Ann Fessler
Rhode Island & New York
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A Girl Like Her, film website
The Girls Who Went Away, book website
Examples of visual work

Awards Art & Film grants fellowships residencies

honors

St. John's University, Adoption Initiative, 2014 Adoptee Trailblazer Award Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Artist Fellowship, Film, 2013 Rhode Island School of Design, Professional Development Grant, 2009, 2012

Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Film Project Grant, 2009 University of Arizona, Harold Jones Distinguished Alumni Award, 2007

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Radcliffe Fellowship, 2003–2004

Rhode Island State Council for the Humanities, Independent Research Grant, 2003

LEF Foundation, Moving Image Fund, Film Production Grant, 2003 Rhode Island Foundation, New Work Grant, Film Project, 2003

LEF Foundation, Moving Image Fund, Film Project Development Grant, 2002

Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Artist Fellowship, 2002

Wexner Center for the Arts, Art & Technology Post-Production Residency, 1999

Banff Center for the Arts, Technology Residency Award, 1996 Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Artist Project Grant, 1994 Maryland State Arts Council, Artist's Fellowships, 1985, 1988, 1992

Nexus Press, Residency Award, 1991

Art Matters, Inc., Project Grant, New York, 1990

National Endowment for the Arts, Artist's Fellowship, 1989 Visual Studies Workshop Press, Residency Award, 1989

Film

A GIRL LIKE HER, 2011, Directed by Ann Fessler, 48 minute documentary feature film A Women Make Movies release, 2013, New York, North American Distributor UR-Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company, Swedish Educational Distributor Journeyman Pictures, UK, European Distributor

selected screenings

Belfast Film Festival & Northern Ireland Human Rights Film Festival, in collaboration with Belfast Exposed Gallery Belfast, Northern Ireland, December 9, 2014

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 2014 Visual Voices Lecture Series, film screening and Q & A with Ann Fessler, October 23, 2014

Skokie Theatre, Chicago, screeening/discussion sponsored by "On Your Feet Foundation", Oct 19, 2014 Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, film screening, Q & A with Director, May 1, 2014 Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, film screening, Q & A with Director, April 9, 2014 Northeastern University, Women Take the Reel, screening and Q & A with Director, March 12, 2014 Indiana University-Purdue University, Women Make Movies Weekend Festival, featuring 6 films distributed by Women Make Movies, sponsored by Women's Studies, Cinema Theater, Friday, January 31, 2014 International Conference, Spain, Grupo de Investigación AFIN (Infancias, Familias),

Research Group AFIN (Childhood, Families), Pontevedra, Spain, film screening/discussion, Nov 23, 2013

Phillips Memorial Library, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, film screening, November 19, 2013

Real Art Ways Cinema, film screening, Q & A with Director, Hartford, CT, November 9, 2013

Sponsored by Access CT, Lutheran Social Services and the CT Council on Adoption

Adoption Knowledge Affiliates, 21st Annual Conference, "Chapters in Adoption: Telling Our Stories"

Film screening and panel discussion lead by Janie McMahan, Nov 9, 2013, Austin, Texas

Idaho State University, sponsored by the Anderson Gender Resource Center, film screening

followed by a panel discussion, Pond Student Union Building, Nov 7, 2013

The Foundling Museum, London, England, film screening, Q & A with Director, October 24, 2013

UR-Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company, national broadcast, September, 17, 2013

DMZ Korean International Documentary Film Festival, Korea, October 2013

Utopia Film Festival, Maryland, P&G Old Greenbelt Theater, October 20, 2013

Rhode Island School of Design, TC Colley Lecture Series, film screening, Q & A, October 8, 2013

Heart 2 Heart Firstmother Retreat, Boston, film screening, Q & A with Director, August 24, 2013

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WATCH DOCS International Human Rights Traveling Festival, traveling to the following cities in Poland in 2013 Tarnowskie Góry (3/13), Żywiec 4/11), Toruń (4/17), Oświęcim (4/18), Cieszyn (4/23), Jawor (5/18), Olsztyn (5/26), Słupsk (5/22), Bielsko-Biała (5/24), Kielce (6/8), Zielona Góra (6/13), Suwałki (9/20-21), Mragowo, (9/26-27) Sanok (10/14), Krakow (10/19), Gorzów Wielkopolski, (10/21), Katowice (10/23) Szczecin (10/23), Rzeszów, (10/25), Siedlce (10/26) Gdańsk (11/24) Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, Walhalla, MI, film screening, August 8, 2013 Denver Film Society, DocNight, Sie Film Center, film screening, Q & A with Director, Colorado, June 13, 2013 The Donaldson Adoption Institute, Special Event, The Century Club, NY, June 11, 2013 Panel Discussion featuring firstmothers: Lynn Franklin and Leslie Mackinnon, with Ann Fessler, Director DocAviv International Documentary Film Festival, Tel Aviv, Israel, May 2013 University of Illinois, Springfield, 2013 Speaker Series: Screening and Discussion with Ann Fessler, March 21, 2013 WATCH DOCS International Human Rights Film Festival, Warsaw, Poland, December 2012 Cleveland State University, co-sponsored by Adoption Network Cleveland, Nov. 29, 2012 Panel Discussion with director, cinematographer, adoption professional, first mothers, sociologist and critic The Wexner Center for the Arts, Ohio State University, November 27, 2012 Screening and Q& A with Director, book signing IDFA - International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam, November 2012 - European Premiere, Q& A with Director San Francisco Documentary Film Festival, November, 2012 Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival, November, 2012, Q& A with Director Origins Canada, Adoption Experience Conference, Keynote Lecture and Screening, Oct 19, 2012 Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, October 2012 New Orleans Film Festival, October 2012, Screening and Q & A with Director Mill Valley Film Festival, California, October 2012 Milwaukee Film Festival, Panel Discussion with Director, social worker, firstmother featured in film, Panel sponsored by Planned Parenthood, October 2012 University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Screening and Discussion with Director, sponsored by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynocology, September 5, 2012 Montreal World Film Festival, Quebec, Canada, August 2012 - Canadian Premiere Rhode Island International Film Festival, August, 2012, Q& A with Director, Grand Prize, Providence Film Award – best film by New England Filmmaker AFI-Discovery Channel SILVERDOCS Documentary Festival, Silver Spring, MD, June 2012 Screening and Q & A with Director American Adoption Congress, National Conference, Featured Presentation, Denver, CO, April 2012 Screening and Discussion with Director Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival, April 2012, Screening and Q & A with Director Full Frame Documentary Film Festival, Durham, NC, April 2012 – USA Festival Premiere Screening and Q& A with Director Heart 2 Heart Firstmother Retreat, Featured Speaker, rough-cut screening, Virginia Beach, VA, 9/23.11 International Conference on Post Adoption Services/ARC Training Institute, Presenter/Workshop Leader Provincetown, MA, July 2011, rough-cut screening with responders

Society for the History of Children and Youth, International Conference, "The State of Children: Politics and Policies of Childhood in Global Perspective", Columbia University, NY, Panelist, screened excerpt, June 2011

Penn State, The Behrend College, Public Lecture, rough-cut screening, Erie, PA, November 4, 2010 Maryland Institute College of Art, Public Lecture, rough cut screening, Baltimore, MD, October 6, 2010

Shedding Light on Adoption, National Conference, New York, NY, Keynote Speaker, Sept. 2010

Alliance for the Study of Adoption & Culture, National Conference, Adoption: Secret Histories, Public Policies, MIT, Cambridge, Keynote Speaker, rough-cut screening, May 2010

Rhode Island School of Design, T. C. Colley Lecture Series, Public Lecture, rough-cut screening, April 2010 National Conference/Retreat, Concerned United Birthparents, Featured Presenter

rough-cut screening/discussion "A Girl Like Her", Virginia Beach, Virginia, October 14-16, 2011

Along the Pale Blue River, 2001/2013, Directed by Ann Fessler Film

9 minute experimental/documentary short film (revised, 2013)

screenings selected

Belfast Exposed, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Home Truths: Photography and Motherhood film on exhibit (continuous loop) October 24 - December 21, 2014

Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College, Chicago, Home Truths: Photography and Motherhood film on exhibit (continuous loop), April 18- July 13, 2014,

The Foundling Museum, London, England, Home Truths: Motherhood and Photography, film on exhibit (continuous loop), Oct. 2013–Jan. 2014

Marblehead Film Festival, Massachusetts, 2005

DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA, Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art, 2004 film on exhibit (continuous loop)

Maryland Institute College of Art, Decker Gallery, Baltimore, MD, 2003 film on exhibit (continuous loop) as part of solo exhibition, Everlasting

Women in the Director's Chair International Film Festival, Chicago, 2003

Edinburgh International Film Festival, 2002

Moondance International Film Festival, Boulder, 2002, Spirit of Moondance Award/Short Film

Taos Talking Pictures Festival, Taos, New Mexico, 2002

Arizona International Film Festival, Tucson, 2002

New England Film & Video Festival, Boston, 2002, Judges' Choice - Independent

Magnolia Independent Film Festival, Starkville, Mississippi, 2002

Big Muddy Film Festival, Southern Illinois University, 2002, Gold Prize - Experimental

Athens International Film and Video Festival, 2002, First Place - Experimental

List Art Center, Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2001

film on exhibit (continuous loop) as part of solo exhibition Close to Home

Film Cliff & Hazel, 1995/1999, 25 minute documentary film

Post-production support, Wexner Center for the Arts, Art & Technology Residency, Columbus, Ohio Made possible, in part, by a residency at Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta, Canada

screenings

The Denver Film Society, double feature with A Girl Like Her, June 2013

The Wexner Center, double feature with A Girl Like Her, November 2012

Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Installations by Ann Fessler, April-Sept. 2007 Film on exhibit - as part of solo exhibition including Cliff & Hazel Installation and Everlasting

Magnolia Independent Film Festival, Starkville, Mississippi, 2003, Best Short Documentary

Providence Women's Film Festival, Rhode Island, 2001

Big Muddy Film Festival, Southern Illinois University, 2001, Documentary Award

New England Film/Video Festival, Boston, 2000, Honorable Mention Award

Athens International Film/Video Festival, Ohio University, 2000, Documentary Award

Women In The Director's Chair International Film Festival, Chicago, 2000 - USA Festival Premier

Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio, 1999

The Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA, Immortalized exhibition, 1999

Film on exhibit as part of Cliff & Hazel Installation

McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas, TX, Ex/Changing Families: Two Stories of Adoption, 1998

Film on exhibit as part of Cliff & Hazel Installation in collaborative solo exhibition

California Museum of Photography, 1997, Ex/Changing Families: Two Stories of Adoption, 1997

Film on exhibit as part of Cliff & Hazel Installation in collaborative solo exhibition

Film Reviews Features Articles (recent) ET-lehti Magazine, Finland, feature article, "Time to Meet the Mother" Januarry 2014

Nonfics: Real Stories, Real Insight, "The Doc Option: Before Philomena Watch A Girl Like Her", Nov. 27, 2013

Hatle Cantz Fotoblog, Germany, "A Conversation with Ann Fessler", Lucy Davies, November 2013

The British Journal of Photography, October 2013, "The Mother" by Lucy Davies

Bitch Magazine: Feminist Response to Pop Culture, Fall 2013, Issue #60, review by Victoria Bekiempis, pg 68, 69 OTSTE, "A Girl Like Her" review by Dan Schindel, November 18, 2012

Colorado Springs Independent, "Feminine Mystique" review by Bret Wright, Oct. 31, 2012

Art Hound, "A Girl Like Her, Ann Fessler's quietly devastating documentary addresses mothers of a certain generation who gave up babies for adoption screens Sunday at the 35th Mill Valley Film Festival"

Review by Geneva Anderson, October 6, 2012

Thirdcoast Digest, "A Girl Like Her at the Milwaukee Film Festival" review by Ryan Findley, Oct. 2, 2012

PopMatters, "Silverdocs 2012: A Girl Like Her + Virgin Tales" by Cynthia Fuchs, Film and TV Editor, 6/19, 2012 Washingtonian, "Silverdocs Reviews: A Girl Like Her, Meet the Fokkens, and Virgin Tales

by Jessica Voelker, June 18, 2012

The Washington Post, Entertainment, "Ten Movies Not to Miss at Silverdocs" by Ann Hornaday, June 15, 2012 Washington City Paper, "A Girl Like Her, Directed by Ann Fessler" review by Tricia Olszewski, June 15, 2012 Decree, American Adoption Congress, Summer 2012, Vol 29/No.2, article

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Exhibitions
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selected

Belfast Exposed, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Home Truths: Photograph, Motherhood and Identity, Oct 24 - Dec 21, 2014 Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Home Truths: Photography and Motherhood, April 18 – July 13, 2014

The Foundling Museum, London, Home Truths: Photography, Motherhood and Loss, Oct 2013-January 2014

Center for Book Arts, New York, Multiple, Limited, Unique: Selections from the Permanent Collection,

July-Sept. 2011, Traveling to: Savannah College of Arts and Design (Fall 2011), Minnesota Center

for Book Arts (Winter 2012), Museum of Printing History (Spring/Summer 2012), Lafayette College (Fall 2012), Book Club of California (Winter 2013).

Center for Photography at Woodstock, PQ:100: Work pictured on the the first 100 Covers, March-May 2010

Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Installations by Ann Fessler, April-Sept. 2007 (solo)

Museum of Fine Arts, Florida State University, Heartfelt, 2005

Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Chazans' Choice, 2005

Harvard University, Radcliffe Institute, Everlasting: New England, 2004 (solo)

Maryland Institute College of Art, Decker Gallery, Baltimore, MD, Everlasting, 2003 (solo)

Brown University, List Art Center, Bell Gallery, Providence, RI, Close to Home, 2001 (solo)

The Contemporary Museum, Baltimore, MD and Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, CT, Snapshot, 2000

McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas, TX, Ex/Changing Families, 1998 (collaborative solo)

Printed Matter, New York, The Next Word, 1998

Carlos Museum, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, Connections/Contradictions, 1998

California Museum of Photography, Ex/Changing Families, 1997 (collaborative solo)

Museum of Fine Arts, Florida State University, 1997

Fosdick-Nelson Gallery, NY State College, Alfred, Transformation of the Work in Art, 1996

The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Going for Baroque, 1995/1996

Forum for Contemporary Art, St. Louis, 1995

Neu, Berlin, Germany, Nine is a Four-Letter Word, 1995

Nexus Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, Five Women, 1995

Houston Center for Photography, Houston, TX, Art History Lesson, installation, 1994 (solo)

Center For Photography at Woodstock, NY, Art History Lesson, installation, 1994 (solo)

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Women Photographers from the Collection, 1994

Rainbow, Immenstadt, Germany, Nine is a Four-Letter Word, 1994

Herbert Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 1993

Philadelphia Print Club, Philadelphia, PA, Nine is a Four-Letter Word, 1993

Buchholz & Buchholz, Köln, Germany, Nine is a Four-Letter Word, 1992

Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ, Enthusiasm Strengthens, 1992

Museum of Contemporary Art, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio, Parents, 1992

Art Institute of Chicago, Disclosing the Myth of Family, 1992

University of Texas, San Antonio, Photographic Book Art in the United States, 1992

traveling 1992–94: Camerawork, San Francisco; Houston Center for Photography; The Contemporary

Art Center, New Orleans; The Center for Creative Photography, Tucson; Southeast Museum of

Photography, Daytona Beach; Arizona State University, Tempe; Photo Resource Center, Boston;

Light Factory, Charlotte, NC

Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, Staten Island, New York, Family Stories, 1990

Center for Book Arts, New York, Book Arts in the USA, 1990

Touring Africa, 1990-91: Madagascar, Mauritius, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Senegal; 1992: Bogotá Columbia,

Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil

Philadelphia College of Art, Pennsylvania, The Art of the Book, 1988

Minneapolis College of Art, Minnesota, Made by Hand, 1988

Hallwalls, Buffalo, NY, and Buscaglia-Castellani Art Gallery, Niagara Falls, Floating Values: Gender Investigations, 1987

Provincia di Arezzo, Firenze, Artoday/Arteoggi, traveling to Cortona, Italy, 1986

Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California, Baby Pictures, 1986

Ohio State University, Hoyt Sherman Gallery, Columbus, Rape, 1985

Rape on tour 1986-87: Wright State University, University of Akron, University of Illinois,

East Carolina University; 1997–98: University of Michigan, State University of New York,

Women and Their Work, Austin, Texas; W.A.R.M., Minneapolis; Philadelphia Arts Alliance, PA

Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, DC, History as Content, 1984

Malmö, Sweden, Konstnärsböcker/Konst på bok - Artists' Books/Booked Art, 1984

Center for Exploratory and Perceptual Arts, (CEPA) Buffalo, NY, 1983 (solo)

Pomona College, Claremont, California, Photography 1983: An Invitational, 1983

Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA, 1982 (solo)

Loyola Marymount University, Malone Gallery, Los Angeles, California, 1982

Ministerio de Cultura, Madrid, Spain, International Book Exhibition, 1982 Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Contemporary Photography as Phantasy, 1982 Franklin Furnace, New York, Copycat Show, 1982 Foto Gallery, New York, 1981 Working with super 8 film, video, slide projection and sound, 1972–1979

Talks

Maryland Institute Collge of Art, Baltimore, MD, multiple Artist Talks, April 9-11, 2014 Department of Photography, Film/Video, Community Arts, and Curatorial Practice New School for Social Research, StopSlut: A Conference on Sexuality, Bullying & Rape, panelist, Tishman Auditorium, New York, NY, October 18/19, 2013 Massachussets College of Art, Artist Talk & Critiques, MFA Summer Program, Aug 6/7, 2013 Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin Annual Luncheon Featured Speaker, Milwaukee, Oct. 3, 2012 Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin Annual Dinner Featured Speaker, Madison, Oct. 4, 2012 NARAL Pro Choice Missouri 40th Anniversary Event, Featured Speaker, St. Louis, March 24, 2009 Brown University, class Reproductive Health: Science or Politics? Class Lecture/discussion, March 9, 2009 University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, MA, Public Lecture, sponsored by Women's Studies, March 5, 2009 Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, Public Lecture, November 13, 2008 University of Pittsburgh, Public Lecture, screening with responders, September 22, 2008 Connecticut Council on Adoption, Annual Luncheon, Featured Speaker, June 13, 2008 California College of the Arts, Visiting Artist Lecture, April 17, 2008 City Arts & Lectures, San Francisco, "On Art & Politics" Ann Fessler & Linda Carroll - On Adoption, in conversation with Michael Krasny at the Herbst Theatre, April 16, 2008, broadcast via FORAtv Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, Ballard Book Prize, Award Ceremony Talk, March 6, 2008 Simmons College, Boston, Public Lecture, February 28, 2008 Brown University, Providence, RI, Featured Speaker, sponsored by Medical Students for Choice, February, 4, 2008 Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Harold Jones Distinguished Alumni Lecture and Award Ceremony, Featured Speaker, Tucson, AZ, October 26, 2007 Amherst College, Department of Art & Art History, Public Lecture, October 4, 2007 Wilfrid Laurier University, Dept. of Global Studies, Public Lecture, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, Sept. 27, 2007 University of Waterloo, Roundtable Discussion, Women's Studies and Sociology, Ontario, Sept. 28, 2007 University of Minnesota, Andersen Library Social Welfare History Archive, Public Lecture, MN, July 13, 2007 Louisiana Adoption Advisory Board Conference, New Orleans, Featured Speaker, June 13, 2007 Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Artist Talk, concurrent with solo exhibit, April 19, 2007 Rutgers University, Douglass College, Featured Speaker/Lecture to Freshman Class, March 29, 2007 Women's Wellness Conference, sponsored by Miriam Hospital, Featured Speaker, Providence, March 17, 2007 American Adoption Congress, National Conference, Boston, MA, Keynote Speaker, March 10, 2007 ACTION International Conference on Post Adoption Services, Keynote Speaker, Cambridge, MA, Feb. 20 2007 PEN Lecture Series, San Miguel, Mexico, Public Lecture, January 23, 2007 Rutgers University, American Studies Department, Public Lecture, November 9, 2006 Goucher College, Women's Studies Department, Public Lecture, October 26, 2006 Concerned United Birthparents, Annual Conference/Retreat, Featured Speaker, Tampa, FL, October 7, 2006 Fordham University, NY, Shedding Light on the Adoption Experience Conference, Keynote Speaker and panelist, Adoption and Creativity with Edward Albee and Carol Schaefer, Sept. 16, 2006 Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island, Annual Donor Recognition Event, Featured Speaker, September 14, 2006 Alliance for the Study of Adoption, Identity and Kinship 2005 Conference, Featured Speaker, Tampa, Florida, November 18, 2005 Harvard University, Radcliffe Institute, Public Lecture, concurrent with solo exhibition, May 2004 Society for Photographic Education, National Conference, Featured Speaker, Newport, RI, 2004 Harry Ransom Research Center, University of Texas, Austin, Public Lecture, 2003 Emerson College, Boston, Classroom Lecture, sponsored by Photography Department, 2003 Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Public Lecture concurrent with solo exhibition, 2003 International Center for Photography, NY, Lecture/Screening, Photography Department, 2002, 2000 Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts, Lecture/Screening, 1999 Society for Photographic Education, National Conference, Tucson, AZ, Featured Speaker, 1999

McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas, Gallery Talk. concurrent with exhibition, 1998 Women in Photography Conference, *Perspectives on the Family*, Panelist/Screening, 1997 California Museum of Photography, Riverside, Panelist, concurrent with exhibition, 1997

The Tweed Museum, University of Minnesota, Duluth, Public Lecture, 1995

School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1995

Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, Lecture, concurrent with solo exhibition 1995 Society for Photographic Education, Southeast Conference, Featured Speaker, Atlanta, 1994 University of Houston, Houston, Texas, Public Lecture, 1994

Houston Center for Photography, Houston, Texas, Gallery Talk, concurrent with exhibition, 1994 New York University, Tisch School for the Arts, New York, Lecture, 1994

Women in Photography Conference, Women and Autobiography, Lecture/Panelist, Houston, 1994 Society for Photographic Education, National Conference, Chicago, *Imagemaker* Artist's Talk, 1994 State University of New York at New Paltz, Public Lecture, 1992

New York University, Tisch School for the Arts, New York, Lecture, 1992

Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio, Public Lecture, Critiques with Larry Sultan, 1992

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Public Lecture, 1992

Glassell School of Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Lecture, 1991

Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow Scotland, Artist in Residence, 1991, 1990

Visual Studies Workshop, Public Lecture, 1989

Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Lecture/Workshop, 1988

Film In The Cities, Minneapolis, Public Lecture, 1988

Baltimore Museum of Art, Friends of Photography, Public Lecture, 1987

Philadelphia Art Alliance, Panelist, concurrent with Exhibition, 1987

Derbyshire College of Higher Education, Derbyshire, England, Artist in Residence, 1987

Akron Art Museum, Lecture/Panelist, concurrent with exhibition, 1986

The Brunswick Gallery, Missoula, Montana, Public Lecture, concurrent with exhibition, 1986

Ohio State University, Columbus, Gallery Talk, concurrent with exhibition

Friends of Photography, Carmel, California, Lecture, Artists' Books Workshop, 1983

College Art Association, Philadelphia, Lecture/Panelist, 1983

Center for Exploratory and Perceptual Arts, Buffalo, Public Lecture, concurrent with exhibition, 1983

Society for Photographic Education, National Conference, Dallas, Texas, Artist's Talk, 1979

Publications

Art

Books Catalogs Journals Periodicals The Photographer's Playbook: 307 Assignments and Ideas, Edited by Jason Fulford and Gregory Halpern, Aperture Foundation, New York, 2014

Home Truths: Motherhood and Photography, Art/Books, Susan Bright, editor, November 2013

Artists' Books: Visual Studies Workshop Press 1971-2008, edited by Joan Lyons, pp 45, VSW Press, 2009 Chazen's Choice: Gifts of Contemporary Art to The RISD Museum, Providence, edited by Judith Singsen, forward by Lora Urbanelli, exhibition catalog, 2005

Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art, DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA, by Rachel Rosenfeld Lafo, Francine Weiss, exhibition catalog, 2004

Radcliffe Quarterly, "Ann Fessler Fills in the Blanks of Women's History with her Traveling Installation" by Ivelisse Estrada, pp 6-7, Winter 2004

Artforum, March 2003, "Outside the Box: James Meyer Unpacks Craig Owens's Slide Library", pp 66, 2003

Everlasting, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, exhibition catalog, 32 pages,

essays by George Ciscle, Curator; Linell Smith; James Montford, January 2003

Alliance for the Study of Adoption, Identity & Kinship, The Art of Adoption: Ann Fessler and Carol Flax by Jill R. Deans, journal, Vol. 3, Issue 1, Fall 2001

Reframings: New American Feminist Photographies, Temple University Press,

edited by Diane Neumaier, forward by Anne Tucker, pp 272-275, 1996

Going for Baroque: 18 Contemporary Artists Fascinated with the Baroque and Rococo,

The Contemporary and The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, MD, exhibition catalog, pp 22, 23, 42, 1995

The Pink Glass Swan: Selected Essays on Feminist Art, Lucy Lippard, pp 246, 1995,

Five Women, Nexus Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, exhibition catalog, 1994

The Center Quarterly, Woodstock Center for Photography, "An Other Art History Lesson: A Recent Installation by Ann Fessler" by Lisa Corrin, pp 17–20, 1994

Tradition and the Unpredictable: Allan Chasnoff Photographic Collection, by Anne Tucker The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston 1994

Ms. Magazine, March/April 1993, "Ancient History/Recent History" six page portfolio, pp 46–51, 1993 Structure of the Visual Book, The Revised and Expanded Edition, Keith A. Smith, pp 203, 1992

Parents, Museum of Contemporary Art, Wright State University, exhibition catalog, pp 28-31, 1992

American Art, Journal of the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

Commissioned Artist Pages, Art History Lesson, Volume 5, #4, Fall 1991

Family Stories, Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, New York, exhibition catalog, pp 6, 1991

Crossing Over: Feminism and Art of Social Concern, Arlene Raven, Contemporary American Art Critics Series #10, "We Did Not Move from Theory/We Moved to the Sorest Wounds", 1988 WPA Document: Celebrating More Than a Decade, Washington Project for the Arts, 1986 Rape, Ohio State University, exhibition catalog, pp 7, 32, 33, 1985
Center for Book Arts, 10th Anniversary Exhibition, New York, exhibition catalog, pp 19, 1985
Offset: A Survey of Artists' Books, Gary Richman, 1984
Konst-och Bildforskning, Nr 5/6, exhibition catalog, December, 1983
Contemporary Photography as Phantasy, Fred Parker, Santa Barbara Museum, exhibition catalog, 1982
Flue Magazine, Vol. 2, No. 2, Franklin Furnace, New York, 1982

Art Reviews

Features Reviews British Journal of Photography, Feature article/review of Home Truths Exhibition, London by Lucy Davies, Cover article, pg 56–63 (also under film reviews)

The Independent, June 27, 2007, "Lost Children: Ann Fessler's Adoption Project, in Print and On Display in Durham" by Adam Sobsey, Durham, NC, page 31

Raleigh News and Observer, April 24, 2007, Banished Girls Come Back: Art Installation and Book Gives Voice to Women Who Gave Up Babies Long Ago by Michele Natale

The Baltimore Sun, March 12, 2003, Finding Herself: Ann Fessler Draws From Her Life as an Adopted Child to Create Her Art and Performance Works, by Mary Carole McCauley, pp 1-E, 5-E

The Baltimore Sun, Sunday, March 2, 2003, Reaching Out To a Mother Who May Never Be Known, by Glenn McNatt, pp 9-F, 10-F

The Philadelphia Inquirer, February 18, 2003, Adoption Anguish by Marie McCullough, pp 1-E, 4-E City Paper, Baltimore, Vol. 27 #5, January 29–February 5, 2003, Exiled Mothers: At MICA an Artist Chronicles the Troubling Underside of Adoption by Gadi Dechter, pp 24, 25

Providence Journal, October 28, 2002, RISD Artist's Project on Adoptees, Birth Mothers hits 'Close to Home' by Marion Davis, pp 1, 4

Providence Journal, June 21, 2001, Bell Gallery Installation Evokes Artist's Search

The Boston Globe, January 8, 1999, Artists Share Feelings About Their Dearly Departed

The Boston Sunday Globe, January 3, 1999, Art Complex Exhibit Plumbs Death and Loss

The Dallas Morning News, June 12, 1998, Adopting a Questioning Attitude, Guide, pp 48

Williamsport Sun-Gazette, September 4, 1997, Installation Artist to Visit Lycoming College

The Press-Enterprise, February I, 1997, Riverside, CA., Adoptees in Limbo, by Pat O'Brien, D-8

The Baltimore Sun, December 15, 1996, The Powerful Influence of Feminism on Art Today, by Glenn McNatt, E-1, E-7

The Baltimore Sun, September 26, 1995, Baroque Exhibit Strikes it Rich, by John Dorsey, pp 1E St. Louis Post Dispatch, November 19, 1995, Shelves Full of Art by Robert Duffy, pp 4D

Print Collectors Newsletter, July/August 1992, book review Art History Lesson, pp 110, 111

Art Papers, July/August 1992, review Nine is a Four Letter Word, Karen Johnston

New Art Examiner, May 1992, A Family Affair, Mitchell Stevens

New Art Examiner, September 1992, Parents, William Messer, pp 34

New Art Examiner, December 1991, Nine Is a Four-Letter Word, Dinah Ryan

Museum & Arts, Washington, December 1990, Life Lessons, Mary Gabriel, pp 36

New Art Examiner, December 1990, Outcry: Artists Answer AIDS, Sarah Tanguy

New York Times, August 3, 1990, Ladies and Gentlemen, Welcome to My Life, Andy Grundberg

Baltimore Review: 1990-1991, Living For Their Art, Carol Wood

Influence Magazine, Summer 1990, Humor as a Subversive Act, Peter Walsh

The Baltimore Sun, September 14, 1990, Art That Engages the Viewer, Jeanne Dudziak

Umbrella, June 1990, review of Water Safety & First Aid, Judith Hoffberg

New Art Examiner, January 1988, Making Art in Baltimore, Grant Kester, pp 30-33

Missoulian, October 3, 1986, Artist Treads New Ground With her Creation, Ginny Merriam

New Art Examiner, April 1986, review Rape, Ann Bremner

Overdrive, 1985, video interviews with four women, Joan Boccino

Afterimage, February 1983, review of Guide to Coloring Hair, pp 19

Artforum, April 1982, review of Copycat Show at Franklin Furnace, New York

Book Non-fiction

The Girls Who Went Away: The Hidden History of Women Who Surrendered Children for Adoption in the Decades Before Roe v. Wade by Ann Fessler (The Penguin Press, 2006)

Awards

National Book Critics Circle, finalist — Book Critics pick as one of top 5 non-fiction books of the year Ballard Book Prize, awarded annually to a female writer who increases the dialogue about women's rights Ms. magazine, Top 100 feminst books of all time

Reviews selected

Newsweek, "Remembrance of Things Past" by Anna Quindlen, pp. 68, March 6, 2006

Salon.com "The Children They Gave Away" by Sarah Karnasiewicz, May 11, 2006

The Providence Journal, "Adoption and Shame Before Roe v. Wade" by Anne Grant, pp. I-5, May 14, 2006 Chicago Tribune, "Childless Mothers" by Maureen McLane, Book Review Section, Mother's Day Cover Story, continued on page 5, May 14, 2006

San Francisco Chronicle, "Deprived of a Chance to be Mothers" by Robert Speer, pp. M-1 and M-4, 5/7/06

Christian Science Monitor, "Mothers Only in Secret" by Marjorie Kehe, pp. 15, May 16, 2006

Portland Tribune, "Book Probes Toll Suffered by Girls Sent Away to Give Birth" by Ellison G. Weist, pp. B-4, May 23, 2006

Washington Post, "Empty Arms" by Michael Mewshaw, pp C-8, May 24, 2006

More Magazine, "Girls in Trouble" by Maria Flook, pp. 36, June 2006

The Detroit News, "Author Gives a Voice to Unwed Mothers Who Suffered in Silence" by Marney Rich Keenan, June 3, 2006

The News-Sentinel, Ft. Wayne, IN, "Author Follows Women Forced to Give Up Babies" by Jackie Burrell, Knight-Ridder News Service, June 5, 2006

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, "Women Forced to Give Up Babies Relive Heartache" by Jackie Burrell, Knight Ridder News Service, pp.3L, June 11, 2006

The Boston Globe, Shelf Life, "Artists Branch Out" by Jan Gardner, pp. E-6, June 11, 2006

New York Times Book Review, "In Trouble" by Kathryn Harrison, pp. 16, June 11, 2006

Boston Herald, "Moms' Adoption Tales Reveal Secret Sacrifice, Silent Pain" by Margery Eagan, pp. 34

Mother Jones Magazine, "The Girls Who Went Away" review by April Dembosky, July/August

Miami Herald, "A Time of Shame for Unwed Mothers" by Jackie Burrell, July 8, 2006

The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Canada, "Children Lost and Found" by Marilyn Churley, July 15, 2006

The Post and Courier, Charleston, "Girls 'In Trouble' Tell of Secrecy and Shame" by Jackie Tremblay, July 16, 2006

The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, "When Society Shunned the Unwed Mother" by Vikas Turakhia, July 16, 2006

The Roanoke Times, Roanoke, VA, "What Happened to 'Those Girls' by Lee D. Fitzgerald, Sept. 3, 2006

Hartford Advocate, CT "Ann Fessler's Book Tells a Dark History of Forced Adoptions" by Martha Schulman, Sept 7, 2006, also Valley Advocate, Northampton, MA, August 31, 2006

The News & Observer, Raleigh, NC, "The Will And The Way of Being Free" book review by J. Peder Zane, March 4, 2007

Atencion, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, "Ann Fessler to speak on "The Girls Who Went Away" by Gerard Helferich, February 19, 2007

Feature Articles

The Boston Globe, July 28, 2003, The Girls Who Went Away, by Bella English, pp B-5, B-10

Adoption & Culture: The Interdisciplinary Journal of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture, "Circling Adoption: The Art of Ann Fessler" by Jill Deans, feature, pp 205–238 Spring 2007

Hot Metal Bridge, literary magazine, University of Pittsburgh, "Decades of Silence: The Missing Voices of Adoption, An Interview with Ann Fessler" by Liberty Hultberg, feature, November, 2008

People Magazine, "Forced to Give Up Their Babies" by Nina Burleigh and Stacey Wilson, pp. 159-164, September 18, 2006

The Providence Journal, "Lost and Found: RISD Professor's Book Explores the Emotional Minefield of Adoption" by Bill VanSiclen, Arts, pp 11, 14, Sunday, March 4, 2007

Voices-Unabridged, The E-Magazine on Women and Human Rights Worldwide, "Just Don't Get Caught" by Jessica Koby, April 18, 2007

The Iowa Review, "Toward Its Being Safe, Legal, and Rare" by Carolyn McConnell, book review, Vol. 37, No. 1, Spring 2007

The Atlantic Monthly, "The Sanguine Sex: Abortion and the Bloodiness of Being a Female" by Caitlin Flanagan, May 2007

Media Interviews Television

Dan Rather Reports, "Adopted or Abducted?" HDNet TV, broadcast Aug 21, 2012 and May 1, 2012 (nominated for an Emmy, 2013)

Coffee with Tamara Edwards, ABC Chanel 6, Philadelphia, March 12, 2008

To The Contrary with Bonnie Erbe, PBS, Washington, DC, taped July 27, aired October 13, 2006

Real Life with Mary Amoroso, CN8, Comcast Network, aired August 18 and 20th, 2006

Good Morning America, ABC-TV, New York, live in-studio, interview with Robin Roberts, July 26, 2006

Outlook Houston, KHWB-TV, with Yolanda Green, Houston, Texas, aired May 19, 2006

AM Northwest, KATU-TV, Portland, Oregon, live, May 25, 2006

Good Day Atlanta, WAGA-TV (Fox), with Suchita Vadlamani, Atlanta, live, June 1, 2006 Mornings on 2, KTVU-TV with Stephanie Kelmar and Ross McGowan, live, May 22, 2006

Artworks This Week, Maryland Public Television, feature on Everlasting installation, March 5, 2003

Radio

BBC Radio Ulster, Northern Ireland, The Arts Show with Michael Bradley, live phoner, Dec. 5, 2014 WDRC The Talk of Connecticut, The Mary Jones Show, live phoner, November 8, 2013 WGCH, Connecticut, Morning News Center with Tony Savino, live phoner, November 8, 2013 Around Noon with Dee Perry, WCPN/National Public Radio, Cleveland, live in-studio, November 29, 2012 Her Show produced by Arlene Zaucha, WORT-FM, Madison, Wisconsin, November 4, 2012 Mid-Day Edition with Dan Modlin, WKU Public Radio, Bowling Green, KY, Nov. 13, 2008 CBS News Radio with Brad Seagall, KYW-AM/WOGL-FM, taped phoner, Philadelphia, February 17, 2008 Bryan Schott, National Public Radio, Salt Lake City, KCPW, taped phoner August 7, 2007 Balanced Breakfast with Ian and Margery Punnett, WFMP live phoner, Minneapolis, July 19, 2007 The Current with Mary Lucia, Minnesota Public Radio, taped in-studio, July 13, 2007 Midmorning with Kerri Miller, Minnesota Public Radio, live in-studio, July 13, 2007 The Jack Rice Show, CBS Radio, WCCO News/Talk, live phoner, Minneapolis/St Paul, July 11 Morning Show with Karen Wright, Minneapolis Public Radio KMSU-FM live phoner, July 11, 2007 Uprising hosted by Sonali Kolhatkar, KPFK Radio, Los Angeles, live phoner, July 9, 2007 The State of Things with Frank Stasio, National Public Radio live in-studio, Durham, NC, June 28, 2007 On the Mark with Norman Mark, KNWZ Palm Springs, CA, live phoner, September 28, 2006 The Bill Reddish Morning Show, WICO-AM 1302, live in-studio, Maryland, August 10, 2006 Morning Show with Lanigan and Malone, WMII - FM 105.7 live phoner, Cleveland, Ohio, August 8, 2006 The Afternoon Magazine with Celeste Quinn, NPR Chicago, WILL-AM Radio, live, August 3, 2006 The Diane Rehm Show with Diane Rehm, National Public Radio, live in-studio, Washington, DC, July 27, 2006 Good Morning America, ABC Radio, XM Satellite, nation/world-wide, live in studio, July 26, 2006 Open Journal with Lillian Care, KPFT Houston, live call-in program, July 14, 2006 Lisa Birnbach Show, Green Stone Media Network, taped, June 27, 2006

Progressive Forum with Lillian Care, KPFT-FM, Houston, live, June 22, 2006
Between the Covers with Kathleen Stephenson, KBOO-FM. Oakland, CA taped May 24, 2006

Paula Gordon Show with Paula Gordon and Bill Russell, WGUN-AM, Atlanta, GA, taped June 1, 2006

Golden Hours with Ellen Kimball Pollens, Oregon Public Broadcasting, Portland, taped June 23, 2006

The Adoption Show with Michelle Edmunds and David Bishop, NatRadio, Canada, live phoner, June 11, 2006

Prime Time Focus with Mike Cuthbert, AARP Prime Time Radio, live in-studio, Washington, DC, June 6, 2006

Viewpoints hosted by Connie Asero and Lockwood Philips, WTKF and WINC, North Carolina, live, June 26

Bloomberg Muse with Cathleen Campion, Bloomberg Business News Radio, aired May I I, 2006

First Light hosted by Dirk Van, NBC Radio Network, Washington, DC, taped May 11, 2006

The Arlene Violet Show with Arlene Violet, WHJJ-AM, Providence, RI, live phoner, May 8, 2006

Joan Hamburg Show, WOR-AM, New York, live, May 15, 2006

Leonard Lopate Show, guest host Jonathan Capehart, WNYC-FM, (NPR) New York, live in-studio, May 15, 2006 The Suzi Marsh Show with Suzi Marsh, WSB-AM Atlanta, GA, aired May 30, 2006

The Francene Show with Francine Cucinello, WHAS-AM, Louisville, KY, live phoner, May 31, 2006

The Roundtable with Susan Arbetter and Joe Donahue, WAMC-FM, (NPR) Albany, NY, taped June 13, 2006

Morning Show with Andrea Lewis, KPFA-FM, Oakland, CA, taped May 24, 2006

Introspect with Ron Riggs, KMPS-FM, Seattle, taped May 23, 2006

The Beat with Meghan Sukys, KUOW-FM, (NPR) Seattle, aired May 23, 2006

Speaking Freely with Sheila Hamilton, KINK-FM, Portland, OR, aired June 4, 2006

Between the Lines with Valerie Jackson, WABE-FM, NPR Atlanta, taped in-studio, aired June 8 & 10, 2006

Fresh Air with Terry Gross, WHYY-FM, Philadelphia, PA (NPR) aired May 16, 2006

The Connection, guest host Lyse Doucete, WBUR, Boston National Public Radio, The Women Who Went Away, live in-studio, call in, August 5, 2003

WRNI, Providence NPR Radio, November 11, 2002, Unwed Mothers Focus of Exhibit, with Deborah Becker

Published

Genetics Lesson, Nexus Press, Atlanta, Georgia, 1992

Artists'
Books

Art History Lesson, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian, Washington, DC, 1991

Water Safety, Visual Studies Workshop Press, Rochester, New York, 1989

First Aid for the Wounded, New York, 1987

Guide to Coloring Hair, Tyler Offset Workshop, Philadelphia, 1982

Public Art Art Against AIDS, New York, Art Against AIDS On The Road, billboards-Chicago and DC, 1990

A Project of: American Foundation for AIDS Research

State Penitentiary Goes Condo, fake Baltimore Sun newspaper page, insesrted into newspapers

throughout the city of Baltimore, multiple events, 1987

She Rode Horses, sponsored by Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, DC

Series of Burma Shave style road signs installed in 3 locations near Missoula, Montana, 1986 Isolation/Saturation Residency, 3 artists from the DC area sent to Missoula, Montana and 3 artist from Montana resided in Washington, DC. Each artist generated new work

in response to the new environment.

Curatorial Projects Expanding Commitment: Diverse Approaches to Socially Concerned Photography, March/April, 1986

Co-curated, Ann Fessler and Grant Kester, Maryland Institute, College of Art

Artists included Hans Hacke, Carrie Mae Weems, Fred Lonidier, Barbara Kruger, Mike Mandel & Larry Sultan (billboard on Mt. Royal Ave.) Esther Parada, Sheila Pinkel, Jock Reynolds and Susan Helmuth, Allan Sekula, Krzysztof Wodiczko, and others. Artists books by Sarah Charlesworth, Les Levine,

Warner Wada & Bonnie Donohue, Hans Breder, Marvin Rhodes, Martha Rosler and others.

Social Signs, curated by Ann Fessler, sponsored by Artscape, Baltimore, MD, July/August 1989

Invited/Commissioned Baltimore area artists to create new works to be displayed on Mini-Billboards, lightbox, and LED sign boards around Baltimore. Artists included Pat Ward Williams, Kevin Labadie,

Kathy Kendal, Jeff Gates, William Larson, and others.

Non-profit Boards Founding Artist Board Member, The Contemporary, Baltimore, Maryland

A museum without walls that programs exhibition throughout the city by both rennovating existing structures and collaborating with existing institutions – most notably the Fred Wilson "Mining the Museum"

at the Maryland Historical Society. Director, George Ciscle, Curator Lisa Corin.

Artist Board Member, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD Non-profit exhibition space, Director Olivia Georgia

Artists'
Book
Collections

Museum of Modern Art, New York Whitney Museum of Art, New York

Collections Smithsonian Institution

selected The Getty Center, Los Angeles
Center for Book Arts. New York

Museum for Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois

Swedish Archive of Artists' Books, Bjarred, Sweden

Brooklyn Museum, NY

Visual Studies Workshop, Rochester, New York Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, Arizona

Franklin Furnace Book Archive, New York

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Joan Flasch Artist's Book Collection

University of New Mexico, Lucy Lippard Collection

Photography & Works on

Museum of Modern Art, New York Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Paper Center for Creative Photography, Tucson
Collections Baltimore Museum of Art

selected Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art

Teaching

| 2015-2016 | on leave, sabbatical forthcoming |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1993-present | Professor, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island |
| 2013-2014 | Director, Graduate Program In Photography, RISD |
| 2009-2011 | Director, Graduate Program In Photography, RISD |
| 2008-2009 | on leave, sabbatical |
| 2007-2008 | Director, Graduate Program in Photography, RISD |
| 2004-2005 | on leave, academic research, writing The Girls Who Went Away (Penguin, 2006) |
| 2003-2004 | on leave, Radcliffe Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University |
| 2002-2003 | Visiting Scholar, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University |
| 1993-1998 | Head, Photography Department, Rhode Island School of Design |
| 1993-1996 | Director, Graduate Program in Photography, Rhode Island School of Design |
| 1982-1993 | Full-time Faculty, Photography Department, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Maryland |
| 1985-1986 | Acting Chairperson and Acting Director of Graduate Photography, Maryland Institute |
| 1981-1982 | Visiting Artist, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania |
| 1979-1981 | Teaching Assistantship, University of Arizona, Tucson |
| 1975–1979 | Faculty and Assistant Director, Media Studies Program, Webster University, St. Louis |

Education

| 1982 | MFA in Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1975 | MA in Media Literacy/Media Studies, Webster Univeristy, St. Louis, Missouri |
| 1972 | BA in Art, Ohio State Univeristy, Columbus, Ohio |
| | (concentration, Multi-Media – still & moving projections, photography, audio, and video) |