

biography

Note: For a less formal, slightly lengthier biography, see [“No Maggot Lonely: Thoughts from a Life in Art.”](#) (Counter Arts, June 2021).

Born to a family of booksellers in Montreal, Frank Rodick’s photo-based work engages the worlds of acute subjectivity and intense emotion. The issues in his imagery, coming from the intimacies of his life, are elemental and primal: fear, mortality, and trauma, all seen through the lens of memory and the subconscious, and manifested in expressionistic representations of the human face and figure. Spanning 30 years, he has plied the photographic medium unconventionally, integrating analogue and digital photography with film and video, and drawing inspiration from multiple art forms, particularly painting and literature.

Concurrent to his art practice — and critical to its development — Rodick trained and worked as a psychotherapist for over 20 years, which expanded and deepened his sensibility for the essential issues and obsessions of his own life, as well as the most private experiences of others. Mirroring the history of his own family, among the thousands of clients he encountered were those traumatized by experiences of abuse, illness, racism, and war.

Widely exhibited across four continents, Rodick’s work sits in permanent collections of more than twenty public institutions globally, including the Brooklyn Museum, the Brandts Museum of Denmark, The Kinsey Art Collection, the National Museum of Fine Arts of Buenos Aires, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, the National Gallery of Canada, the New Mexico Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Yale University.

Books and monographs include; *Of Liquid Cities and Celestial Abattoirs*; *Liquid Cities (Alt Take)*; and *Labyrinth of Desire: Work by Frank Rodick*. The former was named to several “best of the year” photo book lists, including those of the International Center of Photography and the Photo-Eye Blog.

In addition to studying cinema and photography, Rodick has degrees in political economy and psychology. Combining his psychology background with his art practice and teaching experience, he designed and teaches workshops focused on developing the creative process of working artists. He is also a writer whose [essays](#) have been named Editor’s Choice multiple times by Medium and Wordpress.

His most recent work, *The Moons of Saturn*, was named the overall winner of 2021’s Pollux Awards juried by Stephen Perloff, founder of *The Photo Review*.

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