

# Tanya Leighton

## MATH BASS

Born 1981 in New York  
Lives and works in Los Angeles

### Education

2011 MFA, UCLA, Los Angeles  
2003 BA, Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts

### Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

2024 *Monday's Child*, Vielmetter, Los Angeles  
*Full Body Parenthesis*, lumber room, Portland, Oregon  
2023 *Roses are Red*, Tanya Bonakdar, New York  
2022 *clown alley*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
2021 *a picture stuck in the mirror*, Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle  
*Desert Veins*, Vielmetter, Los Angeles  
2019 *Fill It Up Silver*, Various Small Fires, Seoul  
*Cherry Baby*, The Gallery At, Los Angeles  
*To Name a Few*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
2018 *Hammer Projects: Math Bass*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
*My Dear Dear Letter*, Mary Boone Gallery, New York  
2017 *Domino Kingdom*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
The Jewish Museum, New York  
*Math Bass: Serpentine Door*, Yuz Museum, Shanghai  
*Over the Top: Math Bass & the Imperial Court SF*, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland  
2016 *Bloomies*, Michael Jon and Alan, Miami Beach  
2015 *Off the Clock*, MoMA PS1 Contemporary Art Center, New York  
2014 *Lies Inside*, Overduin & Co., Los Angeles  
2013 *Newz!*, Michael Jon Gallery, Miami  
*Monte Cristo*, with Leidy Churchman, Human Resources, Los Angeles  
2012 *And then the words came out*, with Leah Glenn, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles  
2011 *G.L.O.W.*, with Mariah Garnett, Commonwealth and Council, Los Angeles  
*Pass the Line*, UCLA, Los Angeles

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2026 *New Voices from the Museum Collection*, AMOCA, Cardiff  
2025 *Fictions of Display*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
2024 *Reverberations*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
*A wing and a prayer*, The Bunker Artspace, Miami  
*Cohort*, SHRINE, Los Angeles  
2023 *Next Door*, Yuz Museum, Shanghai  
2022 *A Maze Zanine, Amaze Zaning, A-Mezzanning, Meza-9*, David Zwirner,

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- New York  
*Plants Now!*, Vielmetter, Los Angeles  
*Dreams*, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles  
*Not Me, Not That, Not Nothing Either*, Leslie Lohman Museum of Art, New York
- 2021 *F#%k U & ur DisNey*, Superdakota, Brussels
- 2020 *Semblance | Sunshine*, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, California  
*20 years*, Vielmetter, Los Angeles
- 2019 *The Light Touch*, Vielmetter, Los Angeles  
*Eight Ball*, Martos Gallery, New York  
*Throwback Jack*, curated by Amanda Schmitt, Fredericks & Freiser Gallery, New York
- 2018 *A Page from My Intimate Journal (Part I)*, Gordon Robichaux, New York  
*Nothing Will Be As Before*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin
- 2017 *Abstract/Not Abstract*, Moore Building, Art Basel, Miami Beach  
*New Modernism*, Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland
- 2016 *Los Angeles – A Fiction*, Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo  
*OVERPOP*, Yuz Museum, Shanghai  
*Gesture Play*, Simone Subal, New York  
*Flavr Savr*, curated by Alexandra Gaty, The Pit, Los Angeles  
*A Shape That Stands Up*, Hammer Museum and Art + Practice, Los Angeles  
*Wasteland*, curated by Shamin M. Momin, Galerie Thaddeus Ropac, Paris
- 2015 *Artist Theater Program with Shannon Ebner, Lauren Fisher, Dylan Mira, Silke Otto-Knapp, Adam Putnam, and Nora Slade*, Performa 15, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami  
*Artist Theater Program, with Shannon Ebner, Lauren Fisher, Dylan Mira, Silke Otto-Knapp, Adam Putnam, and Nora Slade*, Performa 15, Roulette, Brooklyn  
*Bring Your Own Body*, Glass Curtain Gallery at Columbia College, Chicago  
*Bring Your Own Body*, Cooper Union, New York  
*The Answer. The Question*, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles  
*No Joke*, curated by Sanya Kantarovsky, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Drawing Biennale 2015*, The Drawing Room, London  
*My Own Private Los Angeles*, curated by Math Bass, Artist Curated Projects, Los Angeles  
*Intimate Paintings*, Half Gallery, New York  
*Joshing the Watershed*, Del Vaz Projects, Los Angeles  
*With & Width*, Chapter NY, New York  
*VESTAL VIRGINS*, curated by Sylvie Lake, Lummis House, Los Angeles
- 2014 *Bavarian Fire Drill*, 247365, New York  
*Shit Like Hair*, White Flag Projects, Saint Louis  
*Flex*, Kent Fine Art, New York  
*Another Cats Show*, 356 Mission, Los Angeles  
*New Dawn*, curated by Leidy Churchman, Silberkuppe, Berlin  
*Duck Soup*, Galerie Nordenhake, Stockholm  
*Darren Bader*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York  
*Drowning and swallowing this text*, Los Angeles Contemporary

- Exhibitions, Los Angeles  
*Autograft*, Laurel Gitlen, New York
- 2013 *Culm*, Night Gallery, Los Angeles  
*356 Sculptures*, 356 Mission, Los Angeles  
*B.B.S.Q.*, Wallspace, New York  
*Cast Recording*, Prism Gallery, Los Angeles  
*P&Co.*, Thomas Duncan Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2012 *Made in LA*, The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
*This is It With It As It Is*, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin  
*Il Regalo*, Overduin and Kite, Los Angeles
- 2011 *Gloria Hole*, The Fire Place Project, Easthampton
- 2010 *Almost Outline*, 2nd Floor Projects, San Francisco  
*Says I*, Parker Jones Gallery, Los Angeles
- 2009 *riDYKEu-lous HITS BOTTOM*, Leo Koenig Inc., New York  
*Somethings Gonna Soon*, Artist Production Fun, New York
- 2008 *Our bodies, our selves*, Montehermosos Cultural Centre, Vitoria  
Gasteiz, Spain  
*The Way That We Rhyme*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco  
*Oceans of Potions*, Pens and Needles, San Francisco
- 2007 *Shared Women*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles  
*The Tent Show*, Nikolaj Contemporary Art Center, Copenhagen
- 2006 *Not A Marathon, Just a Traffic Jam*, Art in General, New York  
*New Ghost Entertainment Entitled*, Or Gallery, Vancouver  
*New Ghost Entertainment Entitled*, Stadtische Galerie Kunsthaus, Dresden  
*Esthetics of Resistance*, CareOf Gallery, Milan
- 2005 *Macerate*, Around the Coyote Gallery, Chicago
- 2003 *Listen Translate Translate Record*, Andrew Kreps, New York  
*Man, I Feel Like A Woman*, Space 1026, Philadelphia

#### Performances

- 2022 *if i could sing you back: a performance with Math Bass & Eden Batki*,  
Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle
- 2021 *a picture stuck in the mirror*, Henry Art Gallery, University of  
Washington, Seattle
- 2017 *Quiet work in session*, with Lauren Davis Fisher, Whitney Museum of  
American Art, New York
- 2015 *Artist Theater Program Performa 15 + The Metropolitan Museum of Art*,  
Roulette, Brooklyn
- 2014 Overduin & Co., Los Angeles  
*Artist Theater Program*, Experimental Media and Performing Arts  
Center, Troy, New York  
Paramount Ranch, Malibu  
*Quiet work in session*, with Lauren Davis Fisher, curated by Summery  
Guthery, Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland
- 2013 *Planets Making Planets*, with Anna Sew Hoy and Claire Kohne, Human  
Resources, Los Angeles
- 2012 *The Actors Studio*, Wilfred Yang Gallery, Los Angeles

- Brutal Set*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
*Blasting Voice*, Suzanne Geiss Company, New York  
 2011 *Dogs and Fog*, Overduin and Kite, Los Angeles  
 2010 *Perform Now!*, Human Resources, Los Angeles

#### Screenings

- 2015 *Coulisse Effect*, Overduin and Kite, Los Angeles  
 2014 *Marmalade Me*, South London Gallery, London

#### Selected Bibliography

- 2023 Jesse Dorris, "A Painter Who Flattens to Find Expanse", *Surface Magazine*, September 2023
- 2022 Marcus Civin, "Math Bass in conversation with Marcus Civin", *Maake Magazine*, November 2022  
 Math Bass and Chloe Stead, "Barbara Kruger's Teaching Legacy: 'She Always Cut Through the Bullshit'", *Frieze*, February 2022  
 Hans-Jürgen Hafner, "Math Bass - clown alley: Wenn der Witz im Bild zündet", *Artmagazine*, February 2022
- 2021 Russell Tovey and Robert Diament, Talk Art Podcast, August 2021  
 Hudson, Suzanne, "World of Art: Contemporary Painting", *Thames & Hudson*, April 2021  
 Simmons, William J., "Queer Formalism: The Return", *Floating Opera Press*, March 2021  
 Fowler, Eve, "A conversation with Math Bass", *Flash Art*, 15 February 2021  
 Albuquerque, Isabelle, "Math Bass Paintings Move Beyond the Limits of Language", *Cultured*, 15 February 2021  
 Simmons, William J., "On Math Bass: Got a light?", *Artillery Magazine*, January 2021
- 2019 Simmons, William J., "Portfolio by Math Bass. A poetics of form.", *Bomb Magazine*, June 2019
- 2018 "New Paintings by Math Bass at Mary Boone Gallery, New York", *Blouin Artinfo*, 18 May 2018  
 Speed, Mitch, "Math Bass", *Frieze*, January/February 2018
- 2015 Locks, Mia, "The Body is a Location: Math Bass in conversation with Mia Locks", *Art Journal Open*, December 14 2015  
 Rosenthal, Tracy Jeanne, "Waveforms", *Art in America*, October, pp. 104-109, ill.  
 Fox, Dan, "The Eyes Have It", *Frieze*, Issue 173, September, pp. 150-152, cover, ill.  
 Tattersall, Lanka, "Ones to Watch", *sleek Magazine*, Summer, pp. 38, ill.  
 Small, Rachel, "Geometry Lessons with Math Bass", *Interview Magazine*, May 20  
 Zhong, Fan, "Codes and Keys", *W Magazine*, May 7.  
 Braithwaite, Hunter, "A New Way of Thinking: Introducing Math Bass", *Modern Painters*, May  
 Powers, Bill, "'People Have Anxiety about Ambiguity': A Talk with Math

- Bass", *ARTnews*, March, p. 22
- 2014 Gavin, Francesca, "The Materiality of Math", *Twin Magazine*, November.  
 "Initiation", *Art in America*, October, pp. 140-142  
 Hudson, Suzanne, "Math Bass", *Frieze*, Issue 163, May  
 Wagley, Catherine, "Math Bass: Lies Inside at Overduin & Co.", *LA Weekly*, March 18  
 Ebner, Shannon, "Math Bass: FutureGreats 2014", *ArtReview*, March.
- 2013 Raoli, Martha, "Newz!: Math Bass", *The Miami Rail*, Winter.  
 Cha, Olivian, "Monte Cristo", *Art Papers*, September/October
- 2012 Made in L.A., essay by Amanda Hunt, published by Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
 Griffin, Jonathan, "Made in LA 2012", *Frieze*, September
- 2009 Doyle, Jennifer, "Managing Desire: Girls, Boys and Queer Sport Spectacles", *X-TRA*, Spring  
*Mixed Signals: Artists Consider Masculinity in Sports*, essay by Julia Bryan Wilson, published by Los Angeles County Museum of Arts, Los Angeles
- 2008 Bordowitz, Gregg, "Sentiment, Belief, and Medium", *Film, Avant-Garde and Biopolitics*, published by Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, Vienna  
 Brewer-Ball, Kate, "In Sight, Out of Focus: Marriage, the union of Wu Tsang and Math Bass" *Performance Studies International #14: Interregnum: In Between States*  
 Summers, Robert, "The Way That We Rhymes", *Art US*, Issue 23, p 18.  
*The Uncertain States of America Reader*, essay by Matt Wolf, published by Sternberg Press, Berlin  
 Wolf, Matt, "New Lives Queer Art", *LTRR*

#### Public Collections

Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk  
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
 Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego  
 Hammer Museum, Los Angeles  
 Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles  
 Yuz Museum, Shanghai