



# ALAN GOVENAR

Born 1985 in Berlin, CT

Currently lives and works in Dallas, TX

## EDUCATION

### 1975

Master of Arts - Folklore (English and Anthropology), University of Texas, Austin

Doctor of Philosophy - Arts and Humanities, University of Texas, Dallas

### 1974

Bachelor of Fine Arts - with Distinction in American Folklore, Ohio State University, Columbus

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

### 2026

THE EYES AND EARS OF THE PEOPLE, Large format color photographs, Cris Worley Fine Arts, Dallas, Texas

### 2025

ALWAYS BEGINNING, NEVER ENDING, Large format color photographs, Cris Worley Fine Arts, Dallas, Texas

### 2023-24

SEEING A WORLD BLIND LEMON NEVER, Large format color photographs, African American Museum, Dallas, Texas

INVISIBLE DEEP ELLUM, Public Art Installation, Under I-345 overpass, Elm Street, Dallas, Texas

### 2022

WORDS WITHOUT PHOTOS, THIRD EDITION, Multi-speaker Sound Installation, Sabiha Cimen, Nanna Heitmann, Myriam Boulos, and Newsha Tavoklian International Center of Photography, New York City

WORDS WITHOUT PHOTOS, THIRD EDITION, Multi-speaker Sound Installation, William Klein, International Center of Photography, New York City

WORDS WITHOUT PHOTOS, SECOND EDITION, Multi-speaker Sound Installation, International Center of Photography, New York City, Nakeya Brown, Pacifico Silano, Tanya Marcuse, Kija Lucas

### 2021

WORDS WITHOUT PHOTOS, FIRST EDITION, Multi-speaker Sound Installation, Gillian Laub, Diana Markosian, Quil Lemons. Arielle Bob-Willis, International Center of Photography, New York City

### 2018

UNWAVERING VISION #3, Alan Govenar, Jean-Michel Sanchez, and Julien Roger, PhotoLondon, London England

### 2017

UNWAVERING VISION #2, Alan Govenar, Jean-Michel Sanchez, and Julien Roger, International Center of Photography, New York City

UNWAVERING VISION #1, Alan Govenar, Jean-Michel Sanchez, and Julien Roger International Center of Photography, New York City

**cris worley**

FINE ARTS



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## 2013

LISTENING HARD: REMEMBERING JFK ON RECORD, Sound/Video Installation, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas and Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

## 2011

DUAL LIVES: CHINESE OPERA IN NEW YORK CITY, (Photographs); Wright Museum of Art, Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin; University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

JASPER, TEXAS, (Two video installations in conjunction with the exhibition), "Jasper, Texas: The Community, Photographs of Alonzo Jordan", International Center of Photography, New York City

## 2010

RECOGNIZING OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE: AN AMERICAN AND FLEMISH DIALOGUE, Salle de pas Perdue, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France; Traveling exhibition in Belgium: Hasselt, Aalst, Bruges, Leuven

## 2009

TEXAS BLUES: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALAN GOVENAR, York Theatre, New York, New York

## 2007

DEFINING LIGHT, Carlsten Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Continental Lofts Gallery, Dallas, Texas

MEETING THE BLUES: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALAN GOVENAR, York Theatre, New York, New York City

## 2005

MEETING THE BLUES: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALAN GOVENAR, Hall of State, Dallas, Texas

## 2003

MEETING THE BLUES: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALAN GOVENAR, The Buddy Holly Center, Lubbock, Texas

## 2001

PHOTOGRAPHS, Festival de L'Imaginaire, Maison des Cultures du Monde, Paris, France

## 2000

THE DEVIL'S SWING, Video Installation, Austin College, Sherman, Texas

## 1998-1999

FLASH ART, PHOTOGRAPHS, Halle St. Pierre, Paris, France

## 1998

LA JUNTA DE LOS RIOS: JOURNEY'S END, The Sculpture Center, New York City

## 1997

MEETING THE BLUES: PHOTOGRAPHS, 1982-1997, African American Museum, Dallas, Texas

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## 1996

LA JUNTA DE LOS RIOS: A FANTASTIC JOURNEY, Video Installation, 5501 Columbia Art Center, Dallas, Texas  
Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, Texas

## 1995

HAND SIGNS, Photographs, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York City

THE LIGHT IN BETWEEN, Photographs and Artist Books, Vizivárosi Gallery, Budapest, Hungary

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2022-2023

Black Cowboys: An American Story, Witte Museum. San Antonio, Texas, African American Museum, Dallas, Texas

### 2019

OPEN SESAME: THE MAGIC OF ARTIST'S BOOKS REVEALED, The Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Washington

### 2018

UNWAVERING VISION #3, Alan Govenar, Jean-Michel Sanchez, and Julien Roger, PhotoLondon, London, England, 2018

### 2013-2015

EXTRAORDINARY ORDINARY PEOPLE, AMERICAN MASTERS OF TRADITIONAL ARTS, National touring exhibition, curated by Alan Govenar and Marsha MacDowell (Folk art and photographs from Documentary Arts collection), Michigan State University Museum, East Lansing, Michigan; Castellani Art Museum, Niagara, New York; Western Folklife Center, Elko, Nevada; Wenatchee Valley Museum and Jack Straw Cultural Center, Seattle, Washington

### 2013 - 2014

THE SILENT WITNESS SPEAKS, LISTENING HARD: REMEMBERING JFK ON RECORD, (Sound/video installations)

JFK, NOVEMBER 22, 1963, A BYSTANDERS VIEW OF HISTORY, International Center of Photography, New York, New York

WORKS ON PAPER FROM THE AMERICAN MIDWEST, Gail Art Museum, Gapyoung, Korea

### 2012

WEEGEE: MURDER IS MY BUSINESS, Alan Govenar and Kieran Lynn, Four Interactive Exhibition Touchscreens, International Center of Photography, New York City

### 2011

JASPER, TEXAS, THE COMMUNITY PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALONZO JORDAN, Exhibition guest curator and director/producer of two video installations, International Center of Photography, New York City

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## 2010-2011

PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN KENYA, UNESCO Nairobi, Kenya and UNESCO Paris, France

## 2009

RACISM: AN AMERICAN FAMILY VALUE, Center for Book Arts, New York, New York

NAKED LUNCH: THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University, New York, New York

## 2005

IN ANOTHER WORLD, MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART KIASMA, Helsinki, Finland

THIRTY-THREE YEARS OF COLLECTING AT TYLER MUSEUM OF ART, Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, Texas

SPEAKING WITH HANDS: PHOTOGRAPHS, FROM THE BUHL COLLECTION (Catalog), Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain

## 2004

SPEAKING WITH HANDS: PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE BUHL COLLECTION (Catalog), Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York

NINETY FROM THE NINETIES, A Decade of Printing, The New York Public Library, New York, New York

## 2003

CORPORAL IDENTITY - BODY LANGUAGE, 9<sup>th</sup> Triennial for Form and Content - USA and Germany, Museum of Arts & Design, New York, New York; Museum für Angewandte Kunst and Klingspor-Museum, Frankfurt, Germany

FOUR PHOTOGRAPHERS, Carlsten Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

## 2002

PICTURE ID, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas

## 2001

ALTERNATIVE CURRENTS, McKinney Avenue Contemporary, Dallas, Texas

## 2000

CONFLUENCE, ARTIST'S BOOKS AT FIVE MYLES, Brooklyn, New York

## 1998

COLLECTION IN CONTEXT (Henry Buhl Foundation, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, Alfred O. Kuhn, Library and Gallery, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland)

## 1997

COLLECTION IN CONTEXT (Henry Buhl Foundation), Parrish Art Museum, Southampton, New York City

BOOK AS ART, City Arts Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Brannigan Cultural Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico

## 1996

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COLLECTION IN CONTEXT, Exhibition of the Henry Buhl Collection (catalog), Thread Waxing Space, New York City

INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS BOOKS EXHIBITION (catalog), Vigado Gallery, Budapest, Hungary

## 1995

MULTIPLES ONLY, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas

VISUAL JOURNALS: HANDMADE BOOKS AS ART, Visual Arts Center of Northwest Florida, Panama City, Florida

DRESSING THE TEXT: THE FINE PRESS ARTISTS BOOK, The Art Museum of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz, California

## 1994

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ARTISTS, Gaál Imre Gallery, Pesterzsébet Museum, Budapest, Hungary, Pelikán Gallery, Szélesfehérvár, Hungary, Young Artist's Club, Budapest, Hungary

PHOTOGRAPHIC BOOK ART IN THE UNITED STATES, National Touring Exhibition

## 1995

5501 Columbia Art Center, Dallas, Texas

## 1994

Harold Washington Library, Chicago, Illinois

Gibson Gallery, S.U.N.Y., Potsdam, New York

The Light Factory, Charlotte, North Carolina

The Photographic Resource Center, Boston, Massachusetts

Fine Arts Center Gallery, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The Contemporary Art Center, New Orleans, Louisiana

## 1993

Hueser Art Center, Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois

Southeast Museum of Photography, Daytona Beach, Florida

Nelson Fine Arts Center, Tempe, Arizona

Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, Arizona

## 1992

Houston Center for Photography, Houston, Texas

Olin Gallery, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio

San Francisco CameraWork, San Francisco, California

Washington Center for Photography, Washington, D.C.

Texas Woman's University Art Gallery, Denton, Texas

## 1991

UTSA Art Gallery, San Antonio, Texas, EXHIBITION OF ARTISTS BOOKS, The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

TIME IS RELATIVE, Beverly Gordon Gallery, Dallas, Texas

A VISUAL DISCOURSE, Peregrine Gallery, Dallas, Texas

## 1990

OFF THE SHELF: INVITATIONAL BOOK ARTS EXHIBITION, Rockford College, Rockford, Illinois

FOLDED WORDS, Paper Press, Chicago, Illinois

PEREGRINE PRESS ARCHIVES, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas

HOT OFF THE PRESS, Chicago, Illinois

PEREGRINE PRESS ARCHIVES, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, Texas

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PAPER TRANSFORMED, Outagamie Museum, Appleton, Wisconsin  
SILENT STORIES, Peregrine Gallery, Dallas, Texas

## 1989

A BOOK IN HAND: INVITATIONAL Book Arts Show, Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, Arvada, Colorado

PRINTS FROM PEREGRINE PRESS, Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, Texas

51 ARTISTS AND 8 YEARS LATER, Peregrine Gallery, Dallas, Texas

## 1986

TATTOO, On Waugh, Houston, Texas

PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS, Peregrine Press Gallery, Dallas, Texas

## PUBLISHED BOOKS

Gus Wagner: Globe Trotter and Hand Tattoo Artist

(Atglen, Pennsylvania, Schiffer Publishing, 2023)

See That My Grave Is Kept Clean: The Life and Music of Blind Lemon Jefferson

(Dallas: Deep Vellum Publishing, 2023)

Deep Ellum and Central Track: Where Cultures Converged

(Dallas: Deep Vellum Publishing, 2023)

Anne Morgan: Photography, Philanthropy and Advocacy

(Atglen, Pennsylvania, Schiffer Publishing, 2023)

The Retablos of Jeronimo Lozano

(Atglen, Pennsylvania, Schiffer Publishing, 2022)

Stoney Knows How: Life as a Sideshow Tattoo Artist

Fortieth Anniversary Edition

(Atglen, Pennsylvania, Schiffer Publishing, 2022)

Boccaccio in the Berkshires

(Dallas: Deep Vellum Publishing, 2022)

A Pillow on the Ocean of Time

(New York: Riverside Press, 2021)

The Blues Come to Texas: Paul Oliver and Mack McCormick's Unfinished Book

Compiled by Alan Govenar with Documentation and Essays by Alan Govenar and Kip Lornell (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2019)

Anne Morgan: Photography, Philanthropy and Advocacy

by Alan Govenar and Mary Niles Maack

(Franco-American Museum, Château de Blérancourt, 2016)



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### Texas in Paris

by Alan Govenar

(Dramatic Publishing, 2016)

### Dallas Music Scene, 1920s-1960s

by Alan Govenar and Jay Brakefield

(Arcadia Publishing, 2014)

### Deep Ellum: The Other Side of Dallas

by Alan Govenar and Jay Brakefield

(College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012).

### Everyday Music

(College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012).

### Blind Lemon Blues

Alan Govenar and Akin Babatunde

(Dramatic Publishing, 2012)

### Jasper, Texas: The Community Photographs of Alonzo Jordan

(New York: Steidl/International Center of Photography, 2011).

### Lightnin' Hopkins: His Life and Blues

(Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 2010).

### Ed Hardy: Beyond Skin

(New York: TeNeues Publishing, 2009).

### Ed Hardy: Art for Life

(New York: TeNeues Publishing, 2009).

### Texas Blues: The Rise of a Contemporary Sound

(College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2008).

### Untold Glory: African Americans in Pursuit of Freedom, Opportunity and Achievement

(New York: Doubleday/Harlem Moon, 2007).

### Extraordinary Ordinary People: Five American Masters of Traditional Arts

(Cambridge, Massachusetts: Candlewick Press, 2006).

### The Early Years of Rhythm and Blues

(Expanded Reprint Edition, Schiffer Publishing, 2004).

Stoney Knows How: Life as a Sideshow Tattoo Artist (Revised and Updated Second edition) Schiffer Publishing, 2003).

Masters of Traditional Arts Education Guide by Paddy Bowman, Betty Carter and Alan Govenar (Santa Barbara, California and Oxford, England: ABC-CLIO, 2002).

Masters of Traditional Arts: A Biographical Dictionary (Santa Barbara, California and Oxford, England: ABC-CLIO, 2001).

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[African American Frontiers: Slave Narratives and Oral Histories](#) (Santa Barbara, California and Oxford, England: ABC-CLIO, 2000).

[Osceola: Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter](#) (New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2000).

[Deep Ellum and Central Track: Where the Black and White Worlds of Dallas Converged](#) by Alan B. Govenar and Jay F. Brakefield (Denton: University of North Texas Press, 1998).

[Portraits of Community: African American Photography in Texas](#) (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1996).

[Juneteenth Texas: Essays in African American Folklore](#), edited by Francis Abernethy, Patrick B. Mullen and Alan Govenar (Denton: University of North Texas University Press, 1996).

[American Tattoo](#) (San Francisco, California: Chronicle Books, 1996).

[Meeting the Blues: The Rise of the Texas Sound](#)  
(New York: Da Capo Press, 1995).

[Flash From the Past: Classic American Tattoo Designs 1890-1965](#)  
(Honolulu: Hardy Marks Publications, 1994)

[A Joyful Noise: A Celebration of New Orleans Music](#), Photographs by Michael P. Smith, Introduction and Interviews by Alan Govenar (Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing, 1990).

[The Early Years of Rhythm and Blues: The Photography of Benny Joseph](#)  
(Houston: Rice University Press, 1990).

[Meeting the Blues: The Rise of the Texas Sound](#)  
(Dallas: Taylor Publishing, 1988).

[Living Texas Blues](#)

(Dallas: Dallas Museum of Art, 1985).

[Stoney Knows How Life as a Tattoo Artist](#)

(Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1981).

## ARTIST BOOKS

### 2023

[Being Honeysuckle, Dallas, Texas](#)

[Irises on My Walk, Dallas, Texas](#)

### 2022

[Sailing the Inguinal Canal, Dallas, Texas](#)



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**2021**

A Pillow on the Ocean of Time, Riverside Press, New York

**2018**

The Skinning Shed, Dallas, Texas

**2013**

The Human Volcano, Arcadian Press, Racine, Wisconsin

**2011**

Sitting Shiva in Gare du Nord, Dallas, Texas

**2008**

Hotung Shadows, Dallas, Texas and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Pachinko Stops, Dallas, Texas and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Tour Bus Tanka, Dallas, Texas and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Umbrellas in Beijing, Dallas, Texas and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

**2006**

For Boys Who Dream of War, Arcadian Press, Racine, Wisconsin

**2002**

Daddy Double Do Love You, Documentary Arts, Dallas, Texas

**2001**

Cold Earth, Arcadian Press, Racine, Wisconsin

**1999**

Midnight Song, Arcadian Press, Racine, Wisconsin

**1994**

The Blues and Jives of Dr. Hepcat, Arcadian Press: Racine, Wisconsin

**1993**

Daddy Double Do Love You, Jubilee Press: Chicago, Illinois

**1991**

Casa di Dante, Arcadian Press, Racine: Wisconsin

**1990**

The Light in Between, Peregrine Press: Dallas, Texas and Arcadian Press: Racine, Wisconsin

**1989**



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The Life and Poems of Osceola Mays, Arcadian Press: Racine, Wisconsin

**1988**

Paradise in the Smallest Thing, Arcadian Press: Racine, Wisconsin

## AWARDS

**2020**

ARSC (Association for Recorded Sound Collections) Award For Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research in Recorded Blues, Gospel, Soul, or R&B, The Blues Come to Texas: Paul Oliver and Mack McCormack's Unfinished Book

**2011**

ARSC (Association for Recorded Sound Collections) Award for Best History in Music Lightnin' Hopkins: His Life and Blues

**2009**

Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) Certificate of Merit Award for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research, Texas Blues: The Rise of a Contemporary Sound

**2006**

A Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (BCCB) Blue Ribbon Winner, Stompin' at the Savoy: The Story of Norma Miller

**2001**

Orbis Pictus Honor Award (National Council of Teachers of English) Osceola, Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter

**2000**

Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor Award - First Prize - Nonfiction - Osceola, Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter

New York Book Festival - First Place Book - Children's Trade - Nonfiction - Osceola, Memories of a Sharecropper's Daughter

T. R. Fehrenbach Award, Texas Historical Commission - Black Cowboys of Texas

**1998**

San Antonio Conservation Society Outstanding Book Award - Juneteenth Texas

## COLLECTIONS (Photography and Book Arts):



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The Museum of Modern Art, New York  
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Bibliothèque Kandinsky, Paris France  
Meermano Museum, The Hague, The Netherlands  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, John M. Flaxman Memorial Library, Chicago, Illinois  
Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, Massachusetts  
Columbia University, New York  
James Branch Cabell Library Special Collections and Archive,  
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia  
Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois  
Anne Bromer Books, Boston, Massachusetts  
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, Texas  
Boston Public Library, Boston, Massachusetts  
Cedar Valley College, Dallas, Texas  
University of Houston, Houston, Texas  
African American Museum, Dallas, Texas  
Musée de L'Erotisme, Paris, France  
Wustum Museum Artists Book Archive, Racine, Wisconsin  
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois  
New York Public Library, New York, New York  
Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, Los Angeles, California  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois  
University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo, Michigan  
Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts  
Duke University, Durham, North Carolina  
Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island  
University of North Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina  
California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, California  
Haas Arts Special Collections, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut  
Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington  
The Jaffee Collection, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida  
University of Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Kohler Art Library, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin  
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris, France  
Henry Buhl Foundation, New York, New York  
Fogg Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts  
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas  
Denison University, Denison, Texas  
University of California, Santa Barbara, Davidson Library

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University of Washington Libraries, Seattle, Washington

Baylor University, Waco, Texas

University of California, Los Angeles, Young Library

Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Sherry Grover Gallery, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, Washington