

## MERIDEL RUBENSTEIN

### EDUCATION

- 1973-77 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, MA, 1974, MFA,  
1977. MFA Dissertation: The Circles and the Symmetry-The Mutual Influence of Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz.
- 1972-73 Special Graduate Student in Photography, Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass, student of Minor  
White.
- 1965-70 Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, BA. Film, Art, and Social Sciences

### SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2014- Adjunct Professor, School of Sustainability, Arizona State University and  
2011- Project Director, Eden in Iraq Wastewater Garden Project, S. Iraq,  
see [www.edeniniraq.com](http://www.edeniniraq.com)
- 2007-2018 Research Associate, Institute of Ecotechnics, Santa Fe, NM and UK  
Visiting Associate Professor, School of Art, Design, and Media, Nanyang  
Technical University, Singapore; 8/2006 gave school's first "Art and  
Technology" Lecture
- 2000-2005 Harnish Visiting Artist and Associate Professor,  
Smith College, Northampton,
- 1990-96 Professor of Art, Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA),  
Santa Fe, NM
- 1985-90 Associate Professor, Head, Photo Area and Graduate program, Art Department, San Francisco  
State University, San Francisco, CA
- 1988-95 Trustee, Friends of Photography, Ansel Adams Center, San Francisco, CA

### SELECTED GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Green Citizen Award, UNESCO, for Eden in Iraq Wastewater Garden
- 2017 School of Art, Design, and Media, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Exhibition  
award (\$55,000) for Eden in Iraq exhibition,  
National Design Centre.
- 2013-2017 Tier 1 Research Award, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, for Eden In  
Iraq Environmental Art and Design Project, CoPI (\$65,000)
- 2012-2013 Tier 0 Research Award, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, for  
Photography of Volcanoes, PI(\$20,000)
- 2007-08 Pollock Krasner Award, New York City, NY (also 1998)
- 2002-03 Rockefeller Fellowship, Joiner (Vietnam Study) Center,  
University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA
- 1999-2000 National Millennium Survey, National Endowment for the Arts, via The Museum of  
Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA
- 1998-99 Fellow, Bunting Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 1994-95 SITE Santa Fe, artist installation commission, Santa Fe, NM
- 1981-82 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship

### RECENT LECTURES

November 2023 Lecture, Amarillo Art Museum, Texas

August 8, 2023 Roundtable, **Critical Mass** exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe,  
NM with Kathy Sanchez (Tewa Women United), Alicia Inez Guzman  
(investigative reporter *Searchlight Magazine*), Josie Lopez, (curator Albuquerque

- Museum)Rebecca Solnit,(cultural critic), and Joan Halifax, (Roshi,Upaya Zen Center) and me
- August 6, 2023 *Walk Through* lecture, **Critical Mass** exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM
- Feb. 16, 2023 Photo Alliance, Randall Museum, San Francisco CA
- Mar. 10, 2023 Container Turner Carroll Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- Sept-Dec 2023 -*Photoworks from Critical Mass*, Amarillo Musuem of Art, Amarillo, Texas
- July-Aug 2023 -*Photoworks from Critical Mass*, Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe, NM,
- March 2023 -*Meridel Rubenstein Recreates Eden at* CONTAINER, Santa Fe,NM
- March 2022 -Recent Work (from *The Boat is a Circle*), Brian Gross Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
- Feb 2019 -*Eden in Iraq*, Brian Gross Fine Art, San Francisco, CA Oct
- Sept 2019 -*Eden Turned on its Side*, Peters Projects Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- Summer 2018 -*Tickling the Dragon's Tail*, Peters Projects Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- May 2018-19 -*Oppenheimer's Chair and The Meeting*, ATOMIC HISTORIES, the New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe, NM— including Atomic History conference and lecture on July 14, 2018 with renown Nuclear Historian Richard Rhodes and anthropologist Dr. Hugh Gusterson, the New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe, NM
- Feb-Jun 2018 -*Eden Turned on its Side*, University of New Mexico Fine Arts Museum, Albuquerque, NM, monograph **Eden Turned on Its Side**.
- October 2017 -*Eden in Iraq*, the National Design Centre, Singapore. Featuring display and documentation of our 4-year process to design and implement a wastewater garden in the southern Iraq marshes as an environmental /cultural heritage site Featuring drawings, models, photographs, art and video installation, textual narratives, with Eden in Iraq Design Team
- 2015 -*RING OF FIRE: Between Heaven and Earth*, Brian Gross Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
- 2015& 2014 -*Eden Turned on its Side: Selections*, David Richard Contemporary, Santa Fe,
- 2012 -*Heaven Turned on its Side: Photosynthesis*, International Workshop on Photosynthesis, NEC Foyer, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Commission, Ophthalmic Therapy and Engineering Centre (OTEC),Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- 2012 -*Heaven Turned on its Side: Photosynthesis*, Chan Hampe Galleries, Singapore
- 2005 -*The Lowriders*, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA
- May 2005 -*Belonging: From Los Alamos to Vietnam*, exhibit and book signing, Locco Ritoro Gallery, Boston, MA
- Oct 2004 -*Special Projects*, exhibit & book signing, Brian Gross Fine Art, San Francisco, CA
- May 1999 -*Joan's Arc/Vietnam, part I*, The Bunting Institute Gallery, Harvard University Cambridge, MA
- 1993-97 *Critical Mass*, collaborative photo, video, text installation, NM Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM, with Ellen Zweig and Steina and Woody Vasulka. Traveling exhibit to MIT List Center, MA; SE Museum of Photo, FL.; Scottsdale Museum of the Arts, AZ, The Univ of Wyoming Museum, Laramie, WY; Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL; catalogue

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- Summer 2018 -*In the Marshes: Eden in Iraq*, 4 track video installation, Currents

- May 2016 New Media Festival 2018, El Museo Culturel, Santa Fe, NM  
 -*Con Carino: Artists Inspired by Lowriders*, NM Museum of Art, Santa Fe, NM, Book and artists talk, August 5
- April 2016 -*Lowriders*, New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe, NM
- March 2016 -Fotofest, Houston, TX, “*Changing Circumstances, Looking at the Future of the Planet*” ,Exhibition, book  
 -*Dubai Photo* Exhibition, curated by Natasha Egan, Director, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL
- Sept-Dec 2012 -*Eden Again*, a collaborative land art commission, for the International Symposium on Electronic Arts (ISEA), Albuquerque, NM, to make an Art/Ecology Wastewater Garden installation mirroring the proposed Art/Ecology Wastewater Garden to be built in the S. Iraq Marshes
- Spring 2011-12 -*Conversations*, Photography from The Bank of America Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Museo del Novacento, Milan, Italy; Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin
- 2011-12 -“*Les Musees Sont du Monde*”, Stage Contemporain, **Musee de Louvre, Paris**  
 -*Archimedes’ Chamber* (1991), collaborative video/photo/sound installation with Ellen Zweig, NM Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, NM
- Oct 2004 2002 -*Visions of Passage*. cur James Enyeart, Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA, traveling exhibition and book  
 -*Customized*, **Institute of Contemporary Art**, Boston, MA and book

#### MONOGRAPHS

- Oct 2017 *Meridel Rubenstein, Eden Turned on its Side*, University New Mexico Art Museum and Press, with essays by Dr. Shawn Michelle Smith and Alan Weisman, 80 plates
- Oct 2004 *Meridel Rubenstein, Belonging: From Los Alamos to Vietnam*, Photoworks and Installations, St. Ann’s Press, Los Angeles, with essays by Terry Tempest Williams, Rebecca Solnit, Lucy Lippard, Elaine Scarry, and James Crump

#### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

- Fall 2022 -Meridel Rubenstein and Joanne Grüne- Yanoff, “*The Boat is A Circle*”, **aRk**, DaRk Mountain Project, UK, volume 22, pp. 148-155
- May 2022 -*Eden in Iraq-Wastewater Garden Project: interview with Meridel Rubenstein*, **Architekturfuhrer** Irak und /Syrien, herausgegeben von Lore Muhlbauer and Yasser Shretah, DOM Publishers, Berlin , pp.344-47  
 -*Meridel Rubenstein-The Eden in Iraq Wastewater Garden Project*, **IMA** 2022, Spring/Summer Vol.37, Tokyo, Japan
- April 2022 -**Our Selves: Photographs by Women Artists from Helen Kornblum**, ed. Roxana Marcoci, **Museum of Modern Art**, New York, NY, ppgs.60,62,67,97,100  
 David Roth, Meridel Rubenstein@Brian Gross, Square [Cylinder.com](https://www.squarecylinder.com), Northern California, 4/9/22, <https://www.squarecylinder.com/2022/04/meridel-rubenstein-briangross->
- Jan 2022 -Susan Hoffman Fishman, *What Happens When an Artist Goes to Eden*, [https://artistsandclimatechange.com/2022/01/31/ what-happens-when-an-artist-goes-to-eden/](https://artistsandclimatechange.com/2022/01/31/what-happens-when-an-artist-goes-to-eden/)
- Oct 2021 -Audrey Goodman, **A Planetary Lens**, ch. 1, “Photographers and Storytellers in the U.S. West: Toward a Regional Photo-Poetics”, ppgs. 17-53 (Meridel Rubenstein’s photographs pages 36-39, 43, 45, 47), Cover image.
- Jan 2021 -Sam Pelts, “*Meridel Rubenstein, Eden in Iraq: Water Extraction and Restoration*”, **EXTRACTION: Art on the Edge of the Abyss**, Codex Foundation, Berkeley, California pp.512-513.
- Spring 2020 -Meridel Rubenstein, “*Adam and Eve in the Southern Iraq Marshes*,” **DARK MOUNTAIN**, issue 17, Dark Mountain Project, UK , pp.B4,  
 -Mark Chen and Chelsea Shannon, **PHOTOGRAPY: A 21st Century Practice**, A Focal Press Book-Routledge, London and NY, 2020, p.518
- 2018 -Trend Magazine, June Lookbook, “*Genesis of Hope*,” Meridel Rubenstein images from Eden In Iraq, pp. 49-59.

- 2016 -**Orale! lowiders: Custom Made in New Mexico**, with essay by Don Unser and interview with Meridel Rubenstein by Kate Ware (pp.39-57), UNM Press, Albuquerque,NM
- Changing Circumstances, Looking at the Future of the Planet**, Fotofest 2016, Biennial, ed. Wendy Watriss, Schilt Publishing, Amsterdam, 2016. pp 58-63.
- Dubai Photo**, exhibition catalogue, Dubai 2016, pp.454-455.
- 2015 - **Stories from the Camera**, Meridel Rubenstein, Two images, Julia Margaret Cameron and Emmet Gowin, p.115, Essay, Edited by Michele M. Penhall University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque,NM.
- 2012 Meridel Rubenstein, Catherine Harris, Stacey Neff, Mark Nelson, "*Eden Again: A Wastewater Garden Project*", **ISEA 2012** Albuquerque: Machine Wilderness, Radius Books, Santa Fe,NM.
- 2011 -Dr. SriKartini Leet and Lund Humphries, **Reading Photography: A Sourcebook of Critical Texts 1921-2000**, London, pp.273,274,277.
- Conversations – Photography from the Bank of America Collection**, Irish Museum of Modern Art, 2011, pp. 50,51.
- Les musées sont des mondes**, J.M.G. Le Clézio, Gallimard et Musee du Louvre, Paris, 2011, p. 37.
- 2010 -Audrey Goodman, **Lost Homelands: Ruin and Reconstruction in the 20th - Century Southwest**, The University of Arizona Press, 2010, Jacket photo: Tilano's Garden 1993, pp. 7, 99, 100, 109-113.
- 2008 -**PHOTOGRAPHY: New Mexico**, Thomas Barrow, editor/curator, with essays by Kristin Barendsen and Stuart Ashman, Fresco Fine Art Publications, Albuquerque, New Mexico, pp. 231-37, August 2008.
- 2007 -**Rebecca Solnit, Storming the Gates of Paradise**, Landscapes for Politics, University of California Press, 2007, pp.167-6, 272.
- 2005 -Susan Boulanger, "*Meridel Rubenstein, Millennial Forest- Narrative Photoworks*," Art New England, Boston, Oct/Nov 2005, p.28, reproduction..
- Arden Reed, "*Meridel Rubenstein at LewAllen Contemporary*," Art in America, May 2005, p.177, reproduction.
- 2003 -**Phototextualities**, eds. Alex Hughes and Andrea Noble, University of New Mexico Press, 2003, cover image, and including Judith Davidov, "Narratives of Place: History and Memory and the Evidential Force of Photography in Work by Meridel Rubenstein and Joan Myers," pp.41-63, illus pp.43-47, and Cover.
- 2002 -James Enyeart, **Photographs, Writers, and the American Scene-Visions of Passage**, Santa Fe: Arena Editions 2002, reproductions p.82, 324, 334.
- Sarah S. King, "*Meridel Rubenstein at LewAllen Contemporary*," Art in America, March 2002, p.136.
- 2000 -**Customized**, ed. Nora Donnelly, Harry N. Abrams, Inc, in association with the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, 2000, six color reproductions, bio, and essay.
- 1999 -Susan Mulski, Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College/Cambridge, "*Meridel Rubenstein: Joan's Arc, Vietnam 1998-99*," p.39, Art New England, Aug/Sept 1999.
- 1998 -**Photography**, John Upton and Barbara London, "Mixed Media," p.186 reproduction and text, Addison Wesley 1998.

- 1996 -**Longing and Belonging from the Faraway Nearby**, Bruce Ferguson, SITE Santa Fe.
- 1995 -Meridel Rubenstein and Ellen Zweig, "*Critical Mass*," **Conjunctions**, Bard College, Spring Issue 1995, pp.164-88, images and text.
- 1994 -Naomi Rosenbloom, **A History of Women Photographers**, Abbeville Press,1994, pp.225, 319, 345, 27, colorplate.  
- Lucy Lippard, "*Philosophical Fallout*", Z Magazine, vol.7, no.4, Boston, MA, pp. 52- 54.  
- **CRITICAL MASS**, exhibition brochure, Meridel Rubenstein and Ellen Zweig with the Vasulkas, New Mexico Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe,10 pgs with essays, text, images
- 1993 -**Photography at Bay**, John Bloom, ed., University of New Mexico Press,1993, interview, reproduction.
- 1992 -Meridel Rubenstein, "*Georgia O'Keeffe as a Role Model*," **From the Faraway Nearby: Georgia O'Keeffe as Icon**, ed. Christopher Merrill and Ellen Bradbury, Addison-Wesley, 1992, pp.187-92.  
-**Mapping American Culture**, ed. Tim Davis, "Beyond the Sacred and the Profane: Cultural Landscape Photography in America," 1930- 1990," Wayne Franklin and Michael Steiner, eds., University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, 1992, COVER and ppgs. 191-230.  
-**Between Home and Heaven**, exhibition catalogue, The National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, published by UNM Press, March 1992.  
-**The Photography of Invention: American Pictures of the 1980's**, eds. Joshua P. Smith and Merry A. Foresta, National Museum of American Art, MIT Press, pp.166- 67.
- 1987 -**Reclaiming Paradise: American Women Photograph the Land** ed. Gretchen Garner, Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth, February 1987, pp. 38-39.
- 1985 -**The Essential Landscape**, ed. Steve Yates, Univ of New Mexico Press,1985, pp.23,132-5. -Landscape as Photograph, ed., Estelle Jussim, Yale Univ Press, 1985, pp. 17, 18, 128- 30.
- 1984 -Jonathan Green, **American Photography -A Critical History**, Harry Abrams,1984,
- 1980 -**The Portrait Extended**, ed. Charles Desmarais, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 1980.
- 1977 -**La Gente De La Luz**, exhibition catalogue, Meridel Rubenstein, NM Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, 1977.

### SELECT PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH; Amon Carter Museum, Ft. Worth, Texas; ATT; Avon Collection, NYC; The Bank of America, Chicago; Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris; California Museum of Photography, University of California, Riverside; Center for Creative Photography, Tuscon, AZ; Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio; Deloit and Touche, San Francisco, CA; Denver Museum of Art, Colorado; University of New Mexico Art Museum, Albuquerque; Honolulu Museum of Art; Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Texas; The High Museum, Atlanta; The William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences; Lasalle Bank Collection, Chicago; The Minneapolis Institute of Arts; Museum of Albuquerque; Museum fur Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Art Museum, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.; New Mexico Museum of Arts, Santa Fe; Portland Art Museum, Oregon; Principal Financial Group;

Rocky Mountain Energy Co., Denver, CO; St. Louis Museum of Art, Missouri; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; San Francisco;; Santa Barbara Museum of Art; Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA; Tia Collection, Santa Fe and Mumbai; University of Massachusetts, Boston; Valley National Bank of Arizona, Phoenix; Vesti Corporation, Boston, MA; The Wheelwright Museum, Santa Fe, NM.