

# jessica pezalla

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4040 verdant street, #8

los angeles, ca 90039

415 606 4111

jpezalla@gmail.com

www.fakenature.com

solo & two  
person  
exhibitions

- 2009** **How the Elements Solidify**, The Red Mill Gallery, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT
- 2007** **Jessica Pezalla and Ajna Lichau**, Mark Wolfe Contemporary Art, SF, CA
- 2006** **Ankle-deep**, Stillights Gallery, SF, CA
- 2005** **Snakelace**, The Lola Gallery, SF, CA  
**Pond**, Diego Rivera Gallery, SF, CA  
**River**, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA
- 2003** **Bird-Watching**, Diego Rivera Gallery, SF, CA

select group  
exhibitions

- 2009** **The Geode Show**, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT
- 2008** **Bay Area Currents**, Curated by Aimée Reed, Oakland Art Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 2006** **Boombox**, Root Division, SF, CA  
**San Francisco Art Institute Graduate Exhibition**, Fort Mason, SF, CA
- 2005** **Photo San Francisco**, Fort Mason, SF, CA  
**Made in NA, MA**, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA  
**Spiritus Mundi**, The Lola Gallery, SF, CA
- 2004** **closer in**, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA  
**T-10 Video Festival**, 21 Grand, Oakland, CA  
**Zeitgeist International Film Festival**, Zeitgeist, SF, CA
- 2003** **Shadowboxing**, The Luggage Store Annex, SF, CA  
**Artists' Book Show**, Walter McBean Gallery, SF, CA
- 2002** **Forest Magazine Release Party**, Facility 3, SF, CA  
**Post Bac Show**, Swell Gallery, SF, CA

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## awards & residencies

**Artist in Residence**, Ragdale, Lake Forest, IL. March 2010

**Staff Artist in Residence**, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT. January 2009 - January 2010

**Vermont Studio Center Artist Grant**, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT. 2008

**Artist in Residence**, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT. September, 2008

**Merit Scholarship**, San Francisco Art Institute, SF, CA. 2005/2006

**Artist in Residence**, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA. 2005

**Adela Johnston and Aelioian Fellowship for Graduate Studies**, Oberlin College, OH. 2003

## publications & reviews

Amala, Isaac. "Ajna Lichau and Jessica Pezalla," *Flavorpill SF*, May 2007.

Farr, Kristin. "Mark Wolfe Contemporary Art: Ajna Lichau and Jessica Pezalla," *ArtBusiness.com*, April 2007.

Harmanci, Reyhan. "Bay Area Currents 2008: 12 Emerging Artists," *The San Francisco Chronicle*, March 2008.

Koppman, Debra. "Ajna Lichau and Jessica Pezalla," *Artweek*, March 2007.

Petty, Matt. "Jessica Pezalla's Fake Nature," *San Francisco Chronicle Culture Blog*, October 2005.

Warner, Tonya. "Ajna Lichau and Jessica Pezalla," *Percolator Magazine*, May 2007.

## education

**Master of Fine Arts**, New Genres, 2006, San Francisco Art Institute, SF, CA

**Post Baccalaureate**, New Genres, 2003, San Francisco Art Institute, SF, CA

**Bachelor of Arts**, Studio Art, 1998, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

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## artist's statement

Animal, vegetable, mineral. I build my own versions of these elements by transforming familiar materials into imaginary organic worlds. My plants and animals are pulled from dreams and grown in unseen forests and oceans.

I disassemble and recombine everyday objects to create personal landscapes. Circles cut from felt and green carpeting form a pond of lily pads. Stacks of lathe-turned chair legs, finials, and candlesticks become funereal grey stalagmites.

Within these invented ecosystems, flora and fauna wander and wait. A crab-like creature scuttles by on spindly legs. A Blood Sea Star is unmoving in its tangle of venomous threads. Bone-like relics accumulate along the ocean's edge.

As humans build cities and industries that cover and consume the land, I take the scraps discarded by this process and use them for my own purposes. My sculptures and installations create a metaphoric connection between the natural world and the manmade. This connection offers the viewer a new way of understanding the mysterious topographies both near and far, real and imagined.