

Erik Benjamins is avoiding the seductiveness of perpetual bummersness.

b. 1986, Newport Beach, CA
Lives & works in Los Angeles, CA

Education MFA Studio Art, School of the Museum of Fine Arts/Tufts University, Boston, MA, 2012
BA Comm. Studies & Studio Arts, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2008
Fall Semester, Florence, Italy, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, 2006
Summer Semester, Florence, Italy, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2006

Exhibitions *For Modern Resting*, Irvine Fine Arts Center, Irvine, CA, 2020
Under/Over, Marta, Los Angeles, CA, 2020
Upstate Art Weekend, Foreland, Catskill, NY, 2020
House Museum, 137 Livermore Ter., Los Angeles, CA, 2019
A Secret, Pavillon am Milchhof, Berlin, DE, 2019
The Collection Connection, Other Places Art Fair, Los Angeles, CA, 2019
iBiennale MMXIX, Y Center for Visual Arts, Honolulu, HI, 2019
Forgetting the Words, River, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
Doing Easy, Outpost Projects, Yucca Valley, CA, 2017
Erik Benjamins and Stef Halmos are Under Pressure, 1052 S. Olive., Los Angeles, CA, 2017
Who Gets to Look, University Art Gallery, University of California, Irvine, CA, 2017
Free Smells, Institute for Art & Olfaction, Los Angeles, CA, 2016
Free Smells, Open Mind Art Space, Los Angeles, 2016
Slow Smoke, Slow Soap Pt. 3, Institute for Art & Olfaction, Los Angeles, CA, 2015
“Art in restaurants is on the same level as food in museums” – Niles Crane, Turf Projects, Croydon, UK, 2015
Art Book Weekend, Demons Mouth, Oslo, Norway, 2014
Five Contemporary Photography Collectives, Brighton Photo Biennial, Brighton, UK, 2014
LA Heat, Chinese American Museum, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
Originally from Australia, E-12 Olvera St., Los Angeles, CA, 2013
Ed Ruscha: Books & Co., Museum Brandhorst, Munich, Germany, 2013
Serious Double Acts, Marcus Campbell ArtBooks, London, UK, 2013
Ed Ruscha: Books & Co., Gagosian Gallery, New York, NY, 2013
Time Body Space Objects 2, Anthony Greaney, Boston, MA, 2012
Capital T, Anthony Greaney, Boston, MA, 2011

Residencies Critical Art Writing Ensemble III, Banff Centre for Arts & Creativity, Alberta, Canada, 2018
Spring Workshop, Hong Kong, 2017
Institute for Art & Olfaction, Los Angeles, 2017
The Drive of Walking Master Class, Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht, Netherlands, 2016
Food & Justice Thematic Residency, Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, NM, 2015
Mildred’s Lane, Beach Lake, PA, 2010

Awards River Fellowship, River Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, 2018
Traveling Fellowship, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA, 2015
Special Projects Sponsorship, The Institute for Art & Olfaction, Los Angeles, CA, 2013
Full Tuition Merit Scholarship, SMFA, Boston, MA, 2009

Talks Exhibiting Artist, Irvine Fine Arts Center, Irvine, CA, 2020
Speaker, KPCC In Person, Unheard LA, Whittier College, CA, 2017
Visiting Artist, Digital Photography, California State University – Long Beach, CA, 2015
Visiting Artist, Alt. Lecture KC, University of Kansas City – Missouri, Kansas City, MO, 2015

- Talks ctd.** Panel Participant, BABEL Conference, UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA, 2014
 Panel Participant, I Like Your Work v 2.0, *VIA Publication*, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
 Panel Participant, I Like Your Work, *VIA Publication*, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
 Visiting Artist, Housing Projects, Otis College of Art & Design, Los Angeles, CA, 2013
 Visiting Artist, KaledioLA, Dept. of Art & Art History, LMU, Los Angeles, CA, 2013
- Features** Zoe Sessums, [This Exhibition Adds Design and Dynamism to the Toilet Paper Holder](#), *Clever*, 2020
 Lorraine Heitzman, [Carl E. Smith Launches ‘River’ with Erik Benjamins...](#), *Art & Cake*, 2018
 Ysabelle Cheung, [Till We Meet Again: Spring Workshop](#), *Art Asia Pacific*, 2017
Haunt Journal, Volume 4, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, UCI, Irvine, CA, 2017
 KUCI News, *The Pulp*, Interview, 2017
 Virginia Arce, *Who Gets to Look*, Exhibition Essay, 2017
 Kimberly Ruth, *Art Uncovered*, Podcast Interview, BTR Today, 2016
 Anastasiia Federova, *The Florence Travel Book Told Entirely Through Butts*, *Amuse*, 2016
 Niko Munz, [Art in restaurants...](#), *This is Tomorrow*, 2015
 Billie Muraben, [Eyeball the butts of Florence...](#), *It’s Nice That*, 2015
 Hrag Vartanian, *Rethinking what an Art Book Fair Can Be*, *Hyperallergic*, 2015
The Art of Taste, *Ovation TV*, 2014
 Sam Dean, *Hot Sauce Art: LA Museum Honors Sriracha and Tapatio*, *NPR’s The Salt*, 2014
VIA Issue 03: Ritual, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
 Jennifer Swann, [7 Secret Sriracha Recipes...](#), *LA Weekly’s Squid Ink*, 2014
 Carren Jao, *Hot Stuff: LA’s Cross-cultural Condiments*, *KCET Artbound*, 2014
Emergency Index, Vol. 2, Y. Gluzman & S. Cleary, Eds., *Ugly Duckling Presse*, 2012
 Mayra Roland, *Local Histories in Chapel Hill*, *Temporary Art Review*, 2011
 Joachim Schmid, [President on Demand](#), *Fotokritik*, 2009
- Writing** *Drawing at the Dinner Table*, Essay, *Bonsai*, Ampersand Editions, Portland, OR, 2020
Crying into the Bread Box, Essay, *Sad People in Modernist Homes...*, Benjamin Critton, Ed., Surplus Surplus Surplus, Los Angeles, CA, 2019
 Young Joon Kwak, Exhibition Review, *Canadian Art Online*, 2018
Good Hugging, Essay for *In Support of Books*, Norma, 2017
Whirring..., Essay, *Gut Feelings*, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw, GA, 2017
Thanksgiving Panino, 2006, Essay, *Upper Crust Vol. 2*, Sandwich Club, New York, NY, 2016
The Magic of Chai Huo Ji, Online Feature, *Lucky Peach*, 2016
Hard Optimism, Essay, Norma, 2016
Home Work, Essay, *Alex 2050*, 2016
[Pupsie Cola...](#), Essay, *Art 21 Magazine*, Alicia Eler, Ed., 2015
 Omer Fast’s *Godville*, Review, *The Art Book Review*, Andrew Berardini & Sarah Williams, Eds., 2014
How to Start a Fire..., Essay, *Tufts University Art Gallery*, Medford, MA, 2010
- Collections** Fonds Régional d’Art Contemporain (FRAC) Poitou-Charentes
 Franklin Furnace Artists’ Books Collection
 Private Collection of Ed Ruscha
 SFMOMA Special Collections Research Library
- Professional** Clinical Assistant Professor, Depts. of Comm. Studies & Studio Art, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2013 – ‘15
 Study Abroad Faculty, Tuscany Summer Program, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, 2014
 Founding Member, [ABC \[Artists’ Books Cooperative\]](#), 2009 – ‘16