MEET THE MENTORS:

LESLEY FINN

ARTIST

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ABOUT LESLEY

Lesley Finn works with collage, writing, and archival research to study technologies of communication and habits of perception. Drawing on her training in medieval literature, creative writing, and book arts, she traces the tension between text and image, making paper-based work that translates acts of reading and knowledge making into visual, embodied experience. Collage is both method and philosophy: a way of resisting singular narratives and static meaning by reactivating discarded, marginalized material into new, dynamic forms.

Finn's projects have appeared in group and solo shows at Kalamazoo Book Arts Center in Kalamazoo, MI; The Ely Center of Contemporary Art, The Institute Library, Hilles Gallery, the Alane E. Scher Art Gallery, and Yale University School of Forestry in New Haven, CT; Brick Island Studio Gallery in Boston, MA; Artport Midtown in Kingston, NY; Tjaden Gallery in Ithaca, NY; E1507 Gallery in Baltimore, MD; and Jackal in Berick-upon-Tweed, UK. Publications such as Collé, Contemporary Collage Magazine, and The Weird Show have featured her visual work. Her research has been supported by a 2022 Eccles Centre Visiting Fellowship at the British Library and a 2025 Artist Excellence Fellowship from the Connecticut Office of the Arts. Her commitment to open sharing about creative process, as practiced over a decade of teaching writing at Yale University, inspired her to create the monthly newsletter Collage Mind, now in its fifth year. She lives in Guilford and works from her studio in New Haven.