María Patricia Tinajero

Selected CV · November 2026

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Artist and researcher working with soil, walking, drawing, and papermaking through place-based and socially engaged practice.

Education

2023 PhD, Visual Arts: Philosophy, Aesthetics & Theory. Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts (IDSVA).

Dissertation: *Becoming Soil: Five Contemporary Cases in Eco Materialism (On Art, Fermentation, and Soil Remediation).* Read dissertation.

2001 MFA, Fine Arts. University of Colorado Boulder.

1998 BFA, Sculpture and Installation Art, summa cum laude. Florida State University.

Selected public projects and exhibitions

2024–present *Walking + Talking: Stories in Motion.* Walking, storytelling, and material practice with Wormfarm Institute and Puentes/Bridges, Wisconsin.

2024–2025 *Soil Culture.* Community walks and an artist-designed map, with Julie Poitras Santos. Beverly, Massachusetts.

2023 *Body Journal*, in *Seeing Truth: Art, Science, Museums, and Making Knowledge.* The William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, Storrs.

2023 *Enredos Radicales*, with The Plant Contingent. Arte Actual Project Room, Quito, Ecuador.

2022 *Com-Posted*, with Caroline Hatfield, in *Elemental Effects*, curated by Linda Weintraub. Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts & Sciences, New Jersey.

2019 *Otra vez jugando con las memorias.* Essex Art Center, Lawrence, Massachusetts.

2018 *I-Legal*, in *Making Migration Visible: Traces, Tracks & Pathways.* Institute of Contemporary Art at Maine College of Art, Portland, Maine.

2014 *InMeshed*, with Capasso + Keller + Tinajero. Medianoche Gallery, New York.

2012 *Palafito: Homes on Stilts*, with Capasso + Keller + Tinajero. Floor4Art Gallery, New York.

2005 *Carry On*, with Capasso + Keller + Tinajero, in *Traveler: Gas, Food, Lodging.* Dalton Gallery, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia.

2004 *Landscraps and Scrap-Escape.* PlatteForum, Denver, Colorado.

Selected publications

Tinajero, María Patricia. “Walking + Talking: Stories in Motion.” *Wisconsin People & Ideas* 72, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2026), “Cultivating the Flavours of Home,” 60–63. Read article.

Tinajero, María Patricia. “What Resurfaces: Decomposition, Art and the Ethics of Becoming Soil.” *JAWS: Journal of Art & Writing* 11, no. 1 (2025): 65–77. Published online May 6, 2026. DOI.

Tinajero, María Patricia. “Exploring the Transformative Powers of Art and Soil: The Farm/Art DTour’s Rural-Urban Flow.” In *Rural Imaginations for a Globalized World.* Brill, 2025. DOI.

Tinajero, María Patricia. “Minga-Gardening: A Creative Pedagogy for Learning with Soil and Art.” *LA ESCUELA___*, May 13, 2025. Read essay.

Taliano, Lisa, and María Patricia Tinajero. “Porous Bodies, Toxic Kin: Mapping the Massena Critical Zone.” *Writing Visual Culture* 10 (2022): 43–60. Read journal.

Tinajero, María Patricia. “The Art of Becoming Soil in the Anthropocene: Reclamation and Decomposition.” *Writing Visual Culture* 9 (2019).

Tinajero, María Patricia. “Ethical Grounds: The Aesthetic Actions of Soil.” In *Art, Theory and Practice in the Anthropocene*, edited by Julie Reiss. Vernon Press, 2019.

Interviews and conversations

2026 “Stories in Motion: Relational Organizing Through Art and Walking.” *Art Forearm*, June 11. Conversation with María Patricia Tinajero, Jay Salinas, Philip Matthews, and Mercedes Falk. Read.

2023 Farrington, Kate, and María Patricia Tinajero. “George Smith Interviewed by Kate Farrington and María Patricia Tinajero.” *Journal of the Pacific Association for the Continental Tradition (JPACT)*, vol. 5. Interview conducted October 29, 2023. Read.

Forthcoming writing

“Urban Landscape and The Hidden Architecture of Brownfields (On Soil Remediation, Plants, and The Art of *Slow Cleanup*).” In *Earth Matters: The Aesthetics and Politics of Soil*, edited by Kassandra Nakas and Jessica Ullrich. J.B. Metzler.

“Plant Regenerative Aesthetics: From Estranged Lovers to Toxic Witnesses.” In *Phytocriticism: The Literary and Cultural Analysis of Plants.* Bloomsbury.

With O. de Kok-Mercado. “Ecotonal Praxis and Recursive Method: Walking + Talking as Stories in Motion.” In *Routledge Handbook of Ecocultural Methodology.*

Selected workshops and public presentations

2026 “What Resurfaces: Decomposition, Art, and the Ethics of Becoming Soil.” Reading and participatory textile burial, ecoartspace Soil Shroud Project, Swale House, Governors Island, New York, July 24.

2026 Wormfarm Institute Stalk Market Report Archive presentation, Swale House, Governors Island, New York, July 20–26.

2026 Papermaking demonstrations and workshops, Allen Centennial Garden and Madison Textile Arts Center, Wisconsin.

Selected grants and fellowships

2023 Collective Futures Fund, New Works grant, for *Soil Culture*, with Julie Poitras Santos.

2013 National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC), artist/ensemble fellowship, for *Palafitos: Homes-on-stilts.*

2013 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Manhattan Community Art Fund, for *InMeshed.*

2012 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Manhattan Community Art Fund, for *Palafitos: Homes-on-stilts.*

Selected residencies

2025–2026; 2023; 2018; 2014 Wormfarm Institute, Wisconsin. Returning residencies supporting *Walking + Talking*, work with The Plant Contingent, *I-Legal*, and fermentation research.

2025 Goetemann Environmental/Installation Artist Residency, with Ocean School Collective, at Ocean Alliance, Gloucester, Massachusetts. Sponsored by Rocky Neck Art Colony.

2025 Arteles Creative Center, Finland.

2018 Monson Arts, Maine.

2016 Campo d’Altissimo, Carrara, Italy.

2013 Serie Project XX, Coronado Studio. Printmaking residency.

2010 American Academy in Rome, Italy. Affiliated Fellowship (AFAAR). Academy report, June 2010.

2009 Nes Artist Residency, Skagaströnd, Iceland, with Distill.

2008 Hungarian Multicultural Center, Budapest, Hungary.

2007 Can Serrat, Spain, with Distill.

Selected teaching experience

2006–2013 Assistant Professor of Sculpture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

2005–2006 Sculpture Instructor, University of Colorado Boulder; Art Foundation Instructor, University of Denver.

2001–2003 Sculpture Instructor, University of Colorado Boulder.

Selected print

2013 *donde las memorias mueren, los sueños nacen.* Five-color silkscreen on paper, 36 × 24 in., edition of 50. Printed during a residency at Coronado Studio.