slide Lecture, Undergraduate Critiques
 Rice University School of Architecture, Houston, TX, Slide Lecture

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA
 Denver Art Museum, CO, USA
 Fine Arts Museum System of San Francisco (Legion of Honor, de Young Museum, &
 Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts), CA, USA

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles, CA, USA
 Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL, USA
 Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), TX, USA
 Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, USA
 Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE, USA
 Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, IL, USA
 Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA, USA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2021 John Sparagana, David Grubbs, and Reto Geiser, *Projectile*, Drag City, 228 pages
 Second Sets: A Review of John Sparagana at Soccer Club Club, New City, December 8
- 2019 *John Sparagana*, Corbett vs Dempsey, 109 pages
- 2018 *Now that the audience is assembled*, David Grubbs author, portfolio, pages
 BOMB Magazine, Conversation between David Grubbs and John Sparagana
 Text Zur Kunst, Krystian Woznicki and David Grubb's conversation re Now that the audience is assembled includes discussion of Sparagana's series, Crowds & Powder
- 2017 Fabiola Lopez Duran, Breather catalog text
- 2016 *Themesong Variations*, Catalog
- 2014 John Sparagana and Reto Geiser, *Reading Revolutionaries*, Benteli Press, 192 pages
 Jacyln Jacunski, Art in Print, *John Sparagana Reads The News*
Crowds & Powder Catalog, Corbett vs Dempsey
 Art Agenda, *John Sparagana's Crowds & Powder Daily Serving: An International Publication For International Art: John Sparagana's Crowds Powder at Corbett vs Dempsey*
 Nils Plath, Permalink, January 20, 2014
 Casey Gregory, Glasstire, *El Cuerpo Sutil: Miguel Rojas and John Sparagana*
 Betsy Huete, The Great God Pan Is Dead, *El Cuerpo Sutil: Homage and Brutality*
- 2013 *Crowds and Powder*, Catalog, Corbett vs Dempsey
 Hans Ulrich Obrist, "The Cabinet Room." Das Magazin, June 29.
 "Artist Project." Esopus 19, pp. 88-104.
 "Art Portfolio." Make Magazine, Issue #14.
 To Open Eyes: Art and Textile from Bauhaus to Today, catalog. Bielefeld, Germany: Kunsthalle Bielefeld, 2014.
Remix: Selections from the International Collage Center, Catalog
- 2012 Yasufumi Nakamori and Graham Bader, *Utopia/Dystopia: Construction and Destruction in Photography and Collage*, catalog. Houston: Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, 2012.
- 2011 Jennifer King, "John Sparagana at Corbett vs. Dempsey." Artforum, Summer.
 Garrett Stewart, *Bookwork: Medium To Object To Concept To Art*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, pp. 101,103-104, 119, 121-127, 158.

- Nancy Zastudil, "Pivot Point: John Sparagana in Motion." Arts+Culture Magazine.
- Douglas Britt, "John Sparagana Hits His Stride At Bryan Miller Gallery." Houston Chronicle online.
- Benjamin Lima, "John Sparagana Bryan Miller Gallery." Fluent~Collaborative...might be good, Issue #176.
- Rachel Hooper, "John Sparagana: 'Going Down For The Third Time' at Bryan Miller Gallery" art ltd.
- Dan Oko, "News Wired: Artist of the Year Sparagana, who warps world events in his provocative paintings, is on a mission to ramp up Rice's rep in the art world." Houston Magazine.
- 2009 John Sparagana and Others, Signs of the Apocalypse/Rapture, Front Forty Press.
- Kelly Klaasmeyer and Troy Schulze, "Capsule Art Reviews: John Sparagana: 'The Crisis Professionals'." Houston Press online.
- 2008 Bal, Mieke and Sparagana, John, Sleeping Beauty, A One Artist Dictionary. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 2007 Leah DeVun, "Reviews: John Sparagana, 'What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw'." Glasstire: Texas Visual Art Online.
- 2006 Mathes, Bettina, Das Kreuz mit dem Kopftuch. Geschichte und Wirkungen eines Symbols, Aufbau Verlag.
- Artner, Alan, "Small Parts, Big Picture." Chicago Tribune, Nov 3, Art section, pp. 29.
- "John Sparagana: What the Child Saw, What the Lover Saw, What the Killer Saw." flavorpill, November 7.
- Bielstein, Susan, Permissions, A Survival Guide: Blunt Talk about Art as Intellectual Property. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.
- Mathes, Bettina. Under Cover, Das Geschlecht in den Medien, Verlag.
- 2005 Elms, Anthony, "Reviews: Pages." Time Out Chicago, November 17-24, pp. 56.
- Hawkins, Margaret, "Girls of Summer About More Than Having Fun." The Chicago Sun Times, July 29, pp. 24
- "Koichi Enomoto, Ruby Osorio, and John Sparagana: Girls of Summer." flavorpill, July 19.
- Steven Devadanam, "Abusing Models: This season's look is distressed in John Sparagana's 'People Everywhere Are Stoned'." Houston Press, April 7-13, pp. 37.
- Hinkel, Joanne, "Connecting with Culture: Art Brushes with Human Kind." Chicago: Centerstage Chicago, July 22.
- Hearne Pardee, People Everywhere are Tired. AC Institute, #3, Winter, 2005.
- 2004 Ferrera, Annette, "An Artful Deception: John Sparagana's states of distress." Ten by Ten, (Cover Project), Vol. 3, #2.
- Bowie, Chas, "State of Affairs." Portland Mercury, April 22.
- French, Christopher, "Sharing Two Distinct Perspectives." Houston Chronicle, Art Review, April 2004, pp.3D and 10D.
- Jeff Jahn, State of Affairs, NW Drizzle Monthly Arts, Music, and Culture E-Zine, May.

- 2003 "What Have You Done For Me Lately?" Atopia Projects, Project #1.99, February.
"Collecting Remains in Eye of the Beholder." The Chicago Tribune, March 7, 2003.
Margaret Hawkins, "Collectible." The Chicago Sun Times, February 7, 2003.
- 2002 "Reviews." New Art Examiner, May 2002.
"For Every Action." The Kansas City Star, January 18, 2002.
Review Magazine, February 2002, Kansas City, MO.
"Reviews." Glasstire: Texas Visual Arts Online, April 2002, Houston, TX.
FotoFest 2002 Catalogue