

Leela Corman
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Leela Corman is a painter, graphic novel creator, and educator. Her paintings and works on paper have been exhibited in galleries, museums, and alternative spaces in the US and Europe, and are in many private collections. She is the creator of numerous works of autobiographical and fictional comics, including the graphic novels *Victory Parade* (Schocken-Pantheon, April 2024) and *Untertzakhn* (Schocken-Pantheon, 2012) and the short comics collection *We All Wish For Deadly Force* (Retrofit/Big Planet, 2016). She is a Yaddo Fellow, a recipient of the Chabon Fellowship at MacDowell, a New Jewish Culture Fellow, a Helix Fellow, and a recipient of the Sustainable Arts Foundation Grant, the Koyama Provides Grant, and the Xeric Grant. Her graphic novel *Victory Parade* has been nominated for three Eisner Awards, was awarded Le Prix Artemisia in France, and was named one of the best graphic novels of 2024 by The Washington Post, NPR Books, Publishers Weekly, The Guardian, and The Comics Journal. She is a founding instructor at Sequential Artists Workshop, and an assistant professor at Rhode Island School of Design. She has also been a dancer, a radio show host, the singer in a Brian Eno cover band, and the curator of the music documentary series *Sight & Sound*, in Gainesville, Florida. She currently sings in the Providence-based feminist surrealist noise-rock band *Insomnies*. She lives in Providence, Rhode Island.

Solo Exhibitions

Riffraff, Providence, Rhode Island, May 2025
Steven Kasher Gallery pop-up at Phillip Williams Poster Gallery, April 2024
Volta, Gainesville FL, Summer 2016
Everyday Heartbreaks, Books & Books, Coral Gables, FL, May 2014
Mid-career retrospective, SAW Gallery, Gainesville, FL Spring 2012, curated by Tom Hart

Selected Group Exhibitions

Everywoman Biennial, Pen + Brush Gallery, New York City, March 2026
Invisible: Violence Transformed, Piano Craft Gallery, Boston MA, January 2026
Crazy!, BAU Gallery, Beacon NY, January 2026
2026 International Juried Exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Bedminster NJ, February 2026
Something Wicked This Way Comes, East Manning Projects, Providence RI, 2025

Lore Degenstein Gallery 16th Annual Figurative Art Exhibition, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, 2025
Duo show with Meredith Stern, Galerie La Domaine, Providence, RI 2025
Made In The USA: Comics To Counterculture, TAG Gallery, Los Angeles, 2025
Providence Art Club Faculty Invitational, 2025
Transformations, New Bedford Art Museum, New Bedford MA, 2024
Fantagraphics Bookstore & Gallery, 2024
Duo show with Lauren Weinstein, Partners & Son, Philadelphia PA, 2024 Albert
Londres: Whistleblower, Galerie Art-Maniak, Paris, France, 2022 Indie
Americans, traveling show:
Quai des Bulles Festival, Saint-Malo, France, Fall 2019
BD Amiens, Amiens, France, Spring 2019
LaVallee Cultural Center, Brussels, Belgium, Fall 2018
Our Comics, Ourselves: Identity, Expression, & Representation in Comic Art,
Interference Archive, Brooklyn NY, Winter 2016
Society Of Illustrators Comics & Cartoon Art Anthology Show, Summer 2014 and
Summer 2016
Graphic Jews: Negotiating Identity In Sequential Art, Tang Museum, Skidmore
College, Saratoga Springs NY, February 2014
Group survey, Protocol Gallery, Gainesville FL, Spring 2015
Tell It To My Face, Turn-Based Press, Miami FL, October 2014
Drawable, F.L.A. Gallery, Gainesville FL, Fall 2013
MASS Visual Arts group exhibition, Gainesville FL, Fall 2012 and Fall 2013
Neointegrity 1 & 2 (group shows), New York City, 2008 and 2010, MoCCA &
Derek Eller Gallery, NYC, curated by Keith Mayerson

Shows Curated:

Sex, Death, and Visceral Honesty: Artworks and Publications by Independent
Women's Comic Book Artists from the 1960's Underground Movement to Today,
co-curated by myself and Layet Johnson for the Fine Art Gallery at Central
Connecticut State University, Fall 2018

Awards, Residencies, and Fellowships:

Pollinator Residency, May 2026
Rothko Museum Residency, Daugavpils, Latvia, upcoming, 2026
Hermitage Fellowship, Manasota Key, Florida, 2026
Eisner Award nominee in multiple categories, 2025
Wedding Cake House Residency, Providence RI, 2025
Le Prix Artemisia, France, 2025
Finalist, ACBD Award, France, 2024
New Jewish Culture Fellowship, 2023-2024

Wallis Annenberg Helix Fellowship, 2022-2023
MoCCA Festival Award of Excellence, 2023
Koyama Provides Grant, 2022
MacDowell residency, Chabon Fellowship recipient, Peterborough, New Hampshire,
September 2021
Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY, December 2019 & March 2023
Trailer Blaze Residency, Seaview, Washington, April 2019
Illustration Institute Residency, Peaks Island, Maine, June 2018
Sustainable Arts Foundation Grant, Fall 2018
ROMICS Prize for Best Anglo-American Comic, Rome, Italy, Spring 2015
Society of Illustrators Silver Medal for Digital Comics, 2014
Finalist, L.A. Times Book Award, 2013
Finalist, Eisner Award, 2013
Finalist, Le Prix Artemisia, France, 2013
Le Prix Millepages, France, 2013
Xeric Foundation Grant, Fall 1999

Selected Panel Appearances

Picture+Panel, Boston, Fall 2024
Inner Worlds Intersecting on the Outside, Brooklyn Book Festival, Fall 2024
Birth, Blood, Loss, and Love: Celebrate a MUTHA-Decade, Small Press Expo, Bethesda MD, Fall 2023
Carousel: A Comics Slideshow Reading Series, New York NY, 2023, 2016, 2010, 2005
Miami Book Fair, 2012, 2016, 2024
Writers Unlimited Winternachten Festival, Den Haag, Netherlands, Winter 2015
The New York Comics and Picture-Story Symposium, New York NY, Summer 2014
L.A. Times Book Festival, Spring 2013
Brooklyn Book Festival, Fall 2012 and Fall 2024

Graphic Novels:

Victory Parade, Schocken-Pantheon, 2024
You Are Not A Guest, Fieldmouse Press, 2023
We All Wish For Deadly Force, Retrofit/Big Planet, 2016
Unterzakhn, Schocken-Pantheon, 2012
Published in translation by Editions Ca Et La (France), Hop Edizioni (Italy).
Ediciones
La Cupula (Spain), XTRA (The Netherlands), Epix (Sweden)

Subway Series, Alternative Books, 2002
Queen's Day, Xeric Grant Winner, 1999
Valentine, minicomic, self-published, 1997
Flim-Flam issues 1-3, self-published, 1995-1998

Teaching Artist Residencies:

Cornell Imagetext Graphic Narrative MFA, Ithaca, NY, upcoming 2026
The Animation Workshop, Viborg, Denmark, Comics & Graphic Novel Teaching Artist in Residence, Winter 2018
Comic Arts Workshop, Maria Island, Australia, Teaching Artist in Residence, Fall 2015
Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center, Maui, Hawai'i, Visiting Artist & Teacher, July 2009

Exhibitions And Performances:

Performances

Collaborative music/comics performance with guitarist and songwriter Thalia Zedek:
Skidmore College, March 2025
Carousel Comics Slideshow Series, City Reliquary, Brooklyn New York, July 2023
Smith College, Northampton MA, April 2023
Small Press Expo, Bethesda MD, September 2022

Teaching

Assistant Professor, Illustration/Fine Arts, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence RI, Current
Cornell Image Text Summer MFA program teaching artist, 2026
Adjunct Faculty, Rhode Island School of Design, Illustration/Fine Arts
Graphic Novel Major Instructor, RISD Pre-College Program, Summer 2022
Adjunct Faculty, University of Florida Center for Jewish Studies, Fall 2020
Adjunct Faculty, University of Florida College of Fine Arts, 2012 - 2019
Founding instructor, Sequential Artists Workshop, 2012 – Current

Bibliography:

Articles Written About My Work

- TITLE TK Manuel Fabritz, Switzerland, 2026
- *Now Girls Allowed*, Quarto Publishing, Britain, Fall 2026
- "Transgressing normative boundaries of Holocaust representation in recent nonfictional comics: Leela Corman's confrontational art in *You Are Not a Guest* (2023), by Dana Mihailescu, in *The Holocaust in Twenty-First-Century*

Literature: Beyond the Era of the Witness, edited by Sarah Minslow, Kris Van Heuckelom, and Daniel Feldman

- Shiamin Kwa. "How to Move a Stone: Mourning, Memory, and Material in the Work of Leela Corman." *Drawing Memory in Jewish Women's Graphic Novels*. Ed. Victoria Aarons. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2024
- "You tell them a lot without trying": Leela Corman's *Victory Parade* and the Silenced

Legacies of the Past, by Tahneer Oksman, *Drawing Memory in Jewish Women's Graphic Novels*. Ed. Victoria Aarons. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2023

- *Airing the Shared Past: The Revitalization of American Jewish Immigrant Narrative in*

Leela Corman's Unterzakhn, by Michaela Weiss, *Drawing Memory in Jewish Women's*

Graphic Novels. Ed. Victoria Aarons. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2024

- *Mourning And Memory in Leela Corman's We All Wish For Deadly Force*, Victoria Aarons, *Memory Spaces*, Wayne State University Press, 2023
- *Love, Lust, and Lucre in Leela Corman's Unterzakhn*, by Alex Link, *Intersectional Feminist Readings of Comics*, 2021, Routledge
- *The Body is Just a Metaphor for the Soul: Performing trauma in the work of Leela Corman and Tom Hart*, by Elizabeth MacFarlane and Leonie Brialey, 2017
- *Bleeding through, drawing out: The circumscribing of Jewish women's bodies in Leela*

Corman's Unterzakhn by Rebecca Scherr, *Studies in Comics*, Volume 6, Issue 2, Dec 2015, p. 213 – 229

- *Representations of Immigrant Life on New York's Lower East Side in Leela Corman's*

Unterzakhn, by Cosmina-Iulia Valent, *Universitatea din Bucuresti - Sectia de Studii Americane*, 2015

- *The Lower East Side as Mishmash of Jewish Women's Multicultural Images in Leela Corman's Unterzakhn*, by Dana Mihăilescu, *Representing Multiculturalism in Comics and Graphic Novels*, Edited By Carolene Ayaka, Ian Hague, Routledge, 2014

Selected Visiting Artist Lectures and Workshops

Blood And Slapstick, University of Michigan, Fall 2024

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA, November 2023 and February 2017

Saga Grybow, Grybow, Poland, Summer 2022

Tulane University, Spring 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024

Graphic Materiality, Trauma, and Expressionist Comics, MIT, Cambridge MA, Fall 2021

Artists Roundtable with Leela Corman, Miriam Katin and Nora Krug, Department of Central, Eastern, & Northern European Studies, The University of British Columbia, Fall 2020
Illuminating The Non-Representable, Falstad, Norway, Summer 2023
Schwarz Auf Weiss, Zurich, Switzerland, Winter 2020
ImageTEXT, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2018, 2021
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, Winter 2018
Berlin Comics Colloquium, Winter 2018
Freie Universität Berlin, Winter 2018
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, Winter 2014 and Summer 2017
Interference Archive, Brooklyn NY, Winter 2016

Collections

Jack Shear, New York
Beth DeWoody, Florida
Jim Dougan, Washington DC
Kaz Prapuolenis, Los Angeles
Eddy Portnoy, New York
Sarah Tiegen-West, Gainesville FL
Sita Marlier-Challandes, Gainesville FL
Steven Kasher, New York
Annie Koyama, Toronto, ON, CA
Hector Puig, Gainesville Florida

Representation

Literary Agent: Elizabeth Wales, Wales Literary Agency, Seattle WA

Education

BFA, Illustration, Massachusetts College of Art, 2000
Other subjects of study: Painting, Performance Art, Printmaking