

Windy Chien CV

Selected Commissions

- 2026
Collection of Akiko Yamazaki and Jerry Yang, CA
- 2025
Nobu, Maui, HI
- 2024
Kronos Quartet, San Francisco, CA
U.S. Embassy Nassau, Bahamas
Ares Management, Los Angeles, CA
SF Decorator Showcase House, San Francisco, CA
Heath Ceramics, San Francisco, CA
Healthpeak, South San Francisco, CA
- 2023
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Denver International Airport, Denver, CO
Cast x Windy Chien, San Francisco, CA
The Cove Eleuthera, Gregory Town, The Bahamas
Flour + Water, San Francisco, CA
Osito, San Francisco, CA
Foundation Medicine, Cambridge, MS
- 2022
de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA
SF MOMA, San Francisco, CA
- 2021
Google, San Francisco, CA
JW Marriott, Charlotte, NC
- 2020
Nobu Portman Square, London, UK
Google, Sunnyvale, CA
Square, Inc., Oakland, CA
Sheraton Downtown, Denver, CO
The Ritz-Carlton Maldives, Fari Islands, Maldives
- 2019
WIRED magazine, San Francisco, CA
Hotel SLO, San Luis Obispo, CA
- Fogo de Chao, Las Vegas, NV
Verve Coffee, Palo Alto CA and Los Angeles CA
Royal Caribbean, Spectrum of the Seas art collection
Dodo Pomellato, Milan, Italy, and throughout Europe
- 2018
National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C.
College of Marin, Kentfield, CA
Protege, Palo Alto, CA
Fogo de Chao, Chicago IL, Pittsburgh, PA, and
Bellevue, WA
Nestle Headquarters, Arlington, VA
- 2017
Facebook, Menlo Park, CA
Lululemon, Berkeley, CA
Fogo de Chao, Tyson's Corner VA, Atlanta GA, and
Minneapolis MN
- 2016
IBM, Cambridge, MA
Angellist, San Francisco, CA
Fogo de Chao, San Francisco, CA

Bio

Artist Windy Chien is best known for her 2016 work, *The Year of Knots*, in which she learned a new knot every day for a year. Her work ranges in size from a knot that can fit in the palm of a child's hand to room-sized installations that are sought after by private collectors. Following long careers at Apple and as the owner of legendary music shop Aquarius Records, she launched her studio in 2015. Select clients include the National Geographic Society, the De Young Museum, the San Francisco MOMA, Nobu Hotels, Google, the U.S. Department of State, and the Kering Group. In 2025, Windy was recognized by the Eames Institute as one of the inaugural Curious 100, and her work has been covered by *Wired*, *The New York Times*, and *Martha Stewart*. Windy's book about her work was published by Abrams in 2019.

Statement

I make sculpture and site-specific installations that elevate the vernacular forms of knots to inspire awe and understanding. To the intersection of function, mathematics, and history where knots reside, I introduce aesthetics to illuminate what's most fascinating about them: the journey of the line.

Knots are artifacts of human ingenuity: an ancient technology predating the wheel and use of fire. Knots manifest tension, the direction of pull, and forces working in harmony and in opposition. Examining these empirical aspects, I consider their physical function, cultural significance, and aesthetic value. I gave myself the assignment to learn a new knot—out of the almost 4,000 documented—every day for one year, creating *The Year of Knots* (2016). As I sought fluency, I came to recognize knotting as a universal language spoken across oceans, centuries, genders, and occupations.

Drawing from *The Year of Knots* as my ongoing palette, each of my ensuing bodies of work explores a single, exquisite knot in search of its ultimate expressive potential. The finished works are minimalist rope sculptures that utilize pattern, repetition, and monumental scale. Increasingly, I seek unusual materials to incorporate provenance and metaphor, such as frayed, soiled climbing ropes, decommissioned fire hoses, and seat belt webbing. I use composition and technique to explore the tension between assumed ideas, such as in my *Circuit Boards* series, which contrasts male-dominated tech world motifs via gendered skills of so-called “women’s work”—the crafts of macrame, passementerie, and weaving.

My practice melds art with craft, aesthetic with function. While the output is often beautiful, this quality is intended to draw the viewer in and provoke awareness of the concepts behind the visual harmony: a deeper clarity of looking.

Selected Solo / Two-Person Exhibitions

2021

Sarah Shephard Gallery, Larkspur, CA

2020

Gensler, San Francisco, CA
San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco, CA

2019

Bolinas Museum, Bolinas, CA
Dodo Pomellato at Milan Design Week, Milan, Italy

2018

Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Miami Beach, FL
Local Language Art, Oakland, CA

2017

Themes & Projects at Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA

2016

Asia Society, San Francisco, CA

1994

Sundance Film Festival, Park City, UT, *ASSIMILATION/A SIMULATION*

Publications

2019

The Year of Knots: Modern Projects, Inspiration, and Creative Reinvention, Windy Chien, Abrams Books

Career

2015-present / Studio Windy Chien

2005-2013 / Apple, App Store Managing Editor and iTunes Promotions and Product Manager

1989-2003 / Aquarius Records, sole proprietor

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026

Dernier Cri, New York, NY
Petaluma Art Center, Petaluma, CA

2025

Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA
Marin MOCA, San Rafael, CA

2024

El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX
Montgomery Museum of Art, Montgomery, MS

2023

North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, ND
Sarasota Art Museum, Sarasota, FL
NYCxDesign Festival at 3.1 Phillip Lim, New York, NY

2022

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA
Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami, FL
Museum of Arts & Sciences, Daytona, FL

2021

The Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL
Bedford Gallery at the Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek, CA
Cheongju Culture Factory, *Cheongju Craft Biennale 2021*, Cheongju, South Korea,

2019

Highfield Hall, Falmouth, MA
Consulate de France, San Francisco, CA

Artist in Residence

2025 / The Eames Institute, Petaluma, CA

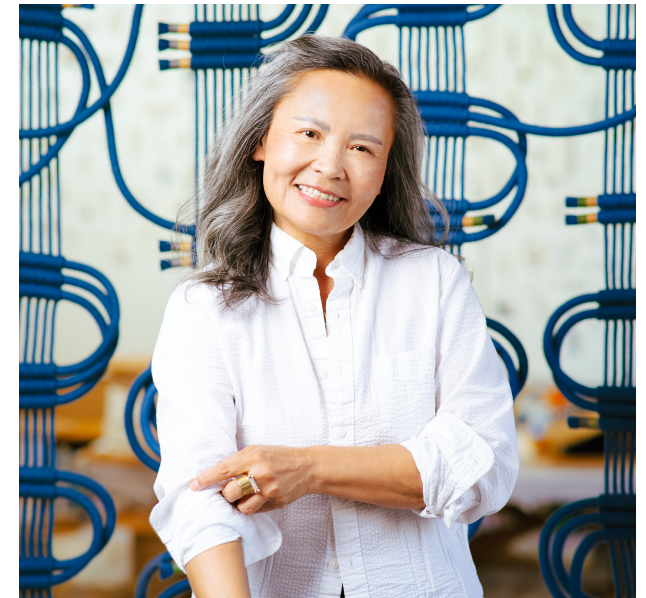
2025 / The Arctic Circle Residency

2018 / Local Language Art, Oakland, CA

2017 / Facebook, Menlo Park, CA

2016 / The Archery, San Francisco, CA

2015 / Peel, Campbell, CA



Awards and Distinctions

2025

Eames Institute, Curious 100 Honoree

2023

San Francisco Design Week, XR Award Winner, LMNL Studio x Windy Chien
Interior Design Metaverse, Architecture + Design Awards, Built Experiential category Winner, LMNL Studio x Windy Chien

Education

2018 / Domaine de Boisbucet, "Organic Solar Futures" with Janet Echelman and Trevor Lee

1992 / San Francisco State University

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CHARLENE TAN BIO + CV

Charlene Tan studied History and Theory of Contemporary Art, with a specialization in New Genres, at the San Francisco Art Institute. Her work has been exhibited at the Blaffer Museum, Houston, Asia Society, TX, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA, Buffalo Institute of Contemporary Art, Triton Museum of Art, Museum of Craft and Design, and the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco. She has been awarded national residencies at MaSS MOCA, Children's Creativity Museum, San Francisco. Born in Houston, TX, the artist lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

Education

San Francisco Art Institute - BA, History and Theory of Contemporary Art - 2010.

Public Art/ Solo Exhibition

- 2026 - Chopstick Alley Art, "Pearls Remember" San Jose, CA.
- 2024 - Blaffer Art Museum, "Arts Night: Woven Together" Houston, TX.
- 2024 - re-riddle gallery, "Warp and Weft" San Francisco, CA.
- 2023 - Sarah Shepard Gallery, "Remembering" Larkspur, CA.
- 2021 - 2022 "Kumot ng Bata", South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) in collaboration with Children's Creativity Museum at Yerba Buena Gardens, San Francisco, CA.
- 2011 - Ampersand International Arts, "400%", San Francisco, CA. Curated by Bruno Mauro.

Exhibitions

- 2026 - Art Together, "Where Are You From?" Oakland, CA.
- 2025 - Morgann Trumbull Projects, "Ancestral Resonance" San Jose, CA.
- 2025 - San Francisco State Fine Arts Gallery, "Beads and Belonging" San Francisco, CA.
- 2025 - Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, "Object Oriented: Abstraction and Design in the BAMPFA Collection" Berkeley, CA.
- 2025 - Saint Joseph's Art Society in collaboration with The Space Program San Francisco, "Fabrications" San Francisco, CA.
- 2025 - re.riddle gallery co-presented with Alisan Fine Arts New York, "Still Streaming" San Francisco, CA.
- 2025 - SOAS University of London, "Translocating Textiles; 8th Annual Philippine Studies Symposium" London, UK.
- 2025 - The Space Program San Francisco at Minnesota Street Foundation, "Dark Matters" San Francisco, CA.

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- 2024 - Edge on the Square, "High Five: Exploring the Elemental Forces of Chinatown. 3rd Annual Contemporary Art Festival" San Francisco, CA.
- 2024 - Sarah Shepard Gallery, "Just a Dream" Larkspur, CA.
- 2024 - Upstart Modern, "Heritage Threads" Sausalito, CA. Co-curated by Bettina Stiewe and Emmanuelle Narmont Kouznestov.
- 2023 - Berkeley Art Center, "Naming our Time." Berkeley, CA. Curated by Qianjin Montoya.
- 2023 - Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, "Bay Area Now 9" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Martin Strickland, Director of Curatorial Initiatives; Fiona Ball, Independent Curator; under the artistic direction of Amy Kisch, Head of Art + Public Programming; and developed with the inaugural YBCA Curatorial Counsel of curators, artists, activists and cultural workers working across the Bay Area's creative disciplines and communities: Erina C Alejo, Gina Basso, Jason Bayani, Mina Girgis, Candace Huey, Aay Preston Myint, José Ome Navarrete Mazatl, and Lehua Taitano.
- 2023 - Museum of Craft and Design, "Fight and Flight: Crafting a Bay Area Life" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Jacqueline Francis and Ariel Zaccheo.
- 2022 - SFartsED, "Living Things: Artists and their Objects of Affection" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Pete Belkin.
- 2022 - Triton Museum of Art, "Season II" Santa Clara, CA. Curated by Trami Cron and Jen Dao
- 2022 - Buffalo Institute of Contemporary Art, "Bits and Pieces" Buffalo, NY. Curated by Conrad Guevara.
- 2021 - Bass & Reiner, "*THE WEIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL STRIKES TELLS OF A GREATER FORGE*" curated by Fragmentin for Binominale Project, Switzerland and USA
- 2021 - Kearny Street Workshop, "*Kalayaan (till every grass blade is afire from every other)*" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Colin Choy Kimzey.
- 2021 - Southern Exposure, "Once Removed" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Kija Lucas.
- 2021 - Minnesota Street Project: Atrium/Adjacent, "Reflection/Materiality" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Lindsay Albert and Julie Casemore.
- 2021 - Walter & McBean Galleries, San Francisco Art Institute, "A Spirit of Disruption" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Margaret Tedesco and Leila Weefur.
- 2020 - Art Ark, "Bahala na Biennale" San Jose, CA. Curated by Chris Sicat and Theo Lau.
- 2020 - McEvoy Foundation for the Arts, "In This Light" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Amy Owen.
- 2020 - MCLA Gallery 51, "A Practice in Process" North Adams, MA. Curated by Erica Wall and Charlene Tan.
- 2019 - Warehouse 416, "Deconstructed Pidgin Hole" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Epekto Art Projects.

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- 2019 - Adobe HQ; Landmark Gallery, "Interventions" San Francisco, CA. Adobe x Minnesota Street Project.
- 2019 - San Francisco State University; Fine Arts Gallery School of Art, "Copy Cat" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Kevin Chen and Sharon E. Bliss.
- 2019 - Asia Society Texas, "Super Sarap," Houston, Texas. Curated by Patricia Cariño Valdez.
- 2019 - Ampersand International Arts, "Still Yet Forward: Twenty Year Anniversary Show," San Francisco, CA.
- 2019 - 1240 Minnesota Street Studios, "OK, Wow. GREAT - Secrets!" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Brion Nuda Rosch.
- 2017 - Rosenberg Library, "Building the Art House: Artworkers in Southeast SF" City College of San Francisco, CA.
- 2017 - Shambhala, "ShamBleezy-Group Show" San Francisco, CA. Curated by Yarrow Slaps.
- 2014 - Kearny Street Workshop, "11th Annual APAture: A Window on the Art of Young Asian Pacific Americans," San Francisco, CA.
- 2013 - Asian Art Museum, "Proximities 2: Knowing Me, Knowing You," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Glen Helfand.
- 2012 - San Francisco Arts Commission, "FAX," San Francisco, CA. Curated by João Ribas.
- 2012 - San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, "Chico & Chang," San Jose, CA. Curated by Kevin Chen.
- 2011 - Southern Exposure, "WORKING CONDITIONS; A process-based project with 9 artists," San Francisco, CA.
- 2011 - Intersection for the Arts, "Chico & Chang," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Kevin Chen.
- 2011 - MacArthur b Arthur, "Procedural," Oakland, CA.
- 2010 - The Soap Gallery, "THE JUNK MAIL! Show," The Soap Gallery, San Francisco, CA. Curated by Sarah Smith and Andy Vogt.
- 2010 - Root Division, "Sick," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Jaren Bonillo, Rachael Jablo, Sarah Stolar.
- 2010 - Queens Nails Projects, "Bivouac," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Pete Belkin.
- 2010 - KITSCH Gallery, "The Ir{rationalist}," San Francisco, CA.
- 2010 - Art Ark Gallery, "Loud and Moving," San Jose, CA. Curated by Andrew Hedges.
- 2010 - SOMArts Cultural Center, "100 Performances for the Hole: Take Two," San Francisco, CA.
- 2009 - Kearny Street Workshop, "11th Annual APAture: A Window on the Art of Young Asian Pacific Americans," San Francisco, CA.
- 2009 - Root Division, "Introductions 2009," San Francisco, CA.
- 2009 - [2nd floor projects] "andmoreagain," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Margaret Tedesco.
- 2009 - Chinese Culture Center, "Present Tense Biennial," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Kevin Chen, Abbey Chen, Ellen Oh.
- 2008 - Million Fishes Gallery, "Between," San Francisco, CA. Curated by Charlie Callahan.

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- 2008 - Diego Rivera Gallery, "*Deep Time, Vast Space*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2008 - Lobot Gallery, "*FasTrak: A Bridge and Tunnel Survey*," Oakland, CA.
- 2007 - Blankspace Gallery, "*Elision*," Oakland, CA.
- 2007 - WORKS, "*eXact-O!*," San Jose, CA.
- 2007 - Kearny Street Workshop, "*9th Annual APAture: A Window on the Art of Young Asian Pacific Americans*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2007 - The Garage, "*Media Blitz*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2006 - Triple Base, "*Flat Files*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2006 - Garage Biennale, "*Gently She Whispered Magic*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2006 - Intersection for the Arts, "*Terror?*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2005 - The DrugStore Gallery, "*Better Living Thru Chemistry-3rd Dose*," San Francisco
- 2005 - Blank Space, "*Bizarre Bazaar*," Oakland, CA.
- 2005 - Artist Television Access, "*Hello-Hello*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2005 - Kearny Street Workshop, "*7th Annual APAture: A Window on the Art of Young Asian Pacific Americans*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2005 - Balazo Badlands Gallery, "*Faux-Pause*," San Francisco, CA.
- 2005 - Ghost Gallery, "*Christmas Tree Show*," San Francisco, CA.

Performance and Participatory Projects

- 2010 - SHADOWSHOP participant, a SFMOMA commissioned project by Stephanie Syjuco
- 2010 - Performer in a theatrical staged reading of Karen Tei Yamashita's I-HOTEL as part of Jerome Reyes' solo show, *UNTIL TODAY: Spectres for the International Hotel*
- 2009 - *Life on Mars: The James Bldgood Story*, a play by Stephen Boyer for Small Press Traffic's Poets Theater
- 2008 - *Optic Illusion*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco
- 2008 - *Presences*, New Langton Arts, San Francisco
- 2007 - The LAB Annual Auction, San Francisco
- 2007 - *SOEX Marks the Spot*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco
- 2007 - 7th Annual Monster Drawing Rally, Southern Exposure, San Francisco
- 2006 - 6th Annual Monster Drawing Rally, Southern Exposure, San Francisco
- 2006 - *Momentum*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco

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Commissions

2010 - *Space Odyssey*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA (*Space Cave*, commission)

2005 - *Mystery Ball*, The Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA (*Rubber Bands*, commission)

Curatorial Projects

2019 - MCLA Gallery 51, "A Practice in Process" North Adams, MA. Curated by Erica Wall and Charlene Tan.

2007 - *Media Blitz*, The Garage, San Francisco, CA

2005 - *Hello-Hello*, Artist Television Access, San Francisco, CA

2005 - *Faux-Pause*, Balazo Badlands Gallery, San Francisco

Residencies

2025 - Djerassi Resident Artist Program, Woodside, CA.

2024 - Moonlight Press, Oakland, CA.

2024 - The Space Program, San Francisco (Fall) San Francisco, CA

2021 - South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN): Artist in Residence. San Francisco, CA.

2019 - MassMOCA: Assets for Artists (Winter), North Adams, MA.

2017- Present - Minnesota Street Project Artist Studios, San Francisco, CA.

Awards

2021 - Center for Cultural Innovation, Quick Grant Award

2020 - McEvoy Foundation for the Arts, Invincible Summer Grant

2020 - Southern Exposure Alternative Exposure; Artist Relief Grant