

MARY CELESTE GRIFFIN

b. 1986, Flagstaff, AZ

Lives and works in Chicago, IL

EDUCATION

2021 MFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2019 Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2009 BFA, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

2007 Semester of study, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2004–2006 Coursework, Coconino Community College, Flagstaff, AZ

SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2026 *The Big Sky*, Monira Foundation, Chicago, IL

2025 *Somewhere Only We Know*, Wellness Center, Chicago, IL (with Justin LeBlanc)

2024 *Stirring Memory With Desire*, 121 Artspace, Taipei City, Taiwan

2023 *Strange Vistas*, Dreamsong Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

2008 *Untitled*, Rocket Man Records, Flagstaff, AZ

2007 *Silk Screen Prints*, Bookmans, Flagstaff, AZ

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *[hush, hush] voices carry: echoes and songs*, Monte Castello di Vibio, Italy

2025 *The Highest Level of Listening*, GURE Gallery, Chicago, IL

2025 *Conversations in Abstraction*, Madron Gallery, Chicago, IL

2025 *Murmurations*, DeVos Art Museum, Marquette, MI

2025 Door County Contemporary Art Fair, Dreamsong Gallery, Peninsula School of Art, Door County, WI

2025 *Mel Bokner (Notes on Value)*, [Name] Gallery, Miami, FL

2023 *Drawings, Paintings, Maybe a Sculpture 4*, Everybody Gallery, Tucson, AZ

2023 *Voices Embodied*, Design Museum of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2022 *NICE WORK 2*, Sulk Gallery, Chicago, IL

2022 *PAINTING SHOW*, HAIR+NAILS Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

2022 *nido* (group residency exhibition), Monte Castello di Vibio, Italy

2021 *Constant Practice*, Brook Stevens Gallery, Milwaukee, WI

2021 *Goodbye Horses*, Research House for Asian Art, Chicago, IL

2021 *Quiet, Cold*, Jargon Projects, Chicago, IL

2021 *Graduate Thesis Exhibition*, SAIC Galleries, Chicago, IL
2021 *Crosshatch Project*, online / Chicago, IL
2019 *Picnic on the Precipice*, MacLean Open Studios, SAIC, Chicago, IL
2019 *MOCAF Installations*, Ashes Music Festival, Flagstaff, AZ
2019 *With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
2019 *Halo Halo*, Pintô International, New York, NY
2019 *Post-Baccalaureate Annual*, SAIC, Chicago, IL
2018 *Spring Exhibition*, Museum of Contemporary Art Flagstaff, Flagstaff, AZ
2017 *Bodies and Conditions of Presence*, Museum of Contemporary Art Flagstaff, Flagstaff, AZ
2017 *Benefit Exhibition: Support for Immigrant Communities*, Firecreek, Flagstaff, AZ
2014 *Tucson Sculpture Festival*, Tucson, AZ
2014 *Maiden Exhibition*, Tucson Contemporary Art Collective, Tucson, AZ
2011 *You + Me = US*, Reviver Printing, Las Cruces, NM
2009 *BFA Thesis Exhibition*, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

LECTURES AND PANELS

2025 Artist Talk with Justin LeBlanc, Neiman Center, Chicago, IL
2025 Conversation with Rachel Collier, Door County Contemporary, WI
2023 Artist Panel, Design Museum of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2021 Graduate Lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

RESIDENCIES, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

2023 Robert Rauschenberg Medical Grant
2022 nido: Living in the Play Residency, Monte Castello di Vibio, Italy
2020 Daniel D. Van Degrieff Scholarship, SAIC
2019 Graduate Teaching Fellowship, SAIC
2018 Recognition Merit Scholarship, SAIC
2009 Dick Beasley Memorial Art Scholarship, Northern Arizona University

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022–Present Lecturer, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Teach undergraduate painting and drawing courses including *Painting Practice*, *Multi-Level Painting*, *Figure Drawing*, and *Landscape Painting*. Teach Early College Program courses in *Figure Drawing*, *Oil Painting*, and *Advanced Painting*. Teach Adult Continuing Education courses including *Water-Based Painting*, *Materials & Methods*, and *Color + Light*.

2021–2022 Instructor, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Milwaukee, WI
Taught studio courses including *Standpoints and Circumstances* and *Singularity and Multiplicity* in the New Studio Practice Program, and Painting in the First Year Experience Program.

2019–2020 Graduate Teaching Fellow, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Teaching assistant to Mari Eastman for Capstone: Lives of the Artist. Assisted with sophomore seminars including Interdisciplinary and Reflect, Revise... Repeat!

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021–2024 Gallery Assistant, Goldfinch Gallery, Chicago, IL
Supported gallery operations and visitor engagement.

2011–2016 Gift Shop Manager, Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson, Tucson, AZ
Managed museum shop operations, curated merchandise in relation to exhibitions, supported artist consignment, and assisted with public programming and events.

SELECTED PRESS

2026 *Scratch & Pull*, curated by Jocko Weyland, Innen Books, Zurich, Switzerland
2025 Tom Groenfeldt, “*New Fair Draws Contemporary Artists from Across the Midwest*,” Door County Pulse
2023 Camille LeFevre, “*At Home with ‘Strange Vistas’*,” MPLSART
2023 Gregory Smith, “*Mary Griffin. Strange Vista*,” MEER Magazine
2017 Diandra Markgraff, “*Wellspring: MOCAF Moves Into Bodies & Conditions of Presence*,” Flag Live

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Kitty Brophy, Tucson, AZ
Jessica Nordell, Minneapolis, MN