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at The Blaffer Museum

# ZINE TERRITORY

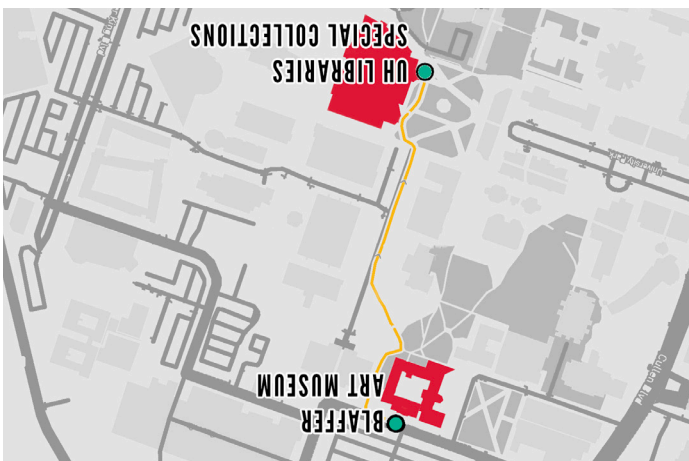
Curated by Erica Reed Lee

Presented by The Arts & Technology Center  
(ATC) in conjunction with UH Zine Week.

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UH LIBRARIES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

## • ZINE TERRITORY •

Zines, copied and printed on paper, travel in the world unlike any other social or artistic medium. Cheaply distributed and shared as objects, zines foster “virtual” communities while remaining firmly rooted in the physical world.

*Zine Territory* features 17 publications from the late 1990s to the mid-2010s, an era that preceded mobile technology’s ubiquity. While some zines offer thoughtful, unfiltered observations of adventures or experiences, others share resources and connections within a specific region.

Zines are “open source” in nature, yet they are not entirely accessible due to their limited distribution which takes place primarily in-person at coffee shops, bookstores, and fairs.

While a barrier, this direct mode of transfer protects zine makers from gatekeeping and surveillance. Information is thus safely transmitted, and authors are free to express themselves without inhibition. Marginalized groups and individuals have accordingly found zines to be authentic avenues for connection, self-reflection, and community.

Works selected for *Zine Territory* are on loan from the Zine Fest Houston Records, Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries. Zines were collected by Zine Fest Houston founder shane patrick boyle and donated to Special Collections following his passing in 2017.

UH Libraries Special Collections is home to the Zine Fest Houston Collection, the Solidarity Houston and Sediton Books Zine Collection, and a variety of zines related to identity and culture.

*Zine Territory* is organized in conjunction with UH Zine Week, a project organized by the Arts & Technology (ATC) and funded by the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts.

Special thanks to Steven Matijcio, Jane Dale Owen Director and Chief Curator, Blaffer Art Museum and Julie Grob, Coordinator for Instruction/ Curator for Rare Books, Special Collections.

## • ZINES IN HOUSTON •

The city of Houston has a vibrant zine community thanks in large part to **Zine Fest Houston (ZFH)**. A grassroots organization, ZFH hosts an annual festival to promote zines and alternative media. Their next festival will take place on Saturday, November 18th at The Orange Show, 2334 Gulf Terminal Drive.

The Hirsch Library at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston has a large collection of zines made by Houston artists. The library is open to the public Wednesday-Saturday.

Basket Books & Art, which opened in 2022, sells zines by artists from Houston and beyond. It is located at 115 Hyde Park Blvd, Houston, TX 77006.

## • ZINES IN TEXAS •

Beyond Houston, zine festivals and events can be found across the state. Some well established events include:

- Lone Star Zine Fest (Austin, TX)
- San Anto Zine Fest (San Antonio, TX)
- Denton Zine & Art Party (Denton, TX)

The city of Austin hosts several large zine collections. The Sherwood Forest Zine Library, an independent media library, has more than 2400 zines. Additional collections can also be found at the University of Texas Libraries and Austin Public Libraries.

## • ZINES NEAR & FAR •

Some well established events across the nation and beyond include:

- ABQ Zine Fest (Albuquerque, NM)
- CAKE (Chicago, IL)
- LAZF (Los Angeles, CA)
- Zine Librarians unConference (nomadic)
- CANZINE (nomadic)

Special thanks to María-Elisa Heg, co-organizer of Zine Fest Houston.

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*hey everybody Let's make a zine!*  
2013  
Patrick Brooks  
Houston, TX

*The Alarm*  
Summer 2005  
Houston, TX

*spare scrap*  
2012  
Claire Barbetti  
Santa Clarita, CA

*Emerald Pillows*  
Issue 6, 2003  
Maxine Rotham  
Houston, TX

*Houston's Propaganda*  
Issue 29  
Joshua Mares  
Houston, TX

*Houston Punk*  
June 2008  
Houston, TX

*Doris*  
Issue 9, 1997  
Cindy Crabb  
Asheville, NC

*St. Lucia*  
Issue VIII  
Isa & Tash  
San Antonio, TX

*Temporary Relocation Project*  
2006  
Shawn Granton  
Portland, OR

*Some Graffiti Found Around Little Rock, Arkansas, 2013*  
shane patrick boyle  
Houston, TX

*We Saw Andre*  
2000  
Heather Ajani  
Houston, TX

*Big Hands*  
Issue 2, 2006  
Aaron Smith  
Cary, NC

*dream whip*  
Issue 13, 2004  
Bill Brown  
Lubbock, TX

*Last Known Address*  
2006  
The Ephemeral Mailbox Museum / Niku  
Austin, TX

*(The Best of) The Gospel According to Miss Bly*  
2008  
Brittany Bly  
Houston, TX

*Formaldehyde Dementia*  
2009  
Tara Jill Ciccarone

*Hurricane Relief Anthology*  
Volumes 1 & 2  
Baton Rouge Cartoonist Society  
Baton Rouge, LA