

# Ted Meyer

## Scarred for Life Artist and Patient Advocate

Please contact a GDA agent for information.

### Topics

- Activism / Philanthropy / Civic Engagement
- Art
- Disease
- Healthcare
- Influence
- Jewish Groups
- Mindfulness
- Overcoming Adversity

### About Ted Meyer

Ted Meyer is a nationally recognized artist, curator and patient advocate who helps patients, students and medical professionals see the positive in the worst life can offer.

Born with Gaucher Disease, Ted's personal experience with the disease served as his artistic motivation. Today, his 18-year project "Scarred for Life: Mono-prints of Human Scars" chronicles the trauma and courage of people who have lived through accidents and health crises. Ted's paintings have been shown around the world. As the current Artist in Residence at the USC Keck School of Medicine, Ted curates exhibitions of artwork by patients whose subject matter correspond with the medical school's curriculum and teaches future doctors to see their patients as complex human beings.

Ted Meyer loves bodies.

He loves to paint them, photograph them, even print off them.

He loves healthy bodies, but also bodies in states of trauma and healing. He creates puzzles of bodies that celebrate sexuality and survival.

Through his artmaking, photography, design, curation and publishing projects, Ted portrays the beauty and humor of physicality while exploring narratives of the human condition. Ted is an Artistic Patient Advocate.

Along with his desire to find beauty in stylized bodies through painting and highly crafted photos, his art functions as a healing document for those affected by trauma. Ted uses his artwork to teach the medical community how treatments affect patients long term.

When he started working with bodies years ago, Ted never imagined that his work would be shown in venues as diverse as The United Nations, the National Museum of Health and Medicine, UCLA, the Bravard Museum of Art, St John the Divine, and galleries in Asia and Europe. It continues to be an exciting, evolving and rewarding journey.

### Select Keynotes

- **Scarred for Life**

Ted shares how communicating patients' stories through art can help healthcare providers to gain a more complete understanding of their patients' pain, loneliness, and frustration. Each talk follows a basic outline of Ted's medical history, how his artwork developed based on my medical conditions at the time and how that lead to the scar series and to being a medical educator and then it varies depending on the audience.

- **Scarred for Life**

Ted shares how communicating patients' stories through art can help healthcare providers to gain a more complete understanding of their patients' pain, loneliness, and frustration. If Ted is speaking at a medical school, he dives into the care has received in more detail and the genetics of it all and then show art by other patient/artists.

- **Scarred for Life**



Ted shares how communicating patients' stories through art can help healthcare providers to gain a more complete understanding of their patients' pain, loneliness, and frustration. With a Medical Device client, Ted adapts the talk with less medical detail, Ted shows art by patient/artists who's work incorporates medical devices and medical supplies into their work.

- **Scarred for Life - Moderated Q&A with Ted**

The stories Ted tells are through art as well as scar prints. He tells stories of patient strength and survival. The talks are very upbeat even though they are on serious topics.

### Select Book Titles

- **2015:** Scarred for Life: Every Scar Tells a Story
- **2014:** The Butt Hello: ...and other ways my cats drive me crazy
- **2014:** 50 States of Cats
- **2014:** Cats Around the World P

### Select Articles

- [Art Talk with Ted Meyer](#)

This one focuses on a women who had tumor on the inside of her pelvis. To remove that they had to remove her leg at the same time. The calendars shown represent the four months from the date an MRI was requested before her insurance company agreed. Artwork and photo by Ted Meyer

- [UCLA Medical School's 'Guest Artist' Is Helping To Teach Doctors About Disease](#)

Ted Meyer is the guest artist at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. If you weren't aware that medical schools had guest artists, you're not alone. But this initiative is very real, aiming to teach doctors about illness through the practice of art.

- [USC social work student uses art to heal with Art Rx](#)

A part of a USC student-led initiative called Art Rx, the workshop aimed to bridge physical and emotional pain with art. Today's was focused on scars.

- [Triumphs Over Trauma: The Scar Prints of Ted Meyer](#)

Los Angeles artist Ted Meyer is scarred for life, but you wouldn't know it from talking to him. His bright green eyes light up and his smile broadens as he describes hearing from people in faraway countries that his art has helped them to accept and even embrace their scars.

- [Ted Meyer](#)

Artist Ted Meyer talks to friend Brian Knappmiller about his Scar Art art, a series of paintings and prints documenting people's scars, exploring the meaning, and even beauty, within the disfigurement. Meyer knows something about pain and scars. He suffers from Gaucher disease, an enzyme disorder that can cause easy bruising, bleeding and bone pain.