

**Dr Zoë Mendelson (b. 1976)** is an artist and writer with an expanded field practice that owes its spatialisation, historical narratives and compositional framework to painting. Her work includes various forms of writing (fiction and non-fiction), painting, collage, drawing, hand-driven animation, installation, and singing. Mendelson has exhibited widely showing works, performing and publishing, nationally and internationally. Her work is also installed permanently (visibly and covertly) in public buildings.

Zoë's research engages disorder as a culturally produced phenomenon, in parallel to its clinical counterpart, suggesting its value to knowledge production within Fine Art and critical theory. She is interested in how culture co-opts psychological and medical motifs and spectacularises them, leading to complex and widespread mis-readings. This has led her to produce artworks in direct response to imagery produced or used within medicine itself - particularly in diagnostics. She has a profound interest in ill-being as a place of potential agency and advocacy - at odds with a current focus on well-being as a 'success' narrative.

Zoë is Head of Painting & Printmaking at [Glasgow School of Art](#). She co-curates the network [paintingresearch](#) with Geraint Evans and is co-founder and editor of [The Edit](#), an online and inclusive, de-canonised bibliography for students in Fine Art and related fields, now used in Arts education internationally.

More detail and documentation at: [zoemendelson.co.uk](http://zoemendelson.co.uk)

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### **Education:**

**2015:** AHRC-funded practice-led PhD, Central St Martins, University of the Arts London. Thesis title: *Psychologies and Spaces of Accumulation: The hoard as collagist methodology (and other stories)*.

**2000:** MA, Fine Art - Painting, Royal College of Art, London

**1998:** BA (Hons) Fine Art - Painting, Chelsea College of Art & Design, London

### **Teaching (recent)**

**Current:** Head of Painting & Printmaking at The Glasgow School of Art

**Jan 2015 - 2021:** Course Leader, BA Fine Art Painting, Wimbledon College of Arts, University of the Arts London

**2008 - 2014:** Lecturer, BA Fine Art Painting, Wimbledon College of Arts

**2005 - 2013:** Associate Lecturer, BA Fine Art (2D Pathway), Central St Martins

### **Awards (since 2007):**

**Nov 2020:** ArtsSU/UAL Outstanding Teaching Award 2020

**Dec 2019:** UAL Staff Award for solo exhibition, *Purity, Danger, Dirty Re-arranger*.

**Dec 2016:** Travel and residency grant from Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts, X'ian, China

**2014:** AHRC/Wellcome Trust funded place on University of Durham's Centre for Medical Humanities year-long New Generations Programme for Early Career Researchers.

**2013:** Grant for visual artists from The Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust.

**2012:** Wellcome Trust Award (for large scale visual art & writing project, *This Mess is a Place*: £30,000)

**2010 -2013:** Full AHRC doctoral award at UAL

**2007:** Arts Council England Grants for the Arts Award - production of works for *Oh Vienna*, two person show with Joel Tomlin.

### **Solo Exhibitions (since 2005):**

**March 2023:** *Sensorscape*, Blyth Gallery, London, funded by Creative Scotland

**Dec 2019:** *Purity, Danger, Dirty Re-arranger*, Lewisham Arthouse, London, funded by UAL

**June 2014:** *The Piles*, Chisenhale Art Place, London

**Jan 2009:** *Lie Detector, Act 1*, Illusion, Galerie Edouard Manet, Gennevilliers and *Lie Detector, Act 2*, Delusion, Galerie Schleicher + Lange, Paris

**Feb 2008:** *Headspace*, solo show, Collections de Saint Cyprien, France

**Sept 2007:** *In-patient*, Plane Space Gallery, New York

**Feb 2007:** *Archival Loot*, Gas gallery, Turin, Italy

**Sept 2006:** *Wunderkammer*, Galerie Schleicher + Lange, Paris

**March 2006:** *Seven Histories of the Island*, Galerie Kapinos, Berlin

**March 2006:** Zoë Mendelson: *Fiction Section*, Mogadishni, Copenhagen

**Sept 2005:** *Pavilion*, Millais Gallery, Southampton

**April 2005:** *P's and Q's*, Rokeby Gallery, London

#### Selected Group Exhibitions/Events (since 2004):

**Oct 2021:** *INTERIOR/INTERIOR* Co-curated with Anna Bunting-Branch, Dialogues at Chelsea Space online

**Oct 2020:** *Real Time*, Coleman Project Space, London

**30 May 2018:** *Hoard as Home: Clutter as Comfort*, Performance/lecture at the Science Museum, London

**Jan 2018:** *The Producers Present*, collaboration with Anne-Marie Creamer at Griffin Gallery, London

**Nov 2017:** *Work, Work*, Tintype gallery, London

**Sept 2017:** *Veneer*, Wirksworth Festival, Derbyshire

**March 2017:** *Spectacular Evidence: Theatres of the Observed Mind*, one-day event in the theatre at Artsadmin, Toynbee Studios curated by Zoë Mendelson

**May 2016:** *Wayfaring*, &Model, Leeds (cat.)

**Oct 2015:** *Museum of the Unwanted*, Kunstmuseum Olten, Switzerland (cat.)

**Nov 2014:** *Show-Off*, curated by Sarah Kate Wilson and Rose Davey – mobilising a procession of works in front of a seated audience over three nights.

**Feb 2014:** *A Slip of Freuds: An evening of collective nouns and clutter*, Artsadmin, London. 'Zoë Mendelson curates and presents an evening dedicated to objects en masse and coagulated'

**Oct 2013:** *This Mess is a Place* book launch: event with live/sculptural works, Chase & Sorensen, London

**Sept 2011:** *Inconscients! (Les artistes et la psychanalyse)* Parts 1 and 3, Galerie Alfa, Paris (cat.)

**July 2011:** *Archipelago*, CGP London, curated by Gary Stevens (cat.)

**2010 - 2011:** *Pile*, Surface Gallery, Nottingham, then touring to Chapter, Cardiff, Wales

**Sept 2010:** *Diepsel*, Galerie 37, Haarlem, The Netherlands, 3rd International Madness + Arts Festival

**Oct 2008:** *Waaooohh!*, CRAC, Alsace, France

**March 2008:** *Oh Vienna*, two-person show with Joel Tomlin at Transition, London. (ACE funded)

**Jan 2007:** *Maniera, Techniques et Persuasion*, MCNN, Nevers, France

**Jan 2007:** *Ophelia's World*, Kunst Galleria Museo, Bolzano, Italy

**Oct 2006:** *The Square Root of Drawing*, Gallery Temple Bar, Dublin (cat.)

**May 2006:** *Fable*, three-person show, Chapter, Centre for Contemporary Arts, Cardiff, Wales (cat.)

**June 2005:** *J'en Réve*, Fondation Cartier, Paris, France (cat.)

#### Permanent work/commissions:

**Since July 2010:** Four installations (two permanent) at Town Hall Hotel and Apartments, London, co-commissioned and curated by Artsadmin and selected by Iwona Blazwick and Zarina Bhimji.

**June 2007:** Fondation Cartier artist's commission: on-line interactive artwork: *The Envelope Machine*.

**Since May 2006:** Preserved, hidden wall drawing, Chapter, Centre for the Contemporary Arts, Cardiff.

### Selected lectures/talks/events (since 2013):

**24.11.2022:** *Playing Up* - an evening of artists' interventions at the Freud Museum (London). Curated by Rosemary Cronin

**10.2022:** *The Viral and the Expanded Field* - live contribution to *Confabulations* w/Marita Fraser. *Confabulations: Art Practice, Art History, Critical Medical Humanities* is a series of urgent conversations on health, medicine, and medicalised bodies

**02.12.2020:** *Going Going Gone*, panel discussion on the legacy of lost art schools, teaching and institutions, hosted by 'Fully Awake' and Freeland Foundation (online)

**30.01.2019:** *Painting as Baggage Handler*: Anj Smith in conversation with Olivia Sudjic, chaired and organised by Zoë Mendelson for paintingresearch with the support of Hauser & Wirth, London

**05.09.2018:** 'Ruin and Raccoon-feeding: collages of constantly shifting temporal matter, from Merzbau to Grey Gardens' presented at Norwich University of the Arts, 'Beyond Pattern and Chaos' symposium.

**20.06.2018:** Co-presented paper, 'Painting as Technology' (with Dr Tom Cardwell and Geraint Evans) at 'Teaching Painting: Painting the New', Royal Academy of Arts, London (book chapter pending)

**06.04.2018:** Panel discussion 'Interdisciplinary Entanglements: Towards a Visual Medical Humanities' at the Association for Art Historians Annual Conference, Kings College, London.

**20.02.2017:** Michelangelo Pistoletto in conversation with filmmaker, Chiara Messineo, chaired and organised by Zoë Mendelson for paintingresearch with the support of Simon Lee Gallery.

**04.12.2015:** Panel discussion at Sainsbury Centre for Visual Art, Norwich: *Creative Collections*.

**11.04.2015:** Introductory talk for screening of *Grey Gardens* (1976, dir. D. Maysles; A. Maysles; Ellen Hovde; Muffie Meyer). Barbican Centre, London

**19.03.2015:** Performance/meta-presentation, events programme accompanying the Barbican Art Gallery exhibition, *Magnificent Obsessions: The Artist as Collector*.

**29.03.2014:** *Archives for the Future* Conference: meta-fictional lecture, 'Which Shelf for the Broken One', organised by Mnemoscape at University of Westminster, London.

**12.02.2014:** *The PlayList*, presented live with an interactive work at Camden Arts Centre, London.

**04.02.2013:** *Thinking as Practice*, symposium at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts, London. Presented paper - 'Collapsing a book: Thinking through dis-order and editing.'

**25.01.2014:** Performance/meta-presentation at *The Art School: The Future for 'Theory'?* Conference at the Institute for Contemporary Arts (ICA), London.

**24.6.2013:** Invited panel member, Resonance 104.4 fm's *The Thread* curated by Research at Birkbeck. Subject: Greed and the Vogel Collection.

### Books, Catalogues (since 2010):

**2022:** Chapter pending ('Painting as Technology', co-written with Dr Tom Cardwell and Geraint Evans) for *Teaching Painting: Painting the New*, pub. Cambridge Scholarly Press (pub. forthcoming)

**July 2019:** Catalogue essay, 'Loose Canon' for *Fully Awake 4.6*, exhibition, Edinburgh College of Arts.

**April 2019:** Excerpt from 'The Detroit Project', pub. in *CARTON* by Numbered Editions, p 58-59.

**Oct 2015:** *Museum of the Unwanted*, pub. Kunstmuseum Olten, 66 pages, colour. (p 39 - 42)

**Jan 2014:** *Back Pages*, 9-page article, interview, full-colour (English/Chinese), Pipeline International Art Magazine, Hong Kong, issue 40, 'The issue about Hoarding, part 2'

**Oct. 2013:** *This Mess is a Place: A Collapsible Anthology of Collections and Clutter*, 205 pages. Edited, compiled and misfiled by Zoë Mendelson, funded Wellcome Trust, pub. And Publishing.

**Sept. 2011:** *Inconscients! (Les artistes et la psychanalyse)*, 170 pages, colour, Galerie Alfa, Paris

**March 2010:** 'The Journal of Performance Research', *Transplantations* issue, 4 artists' pages, (ed. Phillip Warnell), pub. Routledge.