

# Mel Chin

## Biographie

[www.melchin.org](http://www.melchin.org)

1951

geboren in Houston, Texas / born in Houston, Texas

lebt in North Carolina / lives in North Carolina .

### **Einzelausstellungen / Solo Shows (Auswahl /Selection)**

2018

All Over The Place, Queens Museum of Art, New York (USA)  
Two Me, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio (USA)

2016

TOTAL PROOF: The GALA Committee 1995-1997, Red Bull Studios, New York  
Mel Chin, Thomas Rehbein Galerie, Köln  
All Over The Place: No Escape - a post-retrospective survey exhibition, Penns

2015

MEL CHIN:REMATCH, Blaffer Art Museum and Contemporary Art Museum Ho

2014

DISPARATE ACTS, Rowan University Gallery, Glassboro, New Jersey  
MEL CHIN:REMATCH, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans

2013

Mel Chin- Best Laid Plans And Unauthorized Collaborations, Thomas Rehbein  
RECAP, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC  
The Use and Abuse of History in Contemporary Art, spezial presentation at 21

2012

It's not what you think, Galerie Steinek, Wien  
High, Low and In Between, Ashville Museum of Art, Ashville NC  
Cabinet of Craving at Asia Society Texas Center, Houston TX  
Funk & Wag from A to Z, Station Museum of Contemporary Art

2011

Mel Chin, Thomas Rehbein Galerie, Köln  
The Funk and Wag From A to Z, Nave Museum, Victoria, TX

2010

Disputed Territories, Het Domein Museum, Sittard, NL

2007

Mel Chin. Lamentations and Drawings, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York, N

2006

Do Not Ask Me, Station Museum, Houston, TX

2003

Render, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York, NY

2002

Ecovention, CAC, Cincinnati, OH

2001

Knowmad, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, New York, NY

1997-1999

Inescapable Histories, Exhibits USA (travelling exhibition)

1995

Anxious Objects, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

1992

Soil and Sky, The Fabric Workshop and Swarthmore College, Philadelphia, PA

1991

Mel Chin, Menil Collection, Houston, TX

Degrees of Paradise, Storefront for Art and Architecture, New York, NY

1990

Viewpoints. Mel Chin, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN (travelling exhibition)

1989

Directions. Mel Chin, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC

1988

Selected Weapons, Frumkin/Adams Gallery, New York, NY

1987

The Operation of the Sun Through the Cult of the Hand, Loughelton Gallery, New York, NY

1985

Modus Operandi: 1974-1985, Diverse Arbeiten, Houston, TX

1977

Robinson Galleries, Houston TX

1976

Robinson Galleries, Houston TX

### **Gruppenausstellungen / Group Shows (Auswahl / Selection)**

2017

DOUBLE CODING. COLLECTION MUDAM, Mudam Luxembourg, Luxembourg (LU)

2016

Southern Accent. Seeking the American South in Contemporary Art, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC  
Unloaded, Handwerker-Gallery - Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

2015

TeleGen. Kunst und Fernsehen, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn

Necessary Force: Art In The Police State, University of New Mexico Art Museum, Albuquerque, NM

2013

"no emotion" Drawings from William Anastasi, Jochem Hendricks and Mel Chin, Thomas Rehbein Galerie, Bruxelles, Belgien

2012

How Much Do I Owe You?, No Longer Empty, Long Island, NY

No Man May Carry a Fish into a Bar, Blum and Poe Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

Chaotic Trajectories, Temporary Gallery Cologne, Köln

ARTIFACTUAL realities, Station Museum of Contemporary Art, Houston, TX

This Side of Paradise, presented by No Longer Empty at the Freedman Home, Bronx, NY

2011

Living As Form, Creative Time, New York, NY

2010

Forbidden Love: Art in the wake of Television Camp, Koelnischer Kunstverein,

2009

The Flag, Good Children Gallery, New Orleans, LA  
No Zoning. Artists Engage Houston, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, TX

2008

Close Encounters. Facing The Future, American University Museum, Washington, DC  
Wunderkammer. A Century of Curiosities, Museum of Modern Art, New York; NY  
Ornithology. Looking at Birds, University of Connecticut, CT

2005

Road in Sight, Duke University, Durham, NC  
Down the Garden Path, Queens Museum of Art, Long Island City, NY

2004

Freedom Salon, Deitch Projects, New York, NY  
Botanica. Contemporary Art and the World of Plants, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN (travelling exhibition)

2003

Signatures of the Invisible, PS!, New York, NY

2002

A New World Trade Center. Design Proposals, Max Protetch Gallery, New York, NY  
Selections from The Collection of Wilhelm Schürmann, Ständehaus Museum K21, Düsseldorf  
The Culture of Violence, Amherst College Museum, Amherst, MASS  
Ecoventions, Cincinnati Art Center, Cincinnati, OH

2001

Lyon Biennial, Lyon, Frankreich  
Tele(Visions), Kunsthalle, Wien  
One Planet Under A Groove, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx, NY

2000

Texas, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
Money-Taking. The Fine Art of Currency, The Federal Reserve, Washington, DC (travelling exhibition)

1999

Natural Reality. Artistic Positions Between Nature and Culture, Ludwig Forum für internationale Kunst, Aachen  
World Views, Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

1997

Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME  
Boston College, Boston, MA  
Uncommon Sense, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Kwangju Biennale, Kwangju, Korea  
Grand Arts, Kansas City, MO  
Lawing Gallery, Houston, TX

1996

In Print, Contemporary Artists at the Vinal Haven Press  
Embedded Metaphor, Ringling Museum of Art  
Western Washington University  
Bowdin College Museum of Art  
Contemporary Art Center Virginia  
Wesleyan University  
Art at the End of the 20th Century, Whitney Museum, New York  
National Gallery and Alexandros Soutzos Museum, Athen, Griechenland  
Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Spanien  
Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn  
Push/Pause, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, IL  
Thinking Print, Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Is It Art?, Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY (travelling exhibition)

1995

Murder, Bergamot Station Art Center, Santa Monica, CA  
Thread Waxing Space, New York  
Centre Gallery, Florida  
Magic Objects, München  
Grounded, ART/OMI, Omi, NY  
Texas Myths and Realities, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

1994

New York Artists, Prag, Tschechien  
Out of This World, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX

The Lure of the Local, University of Colorado at Boulder  
The Garbage Show, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT  
Public Interventions, ICA, Boston, MA  
Landscape As Metaphor, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO (travelling exhibition)  
Equal Rights and Justice, High Museum, Atlanta, GA  
Fifth Biennial of Havana, National Museum of Fine Arts, Centro Wifredo Lam, Havana, Kuba  
Refuse/Refuse, Honolulu Academy of Arts, Hawaii  
Old Glory. The American Flag in Contemporary Art, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, OH  
Black Male. Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York  
Armand Hammer Collection, Los Angeles, CA

1993

From Destruction to Reclamation. Art and the Environment in the Nineties, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC  
Exposition Differentes Natures, La Defense, Paris, Frankreich (travelling exhibition)  
Kunst-Kultur-Ökologie, Bea Voigt Galerie, München  
Natural Unnatural, TZ Art & Company, New York

1992

Beyond Glory. Re-Presenting Terrorism, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD  
The Retangled Bank, E. M. Donahue Gallery, New York  
Allocations. Art for a Natural and Artificial Environment, Floriadepark, Zoetermeer, Niederlande  
Putt Modernism, Artists Space, New York (travelling exhibition)

Fragile Ecologies, Smithsonian Museum (ursprünglich The Queens Museum of Art), New York  
Markets of Resistance, White Columns, New York

1991

The Subversive Stitch, Simon Watson Gallery, New York  
Glass. Material in the Service of Meaning, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA  
Salvage Utopia, A/C Projekt Room, New York

1990

Tradition and Innovation. A Museum Celebration of Texas Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
The Fifth Essence, Gracie Mansion Gallery, New York  
International Memorial Arts Festival: China: June 4, ICA (P.S.1), Long Island City, NY  
This Land. The State of Texas, Lawndale Art and Performance Center, Houston, TX  
The Conceptual Impulse, Security Pacific Gallery, Costa Mensa, CA  
Garbage Out Front. A New Era of Public Design, The Municipal Art Society, New York  
Diverse Representations, Morris Museum, Morristown, New Jersey

1989

Sculpture. Part II, Frumkin/Admas Gallery, New York  
China, June 4, 1989, Blum Helman Warehouse, New York

1988

Spectrum. New Developements in Three Dimensions, Frumin/Adams Gallery, New York  
Texas Art. Selections from the Menil Collection, the Museum of Fine Arts and the Trustees' Collections of the Contemporary Arts Museum, Menil Collection, Houston, TX  
Art Against Aids, Benefit Exhibition and Auction, Houston, TX  
Public Art in Chinatown, Asian American Arts Center, New York

1987

The Double Bind, Loughelton Gallery, New York  
Notes on the Virtual, Loughelton Gallery, New York

1986

The Texas Landscape 1900 – 1986, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

1983

Showdown/Lowdown. Art of the Southwest, Alternative Museum, New York  
Seen/Unseen, Diverse Works, Houston, TX  
Benefit for Amnesty International, USA, Diverse Works, Houston, TX

1982

Prisoners of Conscience, Studio One, Houston, TX (travelling exhibition organized by Amnesty International)

1979

Fire, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX

1977

Houston Area, Blaffer Gallery, University of Houston, TX

**Auszeichnungen / Awards**

2008

Honorary Doctorate, Maryland Institute College of Art  
Joan Mitchell Foundation  
Transforma Projects / National Performance Network  
Nathan Cummings Foundation Award  
Cross Currents Foundation

2007

Pedro Sienna Award, Best Animation, National Council for the Arts and Cultures, Chile, for 911-911  
Art Matters  
Creative Capital Grant

2006

Honorary Doctorate, Rhode Island School of Design

2004

Nancy Graves Foundation Award 1990 Art Matters, Inc: Artist's Fellowship

2001

Creative Capital Grant

1997

Englehard Award

1996

Rockefeller Foundation Grant

1995

Cal Arts Alpert Award in the Visual Arts

1991

Joan Mitchell Foundation Award  
Penny McCall Foundation Award

1990-1991

National Endowment for the Arts: Artist's Projects/New Forms

1990

Mid Atlantic Art Foundation, Residency: Pittsburgh Center for the Arts

1989 – 1990

New York State Council for the Arts, Sponsored Projects Award

1989

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant  
Pollock/Krasner Foundation Fellowship

1988

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship  
Founder's Day Grant, Uranian Phlanstery: The First NY Gnostic Lyceum

1982

Visual Arts Commission, Houston Festival

### **Sammlungen / Collections**

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
New York Public Library, New York, NY  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
Walker ART Center Minneapolis, MN  
Harold Washington Library, Chicago, IL  
The Menil Collection, Houston, TX  
Museum of Fine Art (MFAH), Houston, TX  
Birmingham Museum, Birmingham, AL  
Art Car Museum, Houston, TX  
Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME  
City of Corpus Christi, TX  
City of Houston, TX  
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH  
El Paso Museum of Art, EL Paso, TX  
The Federal Reserve, Washington, DC  
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA  
The Weatherspoon Gallery, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, NC

# Presse

## Publikationen / Publications

### Kataloge / Catalogues (Auswahl / Selection)

2014  
Mel Chin: Disparate Acts, Rowan University Art Gallery, Glassboro, NJ  
Rematch: Mel Chin, Ausst.-Kat., New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA

2011  
DO NOT ASK ME MEL CHIN, Ausst.-Kat., Station Museum of Contemporary Art

2005  
American Art A Cultural History, Prentice Hall

2004  
Imagining Ground Zero, Rizzoli & Architectural Record

2003  
Neuer Aachener Kunstverein (vol. 38. Nr.10).?

2002  
Art History, second edition, Harry N. Abrams, Prentice Hall  
ERDE, Elemente des Naturhaushalts III, Schriftenreihe Forum Band 11, Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Hrsg.)

2001  
Art of the 21st Century, PBS Documentary, airing Fall, Abrams book pub.?  
JOSEPH BEUY'S Mapping the Legacy, Gene Ray (Hrsg.), The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, D.A.P., New York, NY?  
Nature, Art, Paysage, Actes Sud/Ecole Nationale Supérieure Du Paysage/Centre Du Paysage

2000  
Trans/Plant, LIVING VEGETATION IN CONTEMPORARY ART, Hatje Cantz?  
Three Houston History Lessons, Good, Toni Beauchamp (Hrsg.), Houston, TX?  
Texas, Ausst. Kat., The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX?  
Botanica, Contemporary Art and the World of Plants, Ausst. Kat., Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN?

1999  
Natural Reality, The Unity of Man and Nature: Between Desire and Reality, Ausst. Kat., Daco, Verlag, Stuttgart  
ECO-TEC Architecture of the In-Between, ?Princeton Architectural Press, Amerigo Marras, (Hrsg.)  
On the Beaten Track: tourism, art, and place, The New Press

1998  
Prime Time: In the Name of the Place of Art and Television, In the Name of the Place, Ausst. Kat., Grand Arts, Kansas City, MO?  
Jeffrey Kastner (Hrsg.), Land and Environmental Art, Phaidon

1997  
Subverting Landscape, Public Art Review, Vol. 8, No.2  
Negotiating Art: The Artist and the Museum, Ausst. Kat., Uncommon Sense MOCA, Los Angeles?  
Getting Graphic: Experimentation at the Vinalhaven Press, In Print - Contemporary Artists at the Vinalhaven Press, Ausst. Kat., traveling exhibition, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine  
The Lure of the Local, senses of place in a multi-centered society, The New Press

1996  
The Edge That Cuts . . . , Ausst. Kat.  
INESCAPABLE HISTORIES, ?SCRATCH, Ausst. Kat., Thread Waxing Space, New York  
Inescapable Histories, Inward Gaze to the World, Ausst. Kat. Inescapable Histories, Exhibits, USA ?  
Art On the Edge and Over, Art Insights, Inc., Exhibits, USA ?

1995  
Myth-Making and Myth-Breaking: Multiple Meanings in Mel Chin's Revival Field, ?Art Criticism, Vol. 10, No. 2  
Viewpoints: Mel Chin, Ausst. Kat., Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN ?  
Murder, Ausst. Kat., Bergamot Station Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA

1994  
Visions of America: Landscape As Metaphor in the Late Twentieth Century, Ausst. Kat., Denver Art Museum and Columbus Art Museum ?  
Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art, ?Ausst. Kat., Whitney Museum of American Art?  
Visions of America: Landscape As Metaphor in the Late Twentieth Century, ?Ausst. Kat., Denver Art Museum and Columbus Art

Museum?  
Equal Rights & Justice, Ausst. Kat., High Museum of Art?

1993  
SOIL & SKY, Ausst. Kat., The Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia

1992  
ALLOCATIONS - Art For a Natural ?and Artificial Environment, Ausst. Kat., Dutch and English editions?  
Fragile Ecologies, Ausst. Kat., Rizzoli

1990  
Diverse Representations, Ausst. Kat., Morris Museum, Morristown, New Jersey

1989  
Directions: Mel Chin, Ausst. Kat., Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC

1988  
To Propose, To Provoke, Ausst. Kat., Public Art in Chinatown, Asian American Arts Centre, New York, NY ?

1987  
Mel Chin: The Operation of the Sun Through the Cult of the Hand, Ausst. Kat., Loughelton Gallery, New York, NY?

### **Artikel / Articles (Auswahl / Selection)**

[Sheetsnov, Hilarie M., Mel Chin to Sound the Call, All Over New York, NY Times, 21. November 2017](#)

[Battaglia, Andy, New Art Exhibit Channels 'Melrose Place', The Wall Street Journal, 29. September 2016](#)

[Mel Chin, Current LA Water, 2016](#)

[Grimes, William, The Plot to Put Conceptual Art on 'Melrose Place.' Yes, Really., The New York Times, 28. September 2016](#)

[Carlson, Jen, Did You Know The Props On 'Melrose Place' Were Covert Works Of Art With Coded Meanings?, gothamist, 25. August 2016](#)

[Piepenbring, Dan, Now I Have to Rewatch \*Melrose Place\*, and Other News, The Paris Review, 10. August 2016](#)

[Miller, M.H., Remembering When 'Melrose Place' became a Conceptual Art project: Mel Chin's Gala Committee returns this fall, ARTnews, 01. August 2016](#)

[Wach, Alexandra, Die Chaos-Theorie, Die Welt, 21. Juli 2012](#)

Wege, Astrid, Mel Chin. Thomas Rehbein Galerie, Artforum September 2011, S. 360 - 361

[Imdahl, Georg, Der doppelte 11. September. Kurzweilig und kritisch - Der Amerikaner Mel Chin in der Galerie Thomas Rehbein, Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20. Mai 2011](#)

Puvogel, Renate, Mel Chin. Dispute Territories, Kunstforum International, Jan. - Feb. 2011, S. 371 -372

Critics Picks, ARTFORUM. com, 2009

Reid, Michael, Twin Traumas, A Graphic Link, Victoria Times Colonist, 30. Oktober 2006

French, Christopher, Mel Chin, ArtPapers, Sept / Okt 2006

Klaasmeyer, Kelly, Should We Stay or Should We Go? Houston Press, 11.-17. Nov. 2004

Art Reflect Politics at Station, Houston Chronicle, 30. Oktober 2004

Fischer, Jack, Mel Chin's ideas enliven S.J. library, San Jose Mercury News, 24. August 2003

Gant, Michael S., Biblio Art, Metro, Metroactive Home, 17. - 23. August 2003

Fischer, Jack, Full of Surprise, San Jose Mercury News, 7. August, 2003

Cotter, Holland, Art in Review: Mel Chin, New York Times, 21. März 2003

Tsai, Eugenia, Mel Chin, Time Out New York, 21. März 2003

Wines, Susan, Where the Twin Towers stood, Domus, 846, März 2002

Montreuil, Gregory, Mel Chin, New Art Examiner, März 2001

Milano, Carol, Rugs as Computer Game, The KNOWMAD Show, AREAE, Spring 2001

Sirmans, Franklin, Mel Chin: KNOWMAD, Time Out, Dezember 2000

Patterson, Tom, Bring Along Your Brain, Winston-Salem Journal, 4. Oktober 1994

Rahm, Philippe, Sous les pavés, l'herbe, l'architecture d'aujourd'hui, Juni 1998

Cameron, Dan, Opening Salvos, Part Two, Arts Magazine, Februar 1998

Thorson, Alice, Melrose Art, The Kansas City Star, 1. Februar 1998

Dancing in the name of art, The Daily Evergreen, 10. Februar 1998

Artists visits project with BBC in town, Houston Chronicle, Zest Section, 7. Dezember 1997

Adams, Alice, Gardens, art space, Downtown/Neartown, Houston Chronicle, 16. Juli 1997

Sharkey, Betsy, Art of Art's Sake. On Fox, Mediaweek, 7. Juli 1997

Mitchell, Charles Dee, Critical Imagery, The Dallas Morning News, 2. Juli 1997

Flagpole Magazine, Univesity of Georgia, Athens, GA, Vol.11, No. 24, 18. Juni 1997

Meta Bauer, Ute/ Armaly, Fareed, Mel Chin Conversando con Ute Meta Bauer y Fareed Armaly, Georgia Magazine, University of Georgia, Athens, Juni 1997

Masterpiece Theatre, Village Voice, 22. April 1997

Intra, Giovanni, report from los angeles, artnet.com, reviews, 16. April 1997

Wyatt, Kristen, Melrose' Set a Canvas for Students' Art, The Red & Black, 1. April 1997

Katauskas, Ted, Agitpop, Talk Of the Town, The New Yorker, 24. März 1997

Knight, Christopher, The Socio-Art Genre, Los Angeles Times, 18. März 1997

McKenna, Christine, Cause and Effects, L.A. Times, 16. März 1997

Nakane, Kazuko, Mel Chin at Western Washington Univesity, Vol. 2, No.3, Artweek, März 1997

Litt, Steven, NOVA takes one small step for arts, The Plain Dealer, 25. Oktober 1995

Alchimie Auf Verseuchtem Grund, Der Standard, Album, 22. September 1995

Ex-Houstonian Wins California Arts Award, Houston Chronicle, 5. Mai 1995

Rosser, Phyllis, Mel Chin's Invisible Architecture, Public Art Review, Fall/Winter 1994

Making Trouble, High Performance, Winter 1994

Hummer, Tracey C., Review, dialogue, November/Dezember 1994

Dunn, Teri, Cleansing Gardens, Sanctuary- The Journal of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, September/Oktober 1994

Visible Man, The Village Voice, 22. November 1994

Fox, Catherine, Equal Rights & Justice, The Atlanta Constitution, 5. Juni 1994

Dollens, Dennis L., Bon Barrage... Storefront an Eco Tec, Telescope Magazine, Winter 1993

Mel Chin, lecture transcript, Art Papers, Vol. 17, No. 3, May/Juni 1993

Hager, Mary, New Hopes for Old Plants, Newsweek, Focus, 23. November 1992

Heartney, Eleanor, Skeptics in Utopia, Art in America, Juli 1992

Wong, Bill, You first see a red wall, Asian Week, 19. Juni 1992

Tanner, Marcia, A Conversation with Mel Chin, Artweek, 18. Juni 1992

Murphy, Jay, Mel Chin at The Menil Collection, Art in America, April 1992

Mahoney, Robert, Mel Chin, Arts Magazine, März 1992

Lewis, Jim, Fertile Ground, HG, Januar 1992

Lindsay, Marina, Lettuce Landfills, Buzzword, Vol. IV No.2, 1992

Inescapable Histories, The Village Voice, 31. Dezember 1991

Cembalest, Robin, Lettuce in the Landfill, Art News, November 1991

Schwendenwien, Jude, Breaking Ground: Art in the Environment, Sculpture, September /Oktober 1991

Scott, Diana, Resurrecting History, Metropolis, September 1991

McBride, Elizabeth, Mel Chin - Dialectic Materiald, Artspace, Fall 1991

Kim, Byron, Mel Chin: Visionary and Activist, Asian New Yorker, Juli 1991

Unsigned; Mel Chin at the Menil Collection, Review, Flash Art, Summer 1991

Artist Mel Chin wants to make people think, The Houston Post, Section D, 1. Mai 1991

The Politics of Mel Chin, The Houston Post, 28. April 1991

Inquiring Mind: Survey of work reveals Mel Chin's view of the world, Houston Chronicle, 28. April 1991

Riddle, Mason, Mel Chin: Surveying Heaven and Earth, Sculpture, Januar/ Februar 1991

Eco-Offensive Art, The Village Voice, Vol. XXXVI No.1, 1. Januar 1991