Daniel Leighton C.V.

Profile

Daniel Leighton is an Augmented Reality artist, iPad painter, filmmaker, and technologist who started programming at the age of eleven. Having Crohn's Disease since birth, Leighton faced his mortality from a very young age. Countless invasive procedures, hospitalizations and surgeries helped drive him to dive deep into a lifelong quest to understand the workings of his body and his emotions.

He creates emotional portraits with simple lines and brilliant colors to capture complex states of the human psyche, while exploring the possibilities of technology and human emotion being harnessed for the greater good.

Leighton adds Augmented Reality (AR) to his paintings by combining his backgrounds in filmmaking and computer programming. Using the Daniel Leighton Art + AR app, viewers can experience additional dimensions of Daniel's AR-enhanced paintings. As art critic, Shana Nys Dambrot, says about Daniel's app, "[it] turns your device into a viewing portal into what it is tempting to describe as a parallel universe."

Daniel's work has been featured by Timothy Potts, Director of the Getty Museum in Los Angeles, Bryan Barcena Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA), Nicholas Barlow, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Victoria and Albert Museum in London, where he recently spoke, the LA Center for Digital Art (LACDA), Technarte, the San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA) and more.

Education

1994   BA Film, UC Berkeley, Cum Laude, Regent & Chancellors Scholarship

Skills

Unity 3D, Augmented Reality, Final Cut Pro, Procreate, PHP, MySQL, Web3 (Various), After Effects, Linux, Photoshop, Illustrator, AI Tools (ChatGPT, Stable Diffusion, Midjourney, RunwayML and many more)

Selected Projects, Exhibitions & Speaking Engagements

2023	Solo **Exhibition**	"The Screen In My Head", Laemmle Monica Film Center, Santa Monica, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Art and Med", Torrance Art Museum (TAM), Torrance, CA
	Music Video	"Playing for Time (Bright-Side Mix)" by Peter Gabriel, Finalist, Diffuse Together Competition from Peter Gabriel and Stability AI
2022	**AR Exhibition**	"Angels of LA", part of Grand Avenue Augmented, Angels Flight, Downtown Los Angeles in collaboration with Annatarian

	Group Exhibition	"99.9", Galerie l'Aléatoire, Paris, France
	Group Exhibition	"Zoia's Ark", Péniche on Seine, Paris, France
	Group Exhibition	"Threshold", Festival of International Virtual & Augmented Reality Stories, Official Selection, Los Angeles/Toronto/Online
2021	**NFT/Metaverse**	"Holey People", 8,888 Hand Drawn Generative NFT Collection
	Workshop	"Using Art To Heal", Creative Healing For Youth In Pain (CHYP)
2020	**Group Exhibition**	"Out There", L.A. Art Association/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	Workshop	"Using Art To Heal", Creative Healing For Youth In Pain (CHYP), Online
	Group Exhibition	"Technology and the Arts", L.H. Horton Art Gallery at San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Layered Beyond: An Augmented Reality Exhibition", Beyond Baroque, Los Angeles, CA
2019	**Group Exhibition**	"Art Healing Artists", Sony Pictures Lot, Culver City, CA
	Group Exhibition	"The Patient-Artist Experience", Misericordia University, Dallas, PA
	Group Exhibition	"The Film and Video Poetry Symposium", Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"The Art of Tech, Volume 3", Expert Dojo, Santa Monica, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Out There", L.A. Art Association/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	3 Person Show	"AWE Nite LA 2: ARt Salon: Bill Barminski, Nancy Baker Cahill, and Daniel Leighton", Rita House, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"The Art of Tech, Volume 2", The Waterfront, Venice, CA
2018	**Featured Speaker**	"Technarte: Where Art and Technology Meet", Technarte Conference, Downtown Independent, Los Angeles, CA
	2 Person Show	"SLOMA & LACDA Present: Electric Abstractions: The Art of Jayne Behman and Daniel Leighton", Los Angeles Center for Digital Art, Los Angeles, CA
	3 Person Show	"Electric Abstractions: The Art of Jayne Behman, Robert Chapman and Daniel Leighton", San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA), San Luis Obispo, CA
	2 Person Show	"Insides Out", Hoy Gallery at the USC Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	VR Fest, Las Vegas, NV
2017	**Keynote**	"San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (SLOMA) Sustaining Society Luncheon", San Luis Obispo, CA
	Group Exhibition	"VR/AR/XR/Immersive Gaming + AI", Phase Two, Culver City, CA
	Group Exhibition	"VR Fest", Las Vegas, NV
	Group Exhibition	Twitter HQ, San Francisco, CA
	Group Exhibition	"TEDxSanFrancisco", Herbst Theater, San Francisco, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Digital Family Reunion", Wells Fargo Center, Los Angeles, CA

	Group Exhibition	"Mobile Digital Art Exhibition", Pacific Art League, Palo Alto, CA
	Keynote	"Mobile Digital Art and Creativity Summit", Palo Alto, CA
	Music Collab	Animal Cloud Concert (video of paintings being painted while band played)
	Music Video	Animal Cloud, "Box of Doubt" (Official Music Video)
	Group Exhibition	"Pain 2", Hoyt Gallery at the USC Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"VRTO World Conference & Expo", Toronto, Ontario, Canada
	Presentation	"Digital Future: Health, Art and Visibility", Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
	Solo Exhibition	M.A.R.S. Festival, Angel City Brewery, Los Angeles, CA
2016	**Group Exhibition**	M.A.S. Attack, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA
	Group Exhibition	Virtual & Augmented Reality World Conference & Expo 2016, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
	Group Exhibition	"Flight Patterns", Art Share L.A., Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Museums and the Web", 20th Annual Conference, curated by Rex Bruce, Director, Los Angeles Center For Digital Art (LACDA), Los Angeles, CA
	Panel	"Art and Illness" with Patient Experience, USC Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA
2015	**Solo Exhibition**	"Permission To Enter", L.A. Art Association/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"MASque Attack" curated by Kio Griffith and Max Presneill, Temporary Space, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Side Effects May Include Art" by Patient Experience, The Situation Room, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Water Works II", juried by Juri Koll, Director of the Venice Institute of Contemporary Art, Lisa Casoni and Heather Stobo, Directors of The Porch Gallery, Ojai, Peter Frank, renowned critic curator, and John Yau, renowned art critic and writer, Porch Gallery, Ojai, CA
	Workshop	"Art and Pop Art Workshop Series", Pomona Public Library, Pomona, CA
	Group Exhibition	"11th annual LACDA Represented Artists Exhibit", Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA), Los Angeles, CA
	Solo Exhibition	"Threshold", Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA), Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"B/W", juried by Laura Watts, Honor Fraser Gallery, L.A. Art Association/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	Solo Exhibition	"Daniel Leighton: Exclusive Apple Store Event", Apple Store, Santa Monica, CA
2014	**Group Exhibition**	"Coagula Video & Performance Lounge", Curated by Mat Gleason,

		Coagula Curatorial, Aqua Art Miami, Miami, FL
	Group Exhibition	"Aurora", L.A. Art Association/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Pain", curated by Ted Meyer, University of New England, ME
	Group Exhibition	"Every Angeleno Counts", curated by Lisa Derrick, Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Pain", curated by Ted Meyer, LRC Gallery, The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"POP UP", WAAS Gallery, Dallas, TX
	Group Exhibition	"Open Call 2014", L.A. Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"WAAS West 2", NRG Recording Studio, North Hollywood, CA
2013	Group Exhibition	"Digital Family Reunion", Skirball Cultural Center Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Bridge to the Soul", Art 4 All People at USC Institute of Genetic Medicine Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
	Solo Exhibition	"Connecting to Cure", Featured artist and speaker, Edge Studios, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"Cross Creativity", curated by Michelle Berc, Founder of Create:Fixate, Cross Campus, Santa Monica, CA
	Group Exhibition	"POP ÜBER ALLES", juried by Timothy Potts, Director of the J. Paul Getty Museum, LAAA/Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
	Group Exhibition	"WAAS West", NRG Recording Studio, North Hollywood, CA
	Solo Exhibition	"Daniel Leighton: Opening Up", WAAS Gallery, Dallas, TX
	Solo Exhibition	"Painting the World with Daniel Leighton", Apple Store, Santa Monica, CA
2012	Group Exhibition	"Portals", AY Atelier, Malibu, CA
2004	Group Exhibition	"Bush in 30 Seconds", MoveOn.org Online Competition, Winner - Top 3% (*Leaving Grace Behind*)
1995	Group Exhibition	"The Berkeley New Wave" (*The Tree of Us*), curated by Jeffrey Skoller and Dušan Makavejev, Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA
1994	Group Exhibition	"In The Eyes of the Beholder" curated by B. Ruby Rich, Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA
1993	Group Exhibition	"East Bay Video Festival", UC Theater, Berkeley, CA (Winner Comedy (*Family Medical Center*) and Honorable Mention - Documentary (*…Women on Men on Women on Men…*)
1989	Group Exhibition	"LAVC Film Awards", Los Angeles, CA - Winner, Best 8mm Film (*Help for the Homeless*)

Selected Residencies
2018 Gazelli Art House, London, August 2018 Gazell.io Resident

Affiliations
Los Angeles Art Association (LAAA), Member
Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA), Member
Patient Experience (art collective), Member

Awards and Recognition
Finalist, Diffuse Together Competition from Peter Gabriel and Stability AI

First Place Winner, Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA) 2015 International Juried Competition, juried by Shana Nys Dambrot, art critic and writer for L.A. Weekly, Whitehot Magazine, Huffington Post, Art Ltd.; Leigh Gleason, Curator of Collections, California Museum of Photography, Rex Bruce, Director, LACDA

Winner - Top 3%, "Bush in 30 Seconds", MoveOn.org

Winner, Comedy, 1993 East Bay Video Festival

Honorable Mention, Documentary, 1993 East Bay Video Festival

Best 8mm Film, 1989 Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) Film Awards

Publications As Author
Huffington Post, *On Trial: Judgment vs. Expression*, June 11, 2014
Huffington Post, *Art Words: Holding it Together*, October 30, 2013
Huffington Post, *In the Cave – Going Into Darkness*, October 6, 2013
Huffington Post, *Tied Up At The Hospital*, July 11, 2013
Huffington Post, *Opening Up*, May 24, 2013

Press
FIVARS.net, *Augmented Reality Artist Daniel Leighton - Interview* (Video/Mini-doc) by Keram Malicki-Sanchez and Josh Miles Joudrie, January, 2016
LAiCREATIVES, *The Ethereal World Of Daniel Leighton* by Franceasca Seiden, January, 2016
Diversions LA, *Daniel Leighton's Permission to Enter and Chestnut Group Show at Los Angeles Art Association* by Genie Davis, October, 2015
Huffington Post, *Daniel Leighton's Painting Hack* by Shana Nys Dambrot, November, 2014
L.A. Taco, *Preview: "Every Angeleno Counts" Art Show to Benefit Homeboy Industries*, October 2014
Allos Ego Magazine, *Inside Out: The Art of Daniel Leighton*, March, 2014
Dallas Morning News, *Los Angeles-based artist Daniel Leighton addresses the issues of Crohn's disease and colitis by doing a benefit at WAAS Gallery*, May, 2013

Collections
Asher, S., "Untitled Face" (2013)
LaSalle, B., "Dan and John" (2011)

Reiss, M./IBD Support Foundation, "Nauseous By The Toilet" (2011)
Rios, D., "Opening Up" (2011)
Roberts, T., "On Trial" (2011)
Private Collection, "Mugged!" (2011), "Touching Energy" (2011)
Private Collection, "Funeral (3 Blue)" (2012)
WorldBridge Art, "On Trial" (2011)