JOEL PARSONS
Associate Professor, Rhodes College Department of Art and Art History
Director, Clough-Hanson Gallery at Rhodes College

EDUCATION
School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Chicago, IL / Master of Fine Arts, 2012
Rhodes College; Memphis, TN / Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art, magna cum laude, Hall of Fame

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2026 *FXLK PLAY: Artists-in-Mischief, Devotion, and Mythmaking*, Long Hall; Los Angeles CA
The Surreal Body, Seven Sisters; Houston TX
Minor Arcana, Sheet Cake Gallery; Memphis TN

2025 *Club Rapture and the Ecstasy Afters*, solo exhibition, Sheet Cake Gallery; Memphis TN
Major Arcana, Sheet Cake Gallery; Memphis TN

2024 *Velvet Sternum: Joel Parsons and Clare Torina,* Sheet Cake Gallery; Memphis TN

2023 *The Tennessee Biennial: Tend To,* UrbanArt Commission Gallery; Memphis TN

2021 *Shim: Joel Parsons & Melissa Dunn*, two-person exhibition, *2021 Projects; Memphis TN*
Flat File, Camyus Gallery; Atlanta, GA
Star Children: The LGBTQ+ South, Bradbury Art Museum; Jonesboro, AR

2020 *Color Schemes*, Crosstown Arts; Memphis, TN

2019 *Cruising the Pleasure Park,* solo exhibition, Flyweight Gallery; New York, NY

2018 *Archival Bodies*; exhibition and permanent installation, The Tom of Finland Foundation; Los Angeles, CA
Here and Now: Printmaking in the Political Present; Fogelman Galleries at the University of Memphis; Memphis, TN
Along the Horizon; Reece Museum; Johnson City, TN

2017 *Falling For You*, solo exhibition, Triumph Gallery; Chicago, IL

2016 *Queering Space*, Yale University Greene Gallery; New Haven, CT

2015 *You are the hole.*, solo exhibition, Crosstown Arts; Memphis, TN
Small, David Lusk Gallery; Memphis TN
Housewarming, Albertina Gallery; Austin, TX
You + Me, Crosstown Arts; Memphis, TN

2014 *Effeminaries,* Western Exhibitions; Chicago, IL
The Heart is a Boob, solo exhibition, Southfork; Memphis, TN
I am what I am doing, Esquina Gallery; Kansas City, MO
Caps for Sale, The Bike Room; Chicago, IL
New Postures, Yerba Buena Art Center Triennial; San Francisco, CA

2013 *The Quiver and the Ache*, solo exhibition and performance, Southfork; Memphis, TN
Fleeting, Champagne Artist Co-op; Champagne-Urbana, IL
Open Rehearsal, solo exhibit and performance, Open gallery; Nashville, TN
*Evanston Biennia*l, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
Marginal Utility, Benton Street Gallery; Iowa City, IA
Emily Maxwell & Joel Parsons, Prairie Lights; Iowa City, IA

SELECTED PERFORMANCE WORKS

2023 *The Sissy Dicks at Quintron's Lundi Gras Ball,* One Eyed Jacks; New Orleans, LA

2022 *Ballet Memphis' Dracula,* Creative Consultant; Memphis, TN

The Sissy Dicks: Gay Prude, The Lamplighter Lounge; Memphis, TN

2021 *Ballet Memphis' Nutcracker* film, Art Director; Memphis, TN

The Sissy Dicks: Christmas Comeback, Crosstown Arts Green Room; Memphis, TN

2020 *Crying Club*; virtual performance festival, curator and performer, based in Memphis, TN

2019 *The Sissy Dicks: Fist City*, Crosstown Arts Green Room; Memphis, TN

The Sissy Dicks: Punker Than All Y'all, Goner Fest; Memphis, TN

The Sissy Dicks: Halloweiner, performance, Circle Bar; New Orleans, LA

The Sissy Dicks: Code Pink, performance, Proud Larry's; Oxford, MS

The Sissy Dicks: Love Hurts, performance, B Side; Memphis, TN

2018 *Possibility*, site-specific dance, choreographed with Steven McMahon for Ballet Memphis; Ballet Memphis Studios; Memphis, TN

Love Sucks & So Do The Sissy Dicks, DKDC; Memphis, TN

2017 *Queer Dineer,* performance event, curator/performer, Delta Sol Farm; Proctor, AR

2016 *We're The Dixie Dicks!*, performance; The Bucaneer; Memphis, TN

2015 *Beholding and Being Held*, solo performance, Crosstown Arts; Memphis, TN

PUBLISHED WRITING

"Ezra Tessler: An angle to the place I live in" Exhibition Review, The Brooklyn Rail, January 2021

"Fragments" The Photographer's Shadow; catalog by Clough-Hanson Gallery, 2021

"David Harper's Laoocoan" A Mouth-Shaped Room; catalog by Villa Terrace Art Museum, 2019

"In the Eye of the Beholder" The Norton Field Guide to Writing, 4th Edition; Norton & Co., 2016

"Otherwise Love's Body at Protest" Art Feature, *Number: Magazine*, Spring 2016

"Basil Alkazi" Exhibition Review, *Art News*, December 2014

HONORS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2018 - Artist in Residence, The Tom of Finland Foundation

2012 - John Adams Master of Fine Arts Fellowship, jurors Jessica Stockholder, Christopher Bedford, and Teka Selman

2010 - Trustee Merit Scholarship, full tuition award by the Sculpture Dept., SAIC

2008 - Artist in Residence, Sadhana Village; Maharashtra, India

2007 - Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, year-long grant for independent, international study

VOLUNTEER AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023 - Juror, Revisiting and Responding Project Grants; UrbanArt Commission, Memphis, TN

2017 - 2024, Member of UrbanArt Commission Board of Directors; Memphis, TN

2012 - present, Co-founder and Curator of Beige, alternative art space; Memphis, TN

2012 - 2019, Co-chair of ArtsMemphis Artist Advisory Board; Memphis, TN

2019 - Juror, Generator Art Accelerator Grant; Madison, WI

2018 - Juror, Masur Museum Juried Exhibition; Monroe, LA

2015 - Curator, *Best of Memphis* exhibition, University of Memphis Box Gallery; Memphis, TN

2014 - Panelist, *New Postures: exploring new models for queer curation*, The Yerba Buena

Center for the Arts; San Francisco, CA