Richard Fleischner was born in New York in 1944. He received a BFA and MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design. A sculptor, painter, installation artist, and photographer, Fleischner began working environmentally in the 1970s. His landscapes and large-scale public sculpture emphasize the relationship of man-made forms and the natural world. The maze, the corridor, the box, and the field are all cultural elements that have figured in Fleischner’s work; these elements are utilized in combination with and in contrast to features in the natural environment such as trees, hills, sod, and plants.

Fleischner’s environments have been constructed in numerous public and private sites. His drawings and complex, textured paintings have also been widely collected. Fleischner’s awards include the Pell Award for Excellence in the Arts; the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award; three National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships; and a grant from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Institute of Arts and Letters. Richard Fleischner lives and works in Providence, Rhode Island.