

## BIOGRAPHY

Laura Splan is a Brooklyn, NY based artist. She holds a Bachelor of Art from the University of California, Irvine where she originally studied Biological Sciences but ultimately studied Studio Art with such mentors as Catherine Opie and Daniel Joseph Martinez. She received her Masters of Fine Art in Sculpture from Mills College in Oakland, CA where she studied with Gail Wight and Catherine Wagner. Her conceptually driven work employs a variety of media including sculpture, video, photography, digital media and works on paper. She often uses found objects and appropriated images to explore the social construction of our perceptions. Much of her work is inspired by experimentation with materials and processes including blood, cosmetic facial peel and computerized embroidery. The common thread running through all her work is an examination of cultural ambivalence towards the human body as it relates to designations of order/disorder, seduction/repulsion and comfort/discomfort.

Splan's work has been exhibited in a wide range of curatorial contexts including craft, feminism, technology, design, science, medicine and ritual. She has had solo exhibits at Texas Woman's University (Denton, TX), Museum of Surgical Science (Chicago) and New York Hall of Science (NYC). Her work has been included in group exhibits at Jönköpings County Museum (Sweden), Museum of Art and Design (NYC), Caren Golden Fine Art (NYC) and Southern Exposure (San Francisco). Exhibition commissions of her work include Davidson College (N. Carolina), Preston Manor (UK) and GenArt's New Media Art Exhibition (San Francisco). She received a Jerome Foundation Travel/Study Grant to research the history of the invention of medical instruments and imaging. She was recently a Pollock-Krasner Fellow at the Byrdcliffe Artist Residency (Woodstock, NY) where she studied with master artist Joan Snyder. In 2012 she will be an Artist in Residence at the Vermont Studio Center. In 2007 she presented her work alongside MIT microbiologist Jonathan King at the symposium *Biology and Art: Two Worlds or One?*, organized by the New York Academy of Sciences (NYC). She was a visiting lecturer at Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA) in 2011 where she taught "Art and Biology" and "Digital Art". Splan has been featured on WBEZ Chicago Public Radio and KQED San Francisco Public Television. Her work is included in *Manuf@ctured: The Conspicuous Transformation of Everyday Objects* published by Chronicle Books and *Specimen: Representing the Natural World* published by Rutgers University. Articles and reviews of her work have appeared in *Artweek*, *American Craft Magazine* and *Discover Magazine*.