
NOLAN ZUNK

nolan@nolanzunk.com

Nolan Zunk is a Queer interdisciplinary artist working across photography, sculpture, and installation. Their practice examines intimacy, belief, and belonging within Queer experience, particularly in the American South. Through portraiture and material-based installations, Zunk transforms everyday objects and spaces into sites of reflection, ritual, and care. Their work engages themes of pleasure, faith, and visibility, insisting on Queer presence as both sacred and political.

EDUCATION

2026 MFA, Studio Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Teaching Assistant; fully funded program; May 2026

2022 BA cum laude, Film Production, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA

Johnson Scholar, full cost-of-attendance merit scholarship for leadership and integrity; May 2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2026 Teaching Assistant, Advanced Photography: Bookmaking, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2025 Teaching Assistant, Beginning Photography, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2025 Teaching Assistant, Advanced Photography: Bookmaking, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2025 Teaching Assistant, Wet Plate Photography, Ox-Bow School of Art and Artists' Residency, Saugatuck, MI

2024 Teaching Assistant, Contemporary Issues in Photography: Documentary, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2024 Teaching Assistant, Alternative Photographic Processes, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022–Present Director of Communications and IT, Grace Episcopal Church, Lexington, VA

Directs communications, digital media, website, newsletter, social media, photography, video, print materials, and IT support for a parish community.

2026 Studio Assistant, Eli Durst, *The New Yorker*

Studio assistant for Durst's photographic essay on high-school debate, published as "Comeback Kids," with text by Jay Caspian Kang, May 4, 2026.

2026 Visual Storyteller, Ox-Bow School of Art and Artists' Residency

Director, filmmaker, and editor; short communication and development videos for summer benefit and year-end giving campaigns.

2025 Studio Assistant, Teresa Hubbard / Alexander Birchler

Studio assistant for *No More Boring Art*, a 2025 synchronized five-channel video installation with sound.

2022–24 Digital Artist, College of Natural Sciences, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Produced photography, videography, and marketing materials for college communications, public engagement, and digital storytelling.

2019–22 Community Outreach Specialist, Project Horizon, Lexington, VA

Supported outreach, communications, and community engagement for a domestic violence agency serving Lexington and the surrounding region.

LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS

2025 Workshop, Artwork and Installation Documentation, MFA Professional Practices Course, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

2022–24 *Nexus Point Video Series*, The University of Texas at Austin

Director, filmmaker, and editor; short explainers on science research by Ph.D. candidates at UT Austin; horizontal and vertical filmmaking; Season 2 released 2023–2024

2020–22 *Loneliness*

Director of Principal Photography; documentary on the loneliness epidemic in the United States before and after COVID-19; budget of \$100,000

2019–20 *Intimate Violence*

Co-director; feature-length documentary on domestic violence in modern-day America; premiered October 25, 2020

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Human Form*, Leyburn Library, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA

Solo exhibition exploring the decontextualized nude; November 2019

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Experimental Seeing: Russell Lee's Pedagogical Legacy*, September–December 2026

2026 *Half a Second or Less*, University of Texas at Austin Studio Art MFA Thesis Exhibition, Austin, TX, April–May 2026

2026 *Contemporary Art Under Fascism*, April 2026

2025 *Traces Toward Elsewhere*, Ox-Bow School of Art and Artists' Residency, Saugatuck, MI, August 2025

2025 *Blood on the Stone*, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, April 2025

AWARDS/GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

2025 Ox-Bow Summer Fellowship

2021 *Intimate Violence*, Best Social Justice Film, Cannes World Film Festival

2018 Johnson Scholarship in Leadership and Integrity, Washington and Lee University

2017 Eagle Scout; Eagle Scout Project of the Year Award for outdoor amphitheater

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2023 *Brain Decoder* — CNBC, *New York Post*, and NIH.gov

2023 Luis A. Caffarelli — *The New York Times*, *Nature*, and The Abel Prize

2022 JWST Early Images — *Science News*, *Nature*, and *WIRED*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2020–22 Vice President, Alpha Circle, Omicron Delta Kappa, Lexington, VA

National leadership honor society; directed a successful revamp of the member nomination process, prioritizing inclusivity and equity

2019–22 Founder and President, Washington and Lee Film Society, Lexington, VA
Founded and led university film club; directed an annual club budget of \$50,000

TRAVEL/LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Fluent in English and Spanish.