

# SWOON

## BIOGRAPHY :

By looking at Swoon's accomplishments over the last fifteen years it is hard not to be in awe at the diverse, eclectic and poignant nature of her artistic practices. Though most well-known for her wheat paste portraits, Swoon has shown an ingenuity when it comes to installations, perhaps most expertly demonstrated by the *Swimming Cities of Switchback Sea*, an ambitious project which saw Swoon and other artists create flotillas made entirely of recycled and reclaimed materials. These were then navigated down the Mississippi River, across the Hudson and even more daringly from Slovenia to Venice along the Adriatic Sea (landing at Venice during the opening of the Biennale). The brilliance of these flotillas lay in their blurring of the boundary between art and life, 'intentional communities' which acted as experiments in sustainable living and communitarianism.

Since then, equally impressive projects have followed suit; a community centre and hurricane shelter was constructed in Haiti; as well as a musical house in New Orleans. What is evident that besides the ethical imperative so concurrent in Swoon's work, her work is driven by a desire to create an art form that, 'participated in the world, that sought context within our daily lives, and that was not dependent solely upon art institutions'.

Swoon had a solo show at the Brooklyn Museum of Art in 2014 and has had two solo shows at New York's legendary Deitch Projects.

**BORN:** Connecticut, USA

**LIVES:** New York, USA

**EDUCATION:** Pratt Institute, New York, U.S.A

**TWITTER:** @swoon

**INSTAGRAM:** @swoonhq

**FACEBOOK:** <http://facebook.com/swoonstudio>

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2014

**SUBMERGED MOTHERLANDS**, BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

2013

**MOTHERLANDS**, GALERIE LJ, PARIS, FRANCE

**PETRICHOR**, SARASOTA FINE ART GALLERY, FLORIDA, U.S.A.

2012

**HONEYCOMB**, XYZ Gallery, TOKYO, JAPAN

2011

**ANTHROPOCENE**, INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, BOSTON, U.S.A.

**THALASSA**, NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM OF ART, NEW ORLEANS, U.S.A.

**BEN**, BRUNO DAVID GALLERY, ST. LOUIS, U.S.A.

2008

**SWIMMING CITIES OF SWITCHBACK SEA**, DEITCH PROJECTS, LONG ISLAND CITY, U.S.A.

**PORTRAIT OF SILVIA ELENA**, HONEY SPACE GALLERY, NEW YORK, U.S.A

**DROWN YOUR BOATS**, NEW IMAGE ART GALLERY, LOS ANGELES, U.S.A.

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2015

**MAPPING THE CITY**, SOMERSET HOUSE, LONDON

**ESTIVALE 2015**, GALERIE L.J., PARIS, FRANCE

**PAPER CUT**, SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS GALLERY, LOS ANGELES, U.S.A.

**OUTSIDE IN: ART OF THE STREET**, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART, HARTFORD, U.S.A.

2014

**CURRENCY**, PROTEUS GOWANUS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

**ESTIVALE 2014**, GALERIE L.J., PARIS, FRANCE

**MANA EXPOSITION**, MANA CONTEMPORARY, JERSEY CITY, U.S.A.

2013

**DIRECT ADDRESS: AN INAUGURAL GROUP EXHIBITION,** JOSHUA LINER GALLERY, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

2012

**WE THE PEOPLE,** ROBERT RAUSCHENBURG FOUNDATION PROJECT SPACE, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

2011

**OUTPOST: ART FROM THE STREETS,** SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST, SYDNEY, U.S.A.

**OI YOU! 2011,** FOUNDERS HERITAGE PARK, NELSON, NEW ZEALAND

**NOSE JOB,** ERIC FIRESTONE GALLERY, EAST HAMPTON, U.S.A.

2010

**WRECK THE WALLS,** SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS GALLERY, LOS ANGELES, U.S.A.

**VIVA LA REVOLUTION: A DIALOGUE WITH THE URBAN LANDSCAPE,** MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, SAN DIEGO, U.S.A.

**PHILAGRAFAKIA 2010: THE GRAPHIC UNCONSCIOUS,** TEMPLE GALLERY OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S TYLER SCHOOL OF ART, PHILADELPHIA, U.S.A.

2009

**ART BASEL MIAMI,** MIAMI, U.S.A.

**GET RICH QUICK,** CARMICHAEL GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES, U.S.A.

**BENEFIT SILENT AUCTION FOR SWIMMING CITIES OF SERENISSIMA,** SECRET PROJECT ROBOT, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

2008

**TRESSPASS ALLIANCE: INSIDE URBAN ART,** THE ANDIPA GALLERY, LONDON, U.K.

## SELECTED PRESS



# In The Music Box, New Orleans Residents Hear Hope

**The Music Box** is a small village of ramshackle sculptures huddled together on Piety Street in the Bywater section of the once-flooded 9th Ward. The sculptures are outfitted as musical instruments and are made almost entirely of the remains of the 18th-century Creole cottage that used to sit on this lot.

These structures are an experimental first step toward building a fully functional musical house — named "Dithyrambalina" — that will be the headquarters and residency space for the **New Orleans Airlift**. The organization was created in the aftermath of Katrina to raise the profile of local artists, often through collaborations with more famous creators.

New York-based street artist Callie Curry, known as Swoon, designed the house for Airlift. "I hope it represents this very basic need in people while rebuilding to rebuild joyfully and with imagination," she says.

NPR  
25th January 2012  
Kathleen Osborn

<http://www.npr.org/2012/01/25/145845744/in-the-music-box-new-orleans-residents-hear-hope>

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

## A Street Artist Steps Inside

Caledonia Curry, the Brooklyn-based artist who goes by the name Swoon, has been leaving her mark on New York City for more than a decade, pasting expressive portraits and lace-like cutouts on outdoor walls. Now two prominent U.S. museums are trying to show that her work can have a similar impact indoors.

Ms. Curry's "Anthropocene Extinction," a sprawling mixed-media installation, opens at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston this weekend. The artist has an equally ambitious work on view at the New Orleans Museum of Art through Sept. 25.

**The Wall Street Journal**

3rd September 2011

Rachel Wolff

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424053111904199404576540823157277998>

# HYPERALLERGIC

## Swoon's First Community Center Inaugurated in Haiti

Last week, the "first real inauguration of the [Konbit Shelter] community center with workshops and events brought by Ayiti Resurrect and Ayiti Cherie Healing" took place in [Bigones, Haiti](#). The event has a special significance as tomorrow is the one year anniversary of the [devastating earthquake](#) that shook the Caribbean island nation and killed over 100,000 Haitians.

Spearheaded by Brooklyn-based artist Swoon [pictured alone in the interior of the third photo], the [Konbit Shelter Project](#) was created with the idea that a group of artists, engineers, architects, and builders could pool their individual knowledge, resources, and time to make a lasting difference in post-earthquake Haiti.

Hyperallergic  
11th January 2011  
Drag Vartanian

<http://hyperallergic.com/16352/swoons-konbit-shelters-open/>

APPROVED (A by P) PABLO

## NEW YORK ART

# Barging In to Venice

The Brooklyn artist Swoon and her merry band of anarchists from deepest Bushwick are invading the Venice Biennale this week—on boats built from garbage. New York City garbage.



New York Magazine  
7th June 2009  
Vanessa Grigoriadis

<http://nymag.com/arts/art/features/57181/>

<http://a-by-p.com>