

LIA CHAVEZ

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Lia Chavez is a leading figure in contemporary art whose medium is consciousness itself. Her practice integrates light, neuroscience, and sacred embodiment to create multisensory thresholds – portals through which ancient intelligences and future human perception converge. Her work has been commissioned by Art Production Fund, exhibited at **Tate Britain** and the **Istanbul Biennial**, and featured by **The Wall Street Journal**, **Forbes**, and **The New York Times**.



EDUCATION & ACADEMIC FORMATION

- 2010 Master of Philosophy in Visual Art, Goldsmiths College,
University of London
- 2005 MA in Photography and Urban Cultures, Goldsmiths College,
University of London
- 2004 Fellowship in Philosophy and Aesthetics, International
Gender Studies Center, University of Oxford

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PERFORMATIVE WORKS

- 2022 *Mirrormind*, curated by Jeffrey Uslip, The Something
Machine, Bellport, NY – endurance performance probing
reflective consciousness and elemental force
- 2020 *The Order of Things*, curated by Good to Know FYI, Bhumi
Farms, East Hampton, NY – environmental art and
consciousness performance
- 2017 *Inner Form*, commissioned and curated by Isabella
Rossellini, Mama Farm, Bellport, NY – bioenergetic
sculptural installation and elemental performance
- 2016 *Light Body*, curated by Beverly Allan, Nur El Shami, and
Tali Wertheimer, commissioned by Isabella Rossellini,
Mama Farm, Bellport, NY – performative investigation of
luminous ascension
- 2015 *The Octave of Visible Light: A Meditation Nightclub*,
curated by Kathleen Lynch and Casey Fremont, commissioned
by Art Production Fund, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, NV
– performative immersive entrainment architecture in
which consciousness operates as art material
- 2015 *The Octave of Visible Light: A Meditation Nightclub*,
Creative Time Summit, All the World's Futures, **56th
Venice Biennale**, Venice, Italy, curated by Okwui Enwezor
– screening of entrainment performance

- 2014 *Carceri*, curated by Tali Wertheimer, Two Rams, New York, NY – durational paintings informed by prehistoric cave methodologies
- 2014 *Luminous Objects*, curated by Tali Wertheimer, presented by Two Rams, Spring/Break Art Show, New York, NY – durational meditation performance materializing quantum perception
- 2014 *Tumult*, curated by Victoria Golembiovskaya, House of the Nobleman, London, UK – performative neuro-somatic interface of physiology, light, and biological communion
- 2013 *Form of the Infinite*, curated by Ari Lipkis and Alex Ahn, TEMP, New York, NY – performatively generated cymatic sculpture
- 2012 *True Light*, New York, NY – embodied ascetic performance as phenomenology of light

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS & BIENNIAL PARTICIPATION

- 2023 *Replenish*, **MIT List Visual Arts Center**, Boston, MA
- 2020 *Infinite Seed*, Bhumi Farms, East Hampton, NY
- 2018 *Campo Artfest*, Garzon, Uruguay
- 2018 *Inaugural Celebration*, Grace Farms, New Canaan, CT
- 2014 *Urban Encounters*, **Tate Britain**, London, UK
- 2014 *Light Fantastic*, House of the Nobleman, London, UK
- 2014 *Poesis* (with Linnea Spransey), Nomads Projects, Dundee, Scotland
- 2013 *Summer Celebration*, presented by The Armory Show, Sag Harbor, NY
- 2013 *(in)complete*, TEMP, New York, NY
- 2013 *Hide and Seek: Photography and the Body*, Seattle Pacific Art Center, Seattle, WA
- 2012 *On Silence*, New York Center for Art and Media Studies, NY
- 2012 *The Touch of the Oracle*, Palm Springs Art Museum, CA
- 2010 *Entwined*, Savannah College of Art and Design, Atlanta, GA

- 2009 *Hillman + Chavez*, presented by The Armory Show,
Affirmation Arts, New York, NY
- 2009 *Visual Deflections*, Old Truman Brewery, London, UK
- 2009 *Self Absorbed: Constructing Identity in the 21st Century*,
Seattle Pacific Art Center, WA
- 2008 *Hillman + Chavez*, Affirmation Arts, New York, NY
- 2007 *Nightcomers*, **Istanbul Biennial**, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2007 *Shot and Go: A Vision of Today's International
Photography*, Light on San Servolo, **52nd Venice Biennale**
Collateral Exhibition, Venice, Italy

INSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS & RESEARCH RESIDENCIES

- 2025 *Future Nostalgia* (alongside Andrew Egan), commissioned by
Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society, Bellport, NY –
photographic works
- 2024 *Song of Fire*, commissioned by **MIT**, Boston, MA – sonic
endurance performance invoking cosmological transmission
- 2014–Present *On the Science of Mystical Vision*, Visiting Researcher,
Psychology Department, **Goldsmiths College** and Queen Mary,
University of London – metascientific durational inquiry
into mystical perception, where transcendental vision is
treated as empirically grounded art
- 2018 *Luminous Objects*, commissioned by Grace Farms, New
Canaan, CT – durational meditation performance
- 2016–2017 *Light Body and Inner Form*, commissioned by Isabella
Rossellini, Mama Farm, Bellport, NY – neuroaesthetic
performances in light and perceptual abstraction
- 2015 Artist-in-Residence, commissioned by **Art Production Fund**
at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, NV – immersive light
and sound environment – neuroaesthetic performance
environment realized through artist-designed
technological systems

- 2014 *Poesis-Tumult*, Nomas Projects, commissioned by The Ahmanson Foundation – neuro-somatic environment with artist-developed entrainment technologies
- 2013 *Luminous Objects*, commissioned by **The Armory Show**, New York, NY – ritualized transmission of endogenous light generated through meditation
- 2010 Performance Research Residency, Live Art Development Agency, **Whitechapel Gallery** and Toynbee Studios, London, UK – contemplative practice operationalized as techniques for sculpting consciousness
- 2009 Performance Art Studies Residency, Prague Contemporary Art Festival, Prague, Czech Republic – experimental performance with Tomáš Ruler
- 2007-2008 Artist-in-Residence and inaugural commission, Affirmation Arts, New York, NY – embodied ceremonial enactment mapped through experimental photography

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- 2025 William Talbott Hillman Foundation Grant
- 2015-2019 **European Commission Grant**, Creativity Enhancement through Advanced Brain Mapping and Stimulation
- 2014 William Talbott Hillman Foundation Grant
- 2006-2008 Affirmation Arts Fund Grant
- 2007-2010 ORSAS Scholarship, Goldsmiths College, University of London
- 2010 Graduate Honors, Goldsmiths College, London, UK
- 2007-2010 Harvey Fellowship
- 2006 Graduate Honors, Goldsmiths College, London, UK
- 2004-2005 Fellowship, **University of Oxford**

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 *Altered States: Conversations on Consciousness and Creativity*, New York, NY (Curated by Ira Silverberg)
- 2024 *VIEWS*, Necker Island, British Virgin Islands

- 2018 *The Wall Street Journal Future of Everything Festival*,
New York, NY (Curated by Kelly Crow)
- 2015 *Creative Time Summit, All the World's Futures, 56th
Venice Biennale*, Venice, Italy (Curated by Okwui Enwezor)
- 2014 *Urban Encounters*, Tate Britain, London, UK (Curated by
Nora Razian)
- 2013 *Matter and Spirit*, Biola University, Los Angeles, CA
(Curated by Jonathan Anderson)
- 2013 *A Surrealism Salon*, Performa, New York, NY (Curated by
RoseLee Goldberg)
- 2012 University of Oxford, Oxford, UK (Curated by Maria
Jaschok)

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 Pen + Brush Gallery + Visible Women Agency, New York, NY
- 2022 Marquee Projects, Bellport, NY
- 2019 Parsons School of Design, New York, NY
- 2018 Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK
- 2018 Parsons School of Design, New York, NY
- 2017 Queen Mary, University of London, UK
- 2015 University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
- 2013 NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY
- 2013 Seattle Pacific Art Center, Seattle, WA
- 2012 Wheaton College, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK
- 2010 Savannah College of Art and Design, Atlanta, GA

SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

Major Press Features

*The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Artnet News, Harper's
Bazaar, InStyle Magazine, Town & Country, Forbes, Fast Company, Flaunt
Magazine, Vogue, Edible Manhattan*

Critical Art Press

Whitewall Magazine, Whitehot Magazine, Purple Fashion Magazine, ArtNet News, Paper Magazine, Image Journal, Hamptons Art Hub, The Creators Project by Vice, The Other Journal, BBC

Editorial Essays & Cultural Commentary

T: The New York Times Style Magazine, The Violet Book, Beauty Matter, Cool Hunting, Women's Wear Daily, Architectural Digest, Pan and the Dream Magazine, DJ Broadcast, Origin Magazine, The Wall Street Journal Magazine, ARK Journal, RUM Magazine

Scientific Publications

Bhattacharya, Joydeep et al. "Spontaneous Visual Imagery During Meditation for Creating Visual Art: An EEG and Brain Stimulation Case Study." *Frontiers in Neuroscience* (February 22, 2019).

Artist Books

2025 – Chavez, Lia. *The Four Surrenders*. New York: Lia Chavez Studio
2016 – Chavez, Lia. *Light Body*. With an essay by Andrea Codrington Lippke and an introduction by the artist. New York: Lia Chavez Studio
2013 – Chavez, Lia. *A Thousand Rainbows*. With essays by Andrea Codrington Lippke and Mark Sprinkle, and an introduction by the artist. Bologna, Italy: Damiani
2008 – Chavez, Lia, and William Hillman. *Hillman + Chavez*. New York: Affirmation Arts. With an essay by Gary Sangster.

Scholarly Anthologies

2023 – Hamilton, Julie. "Performativity and the Flesh: The Economy of the Icon in Lia Chavez's *Light Body*." In *Religion and Contemporary Art: A Curious Accord*, edited by Ronald R. Bernier and Rachel Hostetter Smith. Oxford, UK: Routledge

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Private collections in New York, London, Paris, and Mexico City

Collection of Isabella Rossellini and William Talbott Hillman

Born 1978, Ithaca, NY, USA

Lives and works in Yucatán, Mexico

www.liachavez.com