

# Finley Coyl

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Finley Coyl is an artist, activist and visual designer working at the intersection of multimedia storytelling and social justice. Coyl utilizes traditional and new media formats ranging from graphic design and data visualization to video documentary and illustration. Her work delves into dynamics of transformation and resistance.

## EDUCATION

- 2017 M.F.A., Digital Arts + New Media, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2001 B.A., English Literature, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015-18 Visual Designer and Videographer. Bay Area, CA.
- 2015-17 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2013-15 Communications Associate. Glide Foundation, San Francisco CA.
- 2006-13 Graphic Designer. Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY and Bay Area, CA.

## AWARDS / GRANTS / FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 Florence French Fellowship award recipient. Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2016 Florence French Fellowship award recipient. Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2011 Awesome Foundation grant recipient. San Francisco, CA.

## EXHIBITION RECORD

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2017 *DANM MFA Show*. Santa Cruz, CA.  
*Trace*. An interactive multimedia narrative made in Twine.
- 2015 *Open Studios*. DANM MFA first quarter show, Santa Cruz, CA.  
*No New SF Jail*. A short online video about the No New SF Jail Campaign, running time 4:19.

- 2014 *Queer Prophecies*. At SubMission and the LGBT Center, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Noelle Duncan.  
Part of the 2014 National Queer Arts Festival.  
*We Are all Made of Dead Stars*. Two digital portraits with drawing, dimensions 18" x 24" each.
- 2014 *L.A. Art Book Fair*. At the Geffen Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA.  
*The Infinite Asshole of the Present, The Subtle Horror of the Everyday, We Never Sleep and We Never Say No / Resistance*. Books of drawn portraits and photography, dimensions variable.
- 2013 *Dirty Comics*. At the Center for Sex and Culture, San Francisco, CA.  
*The Infinite Asshole of the Present, The Subtle Horror of the Everyday, We Never Sleep and We Never Say No / Resistance*. Books of drawn portraits and photography, dimensions variable.
- 2012 *Best Revenge*. At Alley Cat, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Lex Non Scripta and Caitlin Sweet.  
Part of the 2012 National Queer Arts Festival.  
*Resistance*. A series of ink and pencil drawings on paper, dimensions variable.
- 2012 *Streetopia*. At the Luggage Store, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Erica Lyle.  
A month of art shows, workshops, performances, and tours connecting a history of critical resistance in San Francisco to artwork questioning utopia within a social justice context.  
*The Where It Is We Get To*. A large-scale drawn and painted installation on canvas, dimensions 8' x 34'.  
*Documentation of this piece was published in the Streetopia book, ed. Erica Lyle (Booklyn, 2015)*.
- 2011 *The 2011 National Queer Arts Festival: Queer It Yourself*. At SOMArts, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by the Queer Cultural Center  
*Panoranima*. A drawn and painted installation on canvas with large-scale digital prints, dimensions 8' x 16'. The installation served as an interactive photo booth for the audience during the opening.
- 2011 *Five Objects and a Story*. At Million Fishes, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Emmett Ramstad.  
An installation of five objects and five digital prints or ink drawings on paper, dimensions variable.
- 2010 *Bring Your Own Queer*. At Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA.  
*May Queens / The Body No Longer has the Monopoly for Enacting the Desires of the Brain*. Nine large-scale stenciled and painted portraits on banners, dimension 9' x 5' each.
- 2010 *Beast*. At Million Fishes, San Francisco, CA.  
Co-curated by Finley Coyl and Chrystal Powell.  
*Habit*. Performance piece within an installation of ink and pencil drawings on oiled paper, dimensions 7' x 2.5' x 2.5'.
- 2009 *Chicken*. At The Spare Room Project, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Emmett Ramstad.  
*The Twin Protective Chickens*. Two digital prints made from photographs and drawings on stenciled paper, dimensions 8' x 10' each.
- 2009 *Prayers for Children*. Online art publication.  
<http://www.prayersforshildrenbe>  
*Creaturesque*. Two digital prints from the Creaturesque series.

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

- 2012 *The Subtle Horror of the Everyday*. At the Center for Sex and Culture, San Francisco, CA.  
Curated by Dorian Katz.  
A large-scale drawn and painted installation on canvas with attached photographs and objects, dimensions 9.5' x 40.5'.
- 2008 *The Miss Rockaway Armada: storytelling space*. At the Albany Bulb Landfill, Albany, CA.  
Event organized by Elan Margolis.

A series of painted and digitally printed banners, detailing excerpts from an interactive multimedia narrative about my experience with the Miss Rockaway Armada in 2006, dimensions variable.  
*An excerpt of this writing was published in Swoon's self-titled book (Abrams Books, 2008).*

### **Selected Collaborations**

- 2018 *Invisible Geographies New Media Exhibition*. The Finger Lakes Film Festival New Media Exhibition, Ithaca College, NY.  
[http://www.ithaca.edu/fleff/invisible\\_geographies/](http://www.ithaca.edu/fleff/invisible_geographies/)  
Curated by Dale Hudson (New York University Abu Dhabi), with assistance by Claudia Pederson (Wichita State University).  
Project Participants: Erin McElroy, Alok Narayanan, Faiq Raza, Alexandra Lacey, Ariel Appel, Terra Graziani, Mary Shi, Stefano De Vuono, Finley Coyl.  
Work featured from the Anti-Eviction Mapping Project.
- 2016 *Counterpoints: Stories and Data for Resisting Displacement*. The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project's Alameda Report release party. At the East Side Arts Alliance, Oakland, CA.  
Report Writers: Terra Graziani, Erin McElroy, Mary Shi, Leah Simon-Weisberg. Data Research and Visualization: Austin Ehrhardt, Ian Gonzales, Hannah Gorman, Terra Graziani, Karim (Husayn) Karimi, Carla Leshne, Natalia Margolis, Erin McElroy, Alok Narayanan, Katherine Phan, Sam Raby, Mary Shi, Leah Simon-Weisberg. Oral History Team: Ariel Appel, Todd Elkin, Terra Graziani, Salima Hamirani, Mika Hernandez, Rachelle Hughes, Chanelle Ignant, Nando San Jimenez, Hannah McDonough, Erin McElroy, Marko Muir, Kat Sidelnik, Mary Shi, Shamsheer Virk, Nicole Wisler, Carla Wojczuk. Video Team: Ariel Appel, Sara Sol Linck Frenz, Karla Gallardo, Terra Graziani, Mika Hernandez, Mary Shi, Ethan Silverstein, Carla Wojczuk; Music by Ian Brown, Markus Lake, Jacob Richards, and Mayowa Tamori, Yonatan Tietz. Graphic Design: Finley Coyl.  
A project consisting of interactive online collection of eviction maps and demographic data from Alameda County, a series of videos created in partnership with several East Bay organizations, and a 20-page booklet comprised of data visualization, infographics, personal stories and policy analysis.
- 2011 *Permutae*. Performance at CounterPULSE, San Francisco, CA.  
Illustrator and Choreographer: Finley Coyl. Video and Sound Artist: Mary Franck.  
A 24 min. performance featuring performers Qilo Matzen, Kyra Rice, Chrysalis Hyon.
- 2011 *Reception*. Performance at the Garage and CounterPULSE, San Francisco, CA.  
Director and Choreographer: Tessa Wills. Set and Costume Designer: Finley Coyl.
- 2009 *May Queens*. Installation for film shoot, *Surrender Dorothy*, Smithville, TN.  
Director and Writer: Elan Margolis / Loose Collective. Installation Artist: Finley Coyl.
- 2006 *The Miss Rockaway Armada*. Performance installation, Mississippi River.  
Project Lead Artist: Swoon. Participating artist: Finley Coyl.  
A project involving a group of 30+ artists from New York and San Francisco who built installation rafts from recycled materials and travelled on the Mississippi River while hosting workshops and performance events.

### **ARTIST RESIDENCY**

- 2010 – 12 Resident artist at Million Fishes Arts Collective, San Francisco, CA

### **EXHIBITIONS CURATED**

- 2012 *Telltale: Concocting Queer Mythologies*. Group performance event at Million Fishes, San Francisco, CA.  
Co-curated by Finley Coyl and Chrystal Powell.  
Featuring solo and group performance nights as part of the 2012 National Queer Arts Festival.
- 2010 *Beast*. Group show at Million Fishes, San Francisco, CA.

Co-curated by Finley Coyl and Chrystal Powell.

A visual art, performance and installation show featuring 17 artists working in creaturely themes.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- + Adobe Creative Cloud [Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, After Effects, Premiere Pro, Audition, Media Encoder]
- + CMS / CRM system maintenance and design [WordPress, NationBuilder, Blackbaud/NetCommunity]
- + HTML / CSS
- + Data Visualization [Tableau, Carto]
- + Digital photography, videography and editing
- + Large-scale drawing, painting and installations