

**DIANE SIMPSON**

1935 Born in Joliet, Illinois  
Lives and works in Wilmette, Illinois

**EDUCATION**

1978 M.F.A., The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
1971 B.F.A., The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2025 “*Good for Future*,” Art Institute of Chicago Rooftop Commission, Chicago, IL  
*Formal Wear*, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY
- 2024 *Diane Simpson: 1977-1980*, James Cohan, New York, NY
- 2023 *Diane Simpson*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL
- 2021 *Point of View*, JTT, New York, NY
- 2020 *Diane Simpson: Sculpture, Drawing, Prints 1976-2014*, curated by Nicole Yip and Olivia Aherne, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK  
*Diane Simpson: Cardboard Plus, 1977-1980*, curated by Ben Chaffee, Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
- 2019 *Architecture in Motion*, The former Fuller Manufacturing Building, Minneapolis, MN; traveled to the Graham Foundation, Chicago, IL
- 2018 *Diane Simpson*, Herald St., London, UK
- 2016 *Samurai*, JTT, New York, NY  
*Diane Simpson*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL  
*BMO Harris Bank Chicago Works: Diane Simpson*, curated by Lynne Warren, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *Diane Simpson*, curated by Dan Byers with Jeffrey De Blois, Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, Boston, MA
- 2014 *Window Dressing*, Broadway Windows, 80WSE Gallery, New York University, New York, NY
- 2013 *Diane Simpson*, JTT, New York, NY  
*Diane Simpson*, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Diane Simpson: Sculptural Works*, Sonnenschein Gallery, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL

- 2010 *Diane Simpson: Sculpture + Drawing, 1978-2009*, curated by Lanny Silverman, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- 2008 *Cover-ups: Architecture for the Body*, Alfredena Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2007 *Diane Simpson: Window Dressing*, Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI
- 2006 Herron Galleries, Herron School of Art and Design, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN
- 2005 *Diane Simpson: New Sculpture and Drawings*, I Space Chicago Gallery of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL
- 2003 *Diane Simpson: Sources Transformed*, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL
- 2001 *Diane Simpson*, Sybaris Gallery, Royal Oak, MI
- 1999 Fassbender Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1996 Judith Racht Gallery, Harbert, MI
- 1995 Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL  
Gahlberg Gallery, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL
- 1992 Dart Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1983 *Samurai*, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1981 *Diane Simpson*, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL
- 1980 Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY
- 1979 *Diane Simpson*, Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, IL

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *All About 25*, James Cohan, New York, NY  
*Anonymous Was A Woman*, Gray Art Museum, New York, NY
- 2024 *Inaugural Exhibition*, organized by Timo Kappeller, The Campus, Hudson, NY
- 2023 *Chicago Architecture Biennial 5: This is a Rehearsal*, The Chicago Cultural Center, IL
- 2022 *The Grid and the Curve*, JTT, New York, NY
- 2021 *OFF ROAD II*, Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp, BE  
*Private Eye: The Imagist Impulse in Chicago Art*, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN  
*Three Works*, Herald St, London, UK  
*I Think I Look More like the Chrysler Building*, curated by Julia Mullié, Vleeshal Center for Contemporary Art, Middelburg, The Netherlands  
*Annotations & Improvisations*, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY  
*Dear John*, JTT, New York, NY
- 2020 *Making Knowing Craft in Art, 1950-2019*, The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL

- 2019 *The Whitney Biennial*, curated by Jane Panetta and Rujeko Hockley, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY  
*Dress Codes: Ellen Lesperance and Diane Simpson*, curated by Amanda Donnan, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
*The Making of Husbands: Christina Ramberg in Dialogue*, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany  
*Open Call*, curated by Phoebe d'Heurle and Maryam Hoseini, The Shed, New York, NY
- 2018 *Wiggle*, Greta Meert, Brussels, Belgium  
*FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art: An American City*, curated by Michelle Grabner, Cleveland, OH  
*The Domestic Plane: New Perspectives on Tabletop Art Objects*, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT  
*The House of Fame: Convened by Linder*, curated by Linder Sterling, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK  
*Softcore*, curated by Matt Paweski, South Willard, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 *An idea of a boundary*, curated by Jackie Im, SFAC Galleries, San Francisco, CA  
*Gray Matters*, Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- 2016 *Invisible Adversaries: Marieluise Hessel Collection*, Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY  
*See sun, and think shadow*, organized by Simone Battisti, Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY
- 2015 *Diane Simpson, Lesley Vance*, Herald St Gallery, London, UK  
*Unorthodox*, Jewish Museum, New York, NY  
*Mommy*, Yale Union, Portland, OR  
*About Face*, curated by Kristina Kite and Sarah Lehrer-Graiwer, Kayne Griffin Corcoran, Los Angeles, CA  
*Bonsai #5*, Maccarone, New York, NY  
*Over & Under*, organized by Matt Keegan, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York, NY  
*Pared-Down*, Silberkuppe, Berlin, Germany  
*Off Broadway*, organized by Nairy Baghramian, The Wattis Institute, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 *Jo Baer, Anne Neukamp, Diane Simpson*, Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, NY  
*All Summer in a Day: Matt Connors, Kristan Kennedy, Owen Kydd, Diane Simpson, Erika Verzutti*, Fourteen30 Contemporary, Portland, OR  
*Displayed*, curated by Matthew Higgs, Anton Kern Gallery, New York, NY  
*My Hands Are My Bite*, curated by Dan Gunn, Monique Meloche, Chicago, IL  
*What Not to Wear: Women Sculptors*, Brady Gallery, George Washington University,

- Washington, D.C.
- 2013 *Figurism*, Illinois State Museum, Chicago, IL  
*Sketches, Journals and Preparations...Every Thing in Place*, Illinois State Museum, Chicago Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2011 *Seeing Is A Kind of Thinking: A Jim Nutt Companion*, curated by Julie Rodrigues Widholm, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *INside OUT*, Northern Illinois University Art Museum, DeKalb, IL  
*Concurrent*, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN; traveled to William Patterson University, Wayne, NJ; Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA; Bradley University, Peoria, IL; West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV; Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA
- 2008 *Begin Again Right Back Here*, curated by B. Wurtz, White Columns, New York, NY
- 2004 *Soft Edge*, curated by Staci Boris, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL  
*Black & White*, Linda Ross Contemporary/Art+Projects, Huntington Woods, MI
- 2003 *The Art of Containment*, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL
- 2001 *Uncommon Threads: Contemporary Artists and Clothing*, curated by Sean Ulmer, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 1997 *Dot, Dash, X & Grid*, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
- 1996 *Art in Chicago: 1945-95*, curated by Lynne Warren, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 1988 *Imagining Form*, curated by Victor Cassidy, State of Illinois Art Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1979 *100 Artists, 100 Years*, curated by Katharine Kuh, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
*New Dimensions: Volume and Space, Six Sculptors*, curated by Pauline A. Saliga, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL

## AWARDS

- 2019 Anonymous Was A Woman
- 2018 Graham Foundation Research Grant
- 2010 Illinois Arts Council Artists Project Grant
- 2007 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Visual Arts
- 2001 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Visual Arts
- 1997 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Visual Arts
- 1995 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Visual Arts
- 1994 Arts Midwest/NEA Regional Visual Arts Fellowship
- 1993 Arts Midwest/NEA Regional Visual Arts Fellowship

- 1983 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Visual Arts  
1980 Walter M. Campana Prize, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago & Vicinity Exhibition  
1978 E. Garrison Prize, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago & Vicinity Exhibition

## SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Crocker Bank, San Francisco, CA  
DePaul University Art Museum, Chicago, IL  
Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Espoo, Finland  
Hessel Museum of Art, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY  
Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL  
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA  
James Thompson Center, Chicago: The Illinois Collection, Chicago, IL  
Jewish Museum, New York, NY  
Kadist Foundation, Paris, France; San Francisco, USA  
M Woods, Beijing, CN  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL  
Perez Art Museum, Miami, FL  
Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI  
Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL  
Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 *The Making of Husbands: Christina Ramberg in Dialogue*, Walther König, Köln, Germany  
*Diane Simpson: Cardboard Plus, 1977-1980*, curated by Ben Chaffee, Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT  
2016 *Diane Simpson, Corbett vs Dempsey*, Chicago, IL  
*Diane Simpson*, The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, Boston, MA  
2014 *Scapula, Selected by Charline von Heyl*, Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany  
2013 *Diane Simpson, Corbett vs. Dempsey*, Chicago, IL  
2010 *Sculptures + Drawings 1978-2009*, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2026 Waxman, Lori, "The Shapeshifting Sculpture of Diane Simpson," *Hyperallergic*, February 16, 2026.  
 Buhe, Elizabeth, "Diane Simpson: *Formal Wear*," *The Brooklyn Rail*, February, 2026.  
 Barliant, Claire, "The dimension-defying cool of Diane Simpson," *Apollo Magazine*, February 2, 2026.  
 Cohen-Kashi, Almog, "Theater of the Object," *IMPULSE Magazine*, January 9, 2026.  
 Rochester, Katherine, "Diane Simpson: American Academy of Arts and Letters," *Artforum*, January, 2026.
- 2025 Saltz, Jerry, "To Do: December 31–January 14 Our biweekly guide on what to see, hear, watch, and read," *New York Magazine*, December 29, 2025.  
 Diehl, Travis, "Art Gallery Shows to See in November," *The New York Times*, November 21, 2025.  
 Courteau, Rose, "What Do Artists Bring to a Potluck?," *New York Times Style Magazine*, November 13, 2025.  
 Gonzalez Brown, Helen, "Formal Wear," *Designo Journal*, October 30, 2025.  
 Adamson, Glenn, "At 90, Diane Simpson Reaches New Heights with Her Largest Sculptures Yet," *Art in America*, October 9, 2025.
- 2021 Murtha, Chris, "One Work: Diane Simpson's "Two Point Enclosure,"" *Art in America*, November 1, 2021.  
 Yau, John, "Diane Simpson's Sculpture Finds Beauty of a Different Kind," *Hyperallergic*, October 20, 2021.  
 Steinhauer, Jillian, "Art Gallery Shows to See Right Now," *The New York Times*, October 1, 2021.
- 2019 Williams, Gilda. "Reviews: Diane Simpson," *Artforum*, January 2019.  
 Cotter, Holland, "The Whitney Biennial: Young Art Cross-Stitched with Politics," *The New York Times*, May 2019.
- 2017 Scott, Andrea K., "Diane Simpson," *4 Columns*, January 6, 2017.  
 Snodgrass, Susan, "Diane Simpson: House Images // Profile of the Artist," *The Seen*, May 2017.
- 2016 Smith, Roberta, "What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week," *The New York Times*, December 23, 2016.  
 Vogel, Wendy, "Critics' Picks: Diane Simpson," *Artforum*. December 2016.  
 "Diane Simpson," *The New Yorker*, November 2016.
- 2015 Smith, Roberta, "Tracing Diane Simpson's Structural Evolution in Boston Exhibition," *The New York Times*, December 10, 2015.

- Nesin, Kate, "Source Code: Kate Nesin on the Art of Diane Simpson," *Artforum*, October 2015.
- 2014 Relph, Nick. "The Best Exhibitions of 2014," *Artforum*, December 2014.
- 2013 Cotter, Holland, "Art in Review: Diane Simpson," *The New York Times*, December 12, 2013.
- 2005 Cassidy, Victor M., "Constructing Domesticity: Diane Simpson," *Sculpture Magazine*, January/February 2005.
- 2001 Mannisto, Glen, "Review: Diane Simpson, Sybaris Gallery," *New Art Examiner*, September/October 2001.
- Snodgrass, Susan, "The Transformational Poetics of Dress: Diane Simpson's Aprons, Deep Pockets, and Sleeves," *Seen Magazine*, June 2001.
- 1999 Snodgrass, Susan, "Review: Diane Simpson at Fassbender," *Art in America*, May 1999.
- 1980 Pieszak, Devonna, "Diane Simpson," *Arts Magazine*, Vol. 54, No. 8, 1980.