In Fall 2020, several large-scale live and virtual performances of “I Wish to Say” were presented. The University of Michigan, in collaboration with Wayne State University, presented a series of virtual events in which student typists took dictation of postcards to the next President over zoom calls. The Brooklyn Public Library presented a daylong live performance as well as virtual performances.
After typing postcards to the next President at the University of North Carolina Charlotte in March 2020, the messages were included in a solo show at the Projective Eye Gallery. Billboards featuring quotes from messages dictated by students were installed around the city during the show.
This show, curated by Mark Ormond at the Lois and David Stulberg Gallery, features a collection of ten projects created over the past two decades plus two new works commissioned for this retrospective exhibition.

From *Writer’s Block* and its references to the fight for free expression to the *I Wish to Say* prints that feature quotes from postcards people dictated to President Trump, the works in this show demonstrate how art can activate democracy and foster open exchange.

The show’s title, *Agitype*, is a word created by the artist that references *agitare* and *type* and refers to the idea of arousing public feeling through printed letters.
Agitype, first used in 2018, is a combination of two words: agitate and type, with secondary references to agitprop. The goal of agitype is to attempt to arouse public feeling through printed letters.

This work draws on news stories about the #Me Too Movement as source material for drawings that are presented in the form of newspaper headlines. Chef Anthony Bourdain talked about sexism in the restaurant industry after sexual misconduct allegations against chef Mario Batali surfaced. Bourdain talked about reexamining his life, and asking questions such as “what did I let slide?”

Other quotes are drawn from personal experience. “Everyone seems to like him,” was something a manager told me about my supervisor as he dismissed my claim of gender-based discrimination.

The most recent quote is from Senator Dianne Feinstein, who was commenting on the hearings regarding Brett Kavanaugh’s Supreme Court nomination when she said: “The Republican strategy is no longer ‘attack the victim.’ It is to ignore the victim.”
After the Dinner Party celebrates feminism some 40 years after artist Judy Chicago created The Dinner Party, a massive triangular table with ceramic place-settings commemorating 39 important women from history. At a time when women’s rights are under attack, this work asks questions about feminism today.

On two occasions during the Agitype exhibition at the Lois and David Stulberg Gallery at Ringling College, three typists asked the public: “If you could sit next to any woman in history at a dinner party, who would it be and why?” They then typed up answers, which were incorporated into the exhibition.
This work, created in Berlin as a tribute to the writers whose books were burned in Nazi Germany, has been shown on Berlin’s Bebelplatz (1999); at the Jewish Museum Berlin (1999); at the Lions’ Courtyard at the Buda Castle in Budapest (2002); at the Boston Public Library (2003); and Bryant Park in New York (2003). In 2018, the sculptures were shown on three university campuses including the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA; Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA; and Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, FL.

To make Writer’s Block hundreds of 1930s typewriters were collected in Berlin and around Europe. The typewriters are “caged” in rusty construction rebar, symbolically taking away the writer’s voice as a reminder of censorship that existed both historically and today.

Monoprints are made by setting paper underneath the sculptures when they are displayed outdoors.
A team of 60 students from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro joined writers from the PEN World Voices Festival to create a daylong public performance at New York's Bryant Park. At 20 typing stations set up throughout the park, visitors were invited to dictate a postcard to the presidential candidate of their choice. Public readings of the cards took place throughout the day. The cards were typed in duplicate; originals were sent to the candidates and the carbon copies were integrated into exhibitions at Smack Mellon in Brooklyn and the Southeast Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, NC.
Greetings From Tampa Bay

With this two-phase public art project commissioned by the Tampa International Airport, residents of Tampa Bay were invited to share stories about their city during a series of performances in Spring 2017. Performance locations were carefully chosen so that a broad spectrum of the local community could participate in the project. The stories were typed up on manual typewriters and will be printed on aluminum and integrated into a sculpture at the Tampa International Airport. The sculptural installation, designed in collaboration with Toronto-based designer Jonathon Anderson, will also feature photographs of the area’s landscape printed on aluminum.
In August 2013, a series of four performances of *Travel Desk* marked the first phase of a public art commission at the San Diego International Airport. Typists dressed in 1960s era flight attendant uniforms took dictation of people’s travel stories. The performances took place during the grand opening of one of the airport’s new terminals. An art installation inspired by the stories shared during the *Travel Desk* performance is being planned.
Initials carved into a tree trunk along a favorite trail or into a wooden picnic table at a beloved spot serve as poignant reminders that we were here, providing an indelible physical mark in an increasingly transitory, digital world. The picnic table – an icon of the San Diego landscape – is the centerpiece of the Travel Desk installation. By pushing the scale of the table itself and laser etching the tabletop with excerpts from the travel stories typed during the Travel Desk performances, an iconic meeting place within the airport is created, a place where people return to again and again to trace their own stories and read those of others. The 20-foot table, made from urban harvest eucalyptus wood, was designed by Jonathon Anderson in collaboration with Sheryl Oring. It was installed in the airport in early 2015.