

VIRGINIA MAKSYMOWICZ

Maksymowicz was born in 1952 in Brooklyn, New York. She earned a BA in Fine Arts from Brooklyn College/CUNY and an MFA from the University of California, San Diego.

After graduate school, she worked for two years as a CETA artist under the Cultural Council Foundation in New York City. CETA was a federally-funded jobs program that employed 30,000 people in the arts across the United States, the largest such program since the WPA in the 1930s. During the 1980s, she was the Executive Director of Amos Eno Gallery (then in SoHo) and the Articles Editor for *Art & Artists* newspaper. She moved to Philadelphia in 1991 along with her photographer-husband, Blaise Tobia.



She has exhibited at the Franklin Furnace, Alternative Museum, Elizabeth Foundation and Grey Gallery in New York City, and in college, university and nonprofit galleries throughout the US and abroad. Her most recent solo exhibition, "Comparisons," was at the Da Vinci Art Alliance in Philadelphia in November, 2025. She received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship in sculpture in 1984, and has been a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome (three times); an artist-in-residence at the Powel House Museum in Philadelphia; and a fellow at the Vermont Studio Center. In 2018 she completed a two-week residency at Trainor Arts in Maine.

Her exhibitions have been reviewed in the *New York Times*, *New York Newsday*, the *New Art Examiner*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Artblog*. Feature articles have been published in *Sculpture* magazine and in Amtrak's coast-to-coast magazine, *The National*.

She is currently Professor Emerita at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, having taught previously at Oberlin College in Ohio, Wayne State University in Michigan, and St. Joseph's University and the Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia.