

HEY GIRL HEY

Through her large scale art installations, Megan Geckler's creates a vibrant, colorful world that seems to transport you into an alternate reality. She's won over the hearts of some of the coolest brands like Urban Outfitters and Nike, creating site-specific installations in their retail spaces. Her work has also been seen in galleries and museums around the globe. Megan answered some of our burning questions about her creative process, her environment and how her aesthetic translates into her personal style.



Where did you grow up?

I lived in five different surrounding cities of Philadelphia over a ten-year span, some in the city and some in the suburbs; mostly in Bucks County, which is absolutely beautiful.

Where do you live now?

I live in the Arts District neighborhood of Downtown L.A. My husband and I own a loft, which also doubles as my home-studio. I have a microstudio a few blocks down the street too, which I use as a sort-of stockroom for all my tape and tools.

When did you first realize you wanted to be an artist?

After my first semester of college - I arrived as pre-med student, but it didn't work out, so I decided to transfer. I had been spending a lot of time in the photo lab, so I applied to art school. Looking back, I had no idea what I was getting into. Being an artist is hard, the work never really ends.

How did you land your first art gig?

A group of curators were touring my graduate school and saw a tiny project (2x14 inches) that I did and asked, "Can you make that 12x16 feet?" I said yes - and have been working large ever since.

How do your surroundings affect your work?

It's definitely a challenge to work from home. There are distractions everywhere - especially my cats! They kill me with their cute antics all day long.

What's your daily routine like?

I'm up by 9 or 10 every morning and check my email from bed. (Hooray for smartphones!) Once I have deleted all of the excess stuff, I know what I have to immediately respond to and what can wait. That defines how my day is going to go. I work along with a team of 2-4 assistants and every day is a workday, but totally different - sometimes we're working on an actual art project with our hands, sometimes we're doing the planning or working diagrams for a piece, there is also website + graphics work, photography, video editing and research + development. Usually the day stops around 9pm unless we are up against a deadline.

Where are your favorite places to hang out in your city?

Restaurants, museums, galleries and my couch.

How would you describe your personal style?

A giant 6 year old. I wear a lot of bright colors and silly t-shirts and have too many pairs of sneakers.

What's your favorite accessory?

My sunglasses - can't live without them in L.A.

What five things in your closet do you find yourself wearing constantly?

Skinny jeans, fun t-shirts, sneakers, sunglasses and my off-white leather jacket.

The first thing people usually notice about me is...

my hair. I get a lot of compliments on it. My hairdresser, Michelle, is a miracle worker - if you are ever in need of cut or color - Rock Paper Salon in Echo Park is a sure bet.

If you could have anyone design a shoe for you, who would it be?

Yayoi Kusama. She's an avante-garde Japanese artist.

What's your weirdest habit?

I am a P90X addict - I started in June of last year. I encourage my assistants to do it along with me about 3-4 times a week. It keeps us strong for the installations, which can be physically intense.

Favorite candy?

Jordan Almonds

What's your guilty pleasure?

Blue cheese French fries, mmmmmmm.

What's your favorite nail polish color?

Flourescent pink.

In my downtime you'll find me...

watching TV, covered in cats.

The best night out would include...

Having a great omakase dinner at my favorite sushi place.

The best night in would include...

A tv marathon of all the *Nightmare on Elm Street* movies! I love Freddy Kruger, especially #3 - *Dream Warriors*.

What's your biggest pet peeve?

Waiting on anything. I am very impatient.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Japan.

If you could trade closets with anyone, who would it be?

Rainbow Britel

If I could live in another time, it would be...

the not-too-distant future.

I couldn't live without...

my cats, Kittyhead and Yoko.

What music are you listening to right now?

Neutral Milk Hotel.



see more at megangeckler.com



When I'm 90 I hope that I am still making art & doing p90x.