

Steve Davis

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Represented by:

James Harris Gallery

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Education

1983 M.F.A., College of Art and Architecture, University of Idaho

1979 B.S. Communications - Photo/Film, University of Idaho

Recent Employment

2022 - 2025 Adjunct Professor of Photography, South Puget Sound Community College

2018 - 2020 Head of Instructional Photography, The Evergreen State College

1987 - 2020 Faculty Adjunct, The Evergreen State College

2017 - 2018 Interim Gallery Manager, Evergreen Gallery, The Evergreen State College

2010 - 2018 Coordinator of Photography and Media Curator, The Evergreen State College

Recognition

2024 Juror Award (Ann Jastrab) The Landscape, Photo Place Gallery, Middlebury, Vermont

2023 Image of the Month, The Museum of Photography, Charleroi, Belgium

2019 Shortlisted for The Western Lands, Extinction. Or the World Without Us? Urbanautica Institute

2018 Semi-finalist, 2019 Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition, National Portrait Gallery, D.C.

2017 Grant Recipient, The Evergreen State College

2017 Grant Recipient, The Pollination Project

2013 Nominee, Portfolio of the Year (As American Falls), Le Journal de la Photographie

2011 Honorable Mention, Curator's Choice Awards, The Center

2009 Nominee, Baum Award for Emerging American Photographer

2008 Honorable Mentions (2), The Human Condition, Prix de la Photographie, Paris

2006 Fellowship Award, Artist Trust/Washington State Arts Commission

2006 Finalist, Book Award, Photolucida Critical Mass, Portland, OR

2002 1st Prize, Project Competition, Santa Fe Center for Photography (CENTER)

Solo Exhibitions

2016 Galerie Fotoland, The Evergreen State College, Olympia

2013 Back to the Garden, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA

2011 As American Falls, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA

2009 The Western Lands, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA

2007 Captured Youth, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA

Solo Exhibitions Continued

- 2005 Photoarts.com (online)
- 2004 Pictures of Failure, Center for Contemporary Arts, Abilene, TX
- 1998 The Boys of Maple Lane, Gallery 2, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
- 1992 Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN
- 1989 Southern Light Gallery, Amarillo College, Amarillo, TX
- 1988 Prichard Gallery, Moscow, ID
- 1987 C R Gallery, Seattle
- 1984 Donnally/Hayes, Seattle

Group Exhibitions

- 2025 Blue Sky 1985 - 1995: The Second Decade, Blue Sky, Oregon Center for the Photographic Arts,
- 2025 *Gathering: A Photographer's Collection*, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, University of Oregon
- 2024 The Landscape, Photo Place Gallery, Middlebury, Vermont
- 2023 "Things I've Discovered," public installation, Olympia Artspace Alliance, Olympia, WA
- 2021 Two-Year Supply, with Alexis Pike and Rebecca Campbell, Sun Valley Museum of Art, Ketchum, ID
- 2019 Extinction. The World Without Us. Urbanautica Journal of Visual Anthropology and Cultural Landscapes
- 2019 Wanderlust, Analog Forever Online
- 2019 Pride in America (vintage work), The Eye of Photography
- 2019 MOPLA Analogue Portrait Project + Photo Book Exhibition, House of Lucie, Los Angeles
- 2018 As Regular People, Lenscratch
- 2017 Notions of Home, The Photography Center Northwest, Seattle
- 2017 Take a Stand, Permanent Exhibition on Human Rights Activism, The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Educational Center, Skokie, IL
- 2015 Try Youth as Youth, with Steve Liss, Richard Ross, and Tirtza Even; David Weinberg Photography, Chicago
- 2014 Unseen, Gallery Project, presented in both Detroit and Ann Arbor, MI
- 2013 Seen but Not Heard: Photos from US Juvenile Prisons, Belgrade, Serbia
- 2013 Invisible Solitudes, Festival Fotografico Europeo, Italy
- 2013 Benefit Exhibition: Northwest Focus, Photo Center NW, Seattle
- 2013 Prison Art, Machine House Brewery, Seattle
- 2013 Atmospheric Weather: Two Exhibitions from Seattle Public Utilities' Collection, Seattle Municipal Tower Gallery
- 2013 Sitting for History: Exploring Self-Identity Through Portraiture, Tacoma Art Museum
- 2012 Looking at the Land: 21st Century American Views, Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, and online. Curated by Andy Adams/Flak Photo
- 2012 Invisible Solitudes: Life at the Edge of Mental Health, w/ Jenn Ackerman, Enrico Fabian, Diego Ibarra Schez, Catherine Karnow & Magdelana Sole, Milan, Italy
- 2012 Commentaries: Artists Respond to the Land, curated by Kimberly Clark and Philip Govedare, with Michael Brophy, Kimberly Clark, Tamblyn Gawley, Philip Govedare, Paul Havas, Eirik Johnson, Zhi Lin, Laura McPhee, Helen O'Toole, Glenn Rudolph & Ren Sun, Prografica, Seattle
- 2012 Grounded, with Oliver Boberg, Amir Zaki & Bing Wright, James Harris Gallery, Seattle
- 2012 Portrayal/Betrayal, Santa Barbara Museum of Art
- 2012 Cruel and Unusual, curated by Hester Keijser and Pete Brook, Noorderlicht Gallery, The Netherlands

Group Exhibitions Continued

2011 The Animal Within, film shorts curated by Billy Miller, Artist Television Access, San Francisco
2011 Reclaimed: Nature and Place through Contemporary Eyes, Seattle Art Museum
2011 B-B-B-Bad, Anna Kustera Gallery, NYC. Curated by Billy Miller and Doug McClemon
2010 Do I Know You, Inman Gallery, Houston
2010 TXT, The James Harris Gallery, Seattle
2010 Portrait, The George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, Rochester, NY
2010 Critical Messages: Contemporary Northwest Artists and the Environment. A traveling exhibition to Western Gallery, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA / Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Willamette University, Salem, OR / Boise Art Museum
2009 Landscape Visions, The Evergreen State College
2009 The 50 States Project
2009 Insights of Life from the Shadows of Death, Red Door Gallery, Oakland, CA
2008 Century 21: Dealer's Choice, Wright Exhibition Space, Seattle
2006-2008 Telling Stories: Selections from the Permanent Collection, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA
2007 Artist Trust: Twenty Years, Seattle Art Museum Sales and Rental Gallery, Seattle
2007 Aqua Art Fair, James Harris Gallery, Miami
2006 Seattle Art Museum Sales and Rental Gallery, Seattle
2006 Aqua Art Fair, James Harris Gallery, Miami
2006 Jupiter Hotel Art Fair, James Harris Gallery, Portland
2006 Contrasting Objectives: Fifteen Pacific Northwest Photographers, Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA
2005 Vis a Vis Online (visavisphoto.com)
2004/05/06 Heart Gallery Project, portraits of people under the care of the Dept. of Social and Health Sciences, City Space Gallery, Seattle w/ other venues throughout the year
2004 Santa Fe Center for Photography, 10 Year Anniversary Auction
2003 Washington Center for Performing Arts, Olympia, WA
2003 Prichard Gallery, Exhibition and Auction, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
2002 Digital Imagination, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA
2001 Disparate Measures, Olympia World News, Olympia, WA
2001 Prichard Gallery, Exhibition and Auction, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
1998 Infinite Parameters, University of Montana, Missoula, MT
1998 We're Your Future Too, The Children's Museum, Seattle, WA
1997 La ville Multiple, 1st Biennale de la Photographie, Musee d'Art Wallon, Liege, Belgium
1996 Nirvana: Capitalism and the Consumed Image, Center on Contemporary Art, Seattle, WA
1996 The Bridge: Siggraph 96 Art Show, Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans, LA
1996 Current Events, Art Gym, Marylhurst College, Portland, OR
1996 CompuArt@unomaha, University of Omaha, Omaha, NE
1996 Japan-O-Rama, COCA, Seattle
1995 Art as Signal: Inside the Loop, Krannert Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1995 Spectrum Gallery, Fresno, CA
1995 Gallery 2, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
1994 Second Biennial Auction/Exhibit, CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, NY
1994 Mini Treasures: Art of the West, Holter Museum, Helena, MT

Group Exhibitions Continued

1993 Fast Art for an Accelerated Culture; part of Art/LA' 93, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles
1993 Interfaced: Art and Technoculture, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
1993 Currents in Electronic Imaging, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA
1993 Pictures from the Hyperworld, Cyberspace Gallery, West Hollywood, CA
1993 Pictures from the Hyper-World, Washington State University Fine Arts Museum, Pullman, WA
1992 SIGGRAPH Art Show, Chicago, IL
1992 Spirit of the West, traveling exhibition, sponsored by WestOne Bank
1992 Computer Art from the Western States, Brigham City Museum, Brigham City, UT
1991 National Computer Art Invitational, two year traveling exhibition
1990 Northwest Annual 1990, Center on Contemporary Art, Seattle, WA
1990 Photography Faculty, The Evergreen State College
1989 Blue Sky Gallery, Portland, OR
1989 College of Art and Architecture Faculty Exhibition, Ridenbaugh Art Gallery, University of Idaho,
1989 7 Faculty in Photography, from Washington State University, and the University of
Idaho, Ridenbaugh Art Gallery, University of Idaho
1989 Gallery 4, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
1988 Sixth Annual Photo Metro Photography Competition, Bruce Velick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
1988 Centennial Alumni Show, traveling exhibition originating from the Prichard Gallery, University of
Idaho, Moscow, ID
1986 California Works, State Fair, Sacramento, CA
1985 California Works, State Fair, Sacramento, CA
1985 SF Bay Guardian Photography Competition, Climate Gallery, San Francisco, CA
1984 Architectural Spaces, Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca, NY
1983 20X20 Gallery, San Francisco
1982 Inland Empire Photographers, Hoffman Gallery, Spokane, WA
1980 American Vision 1980, 80 Washington Square East Galleries, New York

Select Curatorial

2018 The Surface: On & Beneath, 20th Century Photography from the Evergreen Collection featuring Andy Warhol, Diane Arbus, Judy Dater, Ralph Gibson, Richard Misrach, Edward Weston & others. The Evergreen Gallery, Olympia, WA. I selected, framed, installed, and promoted the largest and most popular exhibition in recent years.

2010- Curator, Galerie Fotoland, Olympia, WA.

Artist Residencies

2002 Pierce County Remann Hall Juvenile Incarceration Facility. Sponsored through the Museum of Glass, Tacoma, WA

2000 Green Hill School, Incarceration Facility. Sponsored through the Seattle Children's Museum/Experimental Gallery

1997 Maple Lane, Incarceration Facility. Sponsored through the Seattle Children's Museum/Experimental Gallery

Conferences / Visiting Artist Lectures

2025 Artist Lecture, Franke Tobey Jones, Tacoma
2016 Panel Discussion, The Ethics of Photography, Newspace, Portland
2016 Lecture, Artist Lecture Series, The Evergreen State College
2015 This Might Not Work Series Artist Talk, Photo Center NW, Seattle
2013 Lecture, Tacoma Art Museum
2008 Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR
2007 School of the Arts, Tacoma
2007 Faces and Places: Through the Camera Lens, Tacoma Art Museum
2006 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
2002 Symposium, Review Santa Fe, Santa Fe Center for Visual Arts
2000 Panelist, "Opening a Conversation: Community Service in the Curriculum," Society for Photographic Education National Conference, Cincinnati, OH
1998 Presenter, "Pictures of Failure: Photography at Maple Lane," Society for Photographic Education National Conference, Philadelphia, PA
1996 Peer Review Committee, 1997 National Conference, Society for Photographic Education
1993 Session Co-Chair, (w/ Paul Pak-hing Lee,) "Pictures from the Hyper-World: The Artist in Technoculture," College Art Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA
1993 Presenter, "Post-Photographic Depression," Northwest Communication Association Annual Meeting, Coeur d' Alene, ID
1993 Panelist, "The Politics of Electronic Imaging" Challenge: Merging and Emerging Technology, Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR
1992 Conference Chair, Society for Photographic Education Northwest
1992 Conference Chair, Society for Photographic Education Northwest Regional Conference, Olympia
1992 Panelist, Changing Times: Working Solutions for Photographic Curriculum, sponsored by Seattle Pacific University and Rainier Photographic Supply, Seattle

Media

2025 *Panorama: The Journal of Travel, Place, and Nature's* 16th edition: Encounters
2023 "I Took Portraits Of People That Have Been Betrayed By Their Minds," Bored Panda
2022 "Exploring American Life For Twenty Years" Blind Magazine
2018 Aline Smithson, Steve Davis: As Regular People, Lenscratch
2016 Joshua Dubler, essay Can This Machine Kill Mass Incarceration?, Public Servants: Art and the Crisis of the Common Good, edited by Johanna Burton, Shannon Jackson and Dominic Willsdon, New Museum/MIT Press
2015 Jeanette Moses, Insider Views of Life Behind Bars as a Teenager, American Photo
2015 Pete Brook, PrisonPhotography.Org, Steve Davis On Complexities and Contradictions When Making Images Inside Juvenile Prisons
2015 Catherine Louis, ACLU of Illinois, Photography and Social Reform in Twentieth and Twenty-first Century America: Documenting the Plight of Children
2015 The Blueshift Journal, March Feature: Steve Davis, Documentary Photographer
2015 Robin Dluzen, Visual Art Source, Review: Try Youth As Youth
2015 Pete Brook, Medium.Com, Can Photos of Prisons Actually Improve the Lives of Prisoners?

Media Continued

- 2015 Kieran Corcoran, The Daily Mail, Teens behind bars: Photographer's heartfelt portraits of prisoners locked up in state juvenile detention facilities
- 2015 Baxter Barrowcliff, Columbia Chronicle, Exhibit puts juvenile prisoners on display
- 2015 Pete Brook, What Am I Doing Here? Catalog essay for Try Youth As Youth
- 2015 Ginny Van Alyea, Three Shows Give Artistic Perspective on the Lasting Damage of Violence, Chicago Gallery News
- 2015 Robin Dluzen, Try Youth As Youth, Visual Art Source
- 2015 Gabriel Sanchez, This is What Incarcerated Youth in America Looks Like, BuzzFeed
- 2015 Back to the Garden featured in Woman (Austria)
- 2014 Snatch Magazine Portfolio of the Week, Captured Youth
- 2014 Rainier School featured Dodho.com (Spain)
- 2014 Back to the Garden featured in Creative Life (Czech Republic) and Feature Shoot
- 2013 Picture spread on the Rainier School, Russian Esquire, March issue
- 2013 Four Rainier School Photographs published in February 21 issue of L'Espresso, Italy
- 2013 Catalogue, Portrayal/Betrayal, Santa Barbara Museum of Art
- 2012 Charles Donelan, Portrait Photography in the Age of Instagram, KCET Artbound
- 2012 Catalogue, Portrayal/Betrayal, Santa Barbara Museum of Art
- 2012 Pete Brook, interview in Cruel and Unusual, special exhibition catalog for Prison Photography on the Road
- 2012 Sheila Farr, When Artists Curate an Exhibition, Should They Include Their Own Work? SeattleMet.com Aug. 10th
- 2012 Susan Anker, Real Writing: Paragraphs and Essays for College, Work, and Everyday Life. Bedford/St. Martin's Press. Photograph from As American Falls reproduced to foster creative writing
- 2011 Anne Doran, review of "B-B-B-Bad," Time Out New York
- 2011 Colin Pantall, "Steve Davis's Collaborative Project," Colin Pantall's blog
- 2011 Images from As American Falls, published daily May 16 – 20, Neue Zürcher Zeitung. Zurich, Switzerland
- 2011 Michael Itkoff, "Elegy for a Small Idaho Town," New York Times Lens
- 2011 Steve Davis, "The Other Annie Leibovitz," Fototazo.com
- 2011 Interview by Tom Griggs, Fototazo.com
- 2011 Aline Smithson, Lenscratch
- 2011 Jen Graves, review, The Stranger SLOG
- 2011 Brian Miller, "The Fussy Eye: Under the Lake", review, Seattle Weekly
- 2011 Robert Hirsch, Exploring Color Photography, 5th edition, Focal Press
- 2009 Harper's Magazine, Image reproduced from the Western Lands Project. November
- 2009 Pete Brook, "Captured Youth: An Interview with Steve Davis, parts I and II", Prison Photography, <http://prisonphotography.wordpress.com>, July
- 2009 Regina Hackett, "Steve Davis – landscapes from a portrait point of view," Artsjournal.com, July 23
- 2009 Brian Miller, "Steve Davis: The Western Lands," Seattle Weekly, July
- 2009 Pete Brook, "Pinhole Photography by Incarcerated Girls at Remann Hall, Washington State", Prison Photography, <http://prisonphotography.wordpress.com>, June
- 2008 Regina Hackett, "Seattle Art Dealers Association exhibit, reviewed," blog, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Sept. 15

Media Continued

2008 Matthew Kangas, "Redneck Chic," Art LTD., January/February
2007 Nicolaie Ardelean, "Scoala Anti-Vedetelor," twelve page interview and portfolio, Photo Magazine, April
2007 Abigail Guay, "Unfinished Criminals," The Stranger, February 14
2007 "Captured Youth," Seattle Magazine, March
2007 Chris Miller, "Life Inside," Real Change News, February 28
2006 2005 Annual Report, George Eastman House
2006 Regina Hackett, "Steve Davis' images earn him one of 21 Artist Trust fellowships," Seattle Post-Intelligencer, October 19
2003 "What They Were Thinking," The New York Times Magazine, July 20
2001 Barbara Houghton, Art and the Internet, Prentice Hall Publishers
1997 Interactions, volume IV.3, ACM, May + June
1996 Laura Lee Bennet, "Public Selves Gone Stealth," Washington Free Press, Nov-Dec
1996 Regina Hackett, "Nirvana Artists Explore the Gap between Reality and the Virtual World," Seattle Post Intelligencer, Oct 18th
1996 Website Review, Online Hot List, Photo District News, August
1994 Artweek, July 7 Issue
1993 Deborah J. Haynes, "Modern in Moscow, Postmodern in Pullman," Visions Art Quarterly, Fall Issue,
1993 Laura Meyers, "William Gibson Goes to the Art Fair," with three photographs, Los Angeles Magazine, December Issue, 18
1992 & 1996 Robert Hirsch, Exploring Color Photography, 2nd and 3rd Editions, W.C. Brown

Collections

Shari and John Behnke
Annie E. Casey Foundation
City of Seattle
Cleveland Clinic
George Eastman House
EZTV, West Hollywood, CA
Haggerty Museum
James Harris
Lisa and William Holderman
Ben and Aileen Krohn
Tacoma Art Museum
Musee de la Photographie, Charleroi, Belgium
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
Seattle Art Museum
Seattle Children's Museum
Merrill Wright
Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art - University of Oregon