

*Curriculum Vitae*

**Rachelle A. Dermer**  
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**Education**

Boston University, Boston.

Ph.D., Art History (Theory & Criticism and the History of Photography). May 2002.  
*Dissertation:* "Photographic Objectivity and the Construction of the Medical Subject in the United States" Defended December 20, 2001. Letter of Distinction.

Dissertation Advisor: Caroline A. Jones; Committee: Kim Sichel (BU), Alan Brandt (Harvard), Keith Morgan (BU) and Patricia Hills (BU).

Qualifying Exams in the fields of *Contemporary Art and Theory*, *History of Photography*, and *19th and 20th Century Architecture*, 1998.

M.A. Art History, 1996.

*Master's Paper:* "Science and Photography: The Phantasm of the Human Body in Eadweard Muybridge's *Animal Locomotion*"

Arizona State University, Tempe.

B.F.A., Photography, Cum Laude, 1991.

*B.F.A. Thesis:* "Female Problems"

**Areas of Specialization**

Photography, Film/Video

**Academic Appointments**

The New England Institute of Art

March 2006 – Present

Academic Department Chair, Photography

Emerson College

Spring 2006, Summer 2006

Adjunct Media Arts Faculty (Studies in Digital Media and Culture; Digital Filmmaking)

Art Institute Boston, Boston, MA

Summer 2004-Summer 2006

Low-residency MFA Faculty (Narrative Theory, Digital Media, Time-Based Media)

Boston University, Boston, MA  
Fall, 2004  
Adjunct Art Faculty (Narrative and New Media)

Massachusetts College of Art  
Fall, 2004  
Adjunct Art Faculty (Perspectives on the History of Art)

Littleton High School, Littleton, MA.  
2001-2004.  
Program Director and Faculty Teacher, New Media (Film & Video Production, Digital Photography, Interactive Media)

Weston High School, Weston, MA.  
1997-2001.  
Faculty Teacher, Art and Technology (Film & Video Production, Photography, Design Technology, Multimedia)

Weston Public Schools, Weston, MA.  
Summer, 1997  
Instructor, Technology Workshops

Boston University Metropolitan College, Boston, MA.  
Fall, 1995-Fall, 1997  
Adjunct Faculty Lecturer (Approaches to the History of Photography, Photography and Modernism)

Boston University, Boston, MA.  
Summer Term 1995  
Adjunct Faculty Lecturer (History of Photography, Contemporary Art)

### **Professional Experience**

Writer, Director, Producer, *Sponsor Reel* for the Provincetown International Film Festival, 2009.

Director, *Kathleen Turner Retrospective*, an introduction for an award at the Provincetown International Film Festival, 2007

Director, *Sponsor Reel* for the Provincetown International Film Festival, 2007

Writer/Director, *Commit to the Line – Women, Power and Bikes*, long-form, non-fiction film;  
(<http://www.committotheline.com>).

Executive Producer/Lead Writer, *Ann the Word*, feature-length film.  
Written, directed, produced by New Media students, Littleton High School  
2003-2004.

Faculty Advisor, Gay-Straight Alliance  
Littleton High School, Littleton, MA.  
Fall, 2001 – Spring, 2004

Writer/Director/Producer, *Myths of Freedom, A Road Trip Diary*, short-form, non-fiction film,  
2002.  
Dermer Studio, Boston, MA

Faculty Advisor/Producer, School Online Newspaper/Streaming Morning TV Show (Quicktime  
Broadcast)  
Littleton High School, Littleton, MA.  
Spring, 2001-2004

Faculty Advisor/Producer, Virtual Weston, Town of Weston's website (<http://www.weston.org>)  
Weston High School, Weston, MA.  
1998 - 2000

Executive Producer, Student Film Festival  
Weston High School, Weston, MA.  
Spring 1998, Spring 1999, Spring 2000

Digital Media Consultant  
Art History Department, Boston University  
Design/specifications of a digital media lab in the department's slide library.  
Summer, 1997

Research and Cataloging Assistant for the Horblitt Collection of Daguerreotypes.  
Department of Printing and Graphic Arts, Houghton Library, Harvard University,  
Cambridge.  
Summer, 1996.

Assistant to the Artist Perry Hoberman. *Faraday's Island's, Interactive Symphonic Appliance  
Installation*.  
October - November, 1995.  
Installation at Boston University, 808 Commonwealth Avenue (in conjunction with the  
conference co-hosted by Boston University and Harvard University Nov. 3-5, 1995,  
*Histories of Science/Histories of Art*)

Assistant Conference Coordinator.  
*Histories of Science/Histories of Art: An Interdisciplinary Conference*, Boston University  
- Harvard University (November 3-5, 1995.).  
1994-1995.

Media Specialist  
Hughes Program, Department of Zoology, Arizona State University.  
1992-1993.

Senior Photographer.

Department of Zoology, Arizona State University.  
1991-1992.

Photographic Technician.

Department of Zoology, Arizona State University.  
1990-1991.

Photographic Technician.

Dr. Catherine Racowsky, College of Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Arizona.  
1991-1992.

### **Exhibitions and Screenings**

Village Theaters North, Big Bear Lake International Film Festival, Big Bear Lake, CA,  
September 18 – 20, 2009. Film Screening and Filmmaker Q & A, *Commit to the Line*  
(long-form non-fiction film).

Wilde Auditorium, Hilyer College, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT, Monday, April  
20, 2009. Film Screening and Artist Talk, *Commit to the Line* (long-form non-fiction  
film).

Bell Street Chapel, The Rhode Island International Film Festival (Official Selection),  
Providence, RI, Saturday, August 9, 2008. Film Screening, *Commit to the Line* (long-  
form non-fiction film).

Coolidge Corner Theater, Brookline, MA, February 21, 2008. Film Screening and Panel  
Discussion, *Commit to the Line* (long-form non-fiction film).

Gallery on the Plaza, The New England Institute of Art, Brookline, MA, July 17 – August 21,  
2007, *24p An Inside Look at Filmmaking on the Edge* (Archival Inkjet Prints, Time-based  
media).

The New England Institute of Art Screening Room

July 19, 2007, *An Interview with Kathleen Turner, The Director's Cut* (long-form non-  
fiction film).

Carroll College Screening Room, Carroll College, Helena, MT

June 9, 2007, *Commit to the Line* (long-form non-fiction film), Rough Cut Screening

Provincetown International Film Festival, Provincetown, MA

June 16, 2007, *Kathleen Turner: A Retrospective* (short-form non-fiction film for award  
ceremony)

Gallery on the Plaza, The New England Institute of Art, Brookline, MA

March 21 – April 21, 2007

*One. Student & Faculty works from the New Digital Photography Degree Programs*  
(Archival inkjet prints).

NEMBA, Boston MTB Video Awards, Watertown, MA, April 29, 2006, *I Fell* (short-form non-fiction film), winner - “Best Screenplay.”

Art Institute of Boston, January 6, 2006, *Flipping Cancer the Bird* (short-form non-fiction film).

Boston Bike Film Festival 2005, 38 Cameron, Cambridge, MA, October 21, 2005, *I Fell* (short-form non-fiction film), winner - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place “Audience Choice” Award

Distillery Gallery, Boston, MA, October 8, 2005 – January 2, 2006, *Southern Ramada—South Mountain Park, AZ 2002* and *Oops! U Missed Us—Navajo Indian Reservation, 2002* in Juried Group Show (Archival inkjet prints)

Marran Gallery, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA, January 6 – 21, 2005, *Selections from Myths of Freedom*, one-person show (Archival inkjet prints and short-form non-fiction film).

Clark University Art Gallery, Worcester, MA, April 19-27, 2004, *Myths of Freedom*, one-person show (Archival inkjet prints).

Forest Hills Chapel Gallery, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 19 – 28, 2003, *Pietown, NM 2002* and *Sara, Dexter and Picnic Table, Sunset Point Rest Area, 2002*, JPOS Juried Group Show (two archival inkjet prints).

Forest Hills Chapel Gallery, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 15 – 23, 2001, *Intersection at Jamaica Pond, JP, MA 2000*, JPOS Juried Group Show (one digital archival inkjet print).

11 East Ashland Gallery, Phoenix, AZ

July 18 – August 8, 1992

*Female Problems*, one-person show (gelatin silver prints)

Northlight Upstairs Gallery, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

October 22 – November 5, 1991

*Nude/Landscape*, two-person show (gelatin silver prints)

Various Southwest Locations, United States

August 1989 – June, 1990

*Selections from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Southwestern Exhibition* (traveling)

Yuma Art Center, Yuma, AZ

April 2 – 30, 1989

23<sup>rd</sup> *Southwestern Exhibition*, Juried Group Show (gelatin silver prints)

## **Bibliography**

Flicksarts Blog, “Top RIIFD Docs Submitted to Prestigious Chinese Film Festival, Guangzhou Documentary Film Festival is the largest in China,” September 29, 2008.

*Fest21.com*.

([http://www.fest21.com/en/blog/flicksart/top\\_riiff\\_docs\\_submitted\\_to\\_prestigious\\_chinese\\_film\\_festival](http://www.fest21.com/en/blog/flicksart/top_riiff_docs_submitted_to_prestigious_chinese_film_festival))

Gay Vernon, Interview, *Exceptional Women*, WMJX 106.7 Boston, Monday, March 3, 2008 (also available on iTunes).

Meredith Goldstein, “Today’s Picks: Between the Simpsons and a hard rock place,” *The Boston Globe Sidekick*, Thursday, February 21, 2008.

Around Town, “Surviving and Thriving,” *Brookline Tab*, Thursday, February 21, 2008.

Tim Jackson, Interview, *At the Coolidge*, Episode 16, Coolidge Internet Theater, February 19, 2008.

“‘One’ for all,” *The Boston Globe Sidekick*, Thursday, March 29, 2007.

## **Grants and Awards**

*Commit to the Line*. Official Selection, Big Bear Lake International Film Festival, Big Bear Lake, CA, September 18 – 20, 2009.

*Bike Story*. Volume II, Issue 2, “4.19.09, Should I Wear Pink?” Featured publication on MAGCLOUD site.

*Commit to the Line*. Chosen by RIIFD for submission to largest documentary festival in China, Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival, December 1 – 5, 2008.

*Commit to the Line*. Providence Film Festival Award, First Place, The Rhode Island International Film Festival, Providence, RI, August 5 – 10, 2008.

*Commit to the Line*. Official Selection, The Rhode Island International Film Festival, Providence, RI, August 5 – 10, 2008.

“Best Screenplay”

*I Fell*, short-form non-fiction film

Boston MTB Video Awards, April 29, 2006

Audience Choice Award

*I Fell*, short-form non-fiction film  
Boston Bike Film Festival, October 21-22, 2006

Private Fund Grant

Production Grant for feature-length documentary, *Commit to the Line*, June, 2005  
Rea Bennet, Ph.D., Private Art Collector, Author

Equipment Grant

Helmet Cams for feature-length documentary, *Commit to the Line*, June, 2005  
Viosport, Camera Systems, Marquette, MI

Production Grant

In-Kind, Housing, "Mountain Money" for feature-length documentary, *Commit to the Line*, May, 2005 – August 2005  
Whistler-Blackcomb, Whistler, B.C.

Studio Grant

Spring, 2003  
Town of Littleton Cable Committee. Funds for digital TV studio facility at Littleton High School.

Letter of Distinction

December, 2001  
Letter of Distinction for the dissertation issued by the examining committee to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

WEEFC Grant.

1999 - 2000  
Weston Educational Enrichment Fund Committee, Proposal: "Non-Toxic Photogravure," for the introduction of photogravure from digital negatives in the photography classes.

Studio Grant.

1999-2000  
Weston Cable Committee. Funds for equipment for a digital video studio facility at Weston High School.

Dissertation Grant.

1998 - 1999  
Kate and Hall Peterson Fund for Doctoral Studies in the History of Photography.

WEEFC Curriculum Development Grant.

1997 - 1998

Weston Educational Enrichment Fund Committee, Proposal: "Digital Imaging Curriculum," for the development of a comprehensive digital imaging curriculum in the High School and Middle School photography courses.

Research Fellowship.

1994-1995

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA.

Tuition Fellowship.

1994-1998

Boston University Art History Department, Boston.

### **Publications**

*Bike Story*, Independent Artist Magazine, Photography (MAGCLOUD publishing), serial publication, 2008 – present.

Dermer, Rachelle A., *Photographic Objectivity and the Construction of the Medical Subject in the United States*, Ph.D. Dissertation, 2002.

Dermer, Rachelle A, "Joel-Peter Witkin and Dr. Stanley Burns: A Language of Body Parts," *History of Photography* 23:3 (Autumn, 1999).

Dermer, Rachelle A., "Tracking the Archival Man: Francesca Woodman," *Addison Gallery of American Art 65 Years*. Andover, MA: Addison Gallery of American Art, 1996.

Dermer, Rachelle A., "Eadweard Muybridge's Animal Locomotion: Attitudes," *Addison Gallery of American Art 65 Years*. Andover, MA: Addison Gallery of American Art, 1996.

Racowsky, C., Milissa L. Kaufman, Rachelle A. Dermer, Sheryl T. Homa, and Sujatha Gunnala (1991) "Chromosomal Analysis of Meiotic Stages of Human Oocytes Matured In Vitro: Benefits of Pronase Treatment Prior to Fixation," *Fertility and Sterility*, 1992.

### **Artist Lectures**

Filmmaker Q & A, Screening of *Commit to the Line*, Village Theaters North, Big Bear Lake, CA, Saturday, September 19, 2009.

Artist Talk, Screening of *Commit to the Line*, Wilde Auditorium, Hilyer College, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT  
Monday, April 20, 2009

Artist Talk, Rough Cut Screening, *Commit to the Line*, Carroll College Screening Room, Carroll College, Helena, MT.

June 9, 2007

Writer/Director/Producer

Artist Talk, Work in Progress: Making *Commit to the Line*, The Art Institute Boston at Lesley University, MFA Residency, January 7, 2006.

Artist Talk, *Scholar as Artist, Making Work After Writing a Dissertation*, The Art Institute Boston at Lesley University, Summer MFA Residency, August 24, 2004.

Artist Talk

*Myths of Freedom*, presentation in conjunction with one-person show.

University Art Gallery, Clark University, April 13, 2004.

### **Professional Activities & Memberships**

Portfolio Presentation

PhotoLucida Conference, Portland, OR

Portfolio Review Participant, April 12 – 15, 2007

Portfolio Presentation

Society for Photographic Educators, 44<sup>th</sup> National Conference, Miami, FL

Professional Portfolio Review Participant, March 16, 2007

Invited guest editor

Theme issue of *History of Photography*, entitled “Medicine and Photography.” Published Autumn, 1999.

Member, College Art Association, 1995 - present.

Member, Boston Film and Video Foundation, 1997 - 2003.

Member, Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers, 1997-present.

Member, Women in Film and Video New England, 2005 - present.

Member, International Documentary Association, 2005 – present.

Member, Photographic Resource Center, 2005 – present.

Member, Society for Photographic Educators, 2005 – present

Open Studio

Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 20 – 21, 2003

Elliot School

Open Studio

Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 28 – 29, 2002  
Elliot School

Open Studio

Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 22 – 23 2001  
Elliot School

Open Studio, Jamaica Plain Open Studios, Jamaica Plain, MA, September 24 - 26, 1999  
59 Amory Street, Artist Studio.