

aaron j. pickens

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Biography:

Aaron Pickens was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. He attended Toledo School for the Arts between 2001 - 2007. During his time at TSA, Aaron engaged with music, audio production, digital arts, and painting. Outside of the classroom, Aaron was diligent with both performing in and producing an instrumental fusion group entitled, Phantasmagoria. He was also a participant of the Arts of Commission of Greater Toledo summer program, Young Artist at Work, from 2004 - 2006.

After high school, Aaron initially pursued audio engineering at the University of Michigan before transferring to Bowling Green State University to study visual art. In December of 2011, Aaron completed his BFA in Digital Arts at BGSU where he focused on animation and illustration. While at BGSU, Aaron was a recipient of a CURS grant, and the Amy Ringholz Art Supply Award.

Upon completion of his undergraduate degree, Aaron worked as a lead artist for a Toledo based mobile gaming company called Ancient Sheep. Wanting to improve his understanding of illustration, Aaron applied to graduate programs through out the country for painting. He was accepted to Edinboro University of Pennsylvania with a tuition waiver and stipend as a graduate assistant in the fall of 2012. In addition to his studies, Aaron was tasked with producing content that could be utilized for promoting the department online. This included photographing exhibitions, and producing videos of artists discussing their practice. Aaron just completed his MFA at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania where he focused on representational painting.

Aaron Pickens currently resides in Bowling Green, Ohio, where he is assisting international renowned digital installation artist, Erwin Redl.