Despite digital capitalism’s promise of infinite mobility, the world’s expensive urban capitals have come to dominate the production and distribution of culture more powerfully than ever before. Only young artists with independent wealth can afford to live and work in these centers at the outset of their careers. And yet, creative enterprise abounds outside the bubble of megagalleries and art fairs — both in remote, hinterland regions and within the forgotten histories and sectors of these cities themselves.

Chris Kraus has spent more than a decade investigating the secret histories of artistic projects that begin outside the mainstream and sometimes migrate inside. In this talk, she’ll describe projects undertaken in ‘hinterland’ regions like Mexicali, Winnipeg, upstate New York and rural Illinois … and the work of artists like Reynaldo Rivera and Francesca Woodman, who have lived and worked in urban centers but find their most powerful material in places outside.

Chris Kraus is the author of four novels, three essay collections and a literary biography of the American writer Kathy Acker. Her monograph on Francesca Woodman, “Alternate Stories,” was published this year by Marian Goodman Gallery, and she co-authored the book “Reynaldo Rivera - Provisional Notes for a Disappeared City” in 2020. Kraus is a former Guggenheim Fellow and the recipient of a Warhol Foundation art writing grant, and the Frank Jewett Mother Award in Art Criticism. She is presently working on a novel set in northern Minnesota and she lives in LA.

6:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022  
WAR MEMORIAL HALL  
FREE ADMISSION  
Covid-19 restrictions and protocols will be in place to those attending. The health and safety of all remain our highest priority.