

RACHEL TRUSTY

EDUCATION

Present **Ph.D. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas**
Ph.D. Candidate, Defended July 26, 2022. Expected Graduation: December 2022.
Dissertation: “Embodiment and Agency within the Artistic Genre of Queer Abstraction”
Advisor: Dr. Alesha Doan.

2020 **M.A. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas**

2011 **M.F.A. Studio Art, Lesley College**
Thesis: “Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice”
Advisor: Laurel Sparks

2006 **B.A. Sculpture and Art Education, University of Central Arkansas**

Areas of Specialization: Feminist and LGBT+ Art and History (1965 – Present), Gender in US History (1900-Present), Queer, Feminist, and Affect Theories.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 - Present **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.**

Taught and served as instructor of record of three courses: Feminist and LGBT+ Art History (1965 – Present), Sex, Gender, and New Media, and Introduction to Gender Studies. Created and executed innovative, rigorous curriculum which included developing weekly lectures, discussions, and formative assessments such as quizzes and tests. Graded all coursework. Courses developed: Sex, Gender, and New Media and Feminist and LGBT+ Art History.

2016 – 2022 **Art Instructor, General Education Department, University of Arkansas Community College, Morrilton, AR.**

Taught and served as instructor of record of five courses: Art History (Prehistory – Renaissance), Art History (Renaissance – Modern), Art Appreciation, Drawing I, and Watercolor I. Created and executed unique curriculum which included developing weekly lectures, discussions, and formative assessments such as quizzes, tests, critiques, and studio projects. Graded all coursework.

2015 – 2017 **Gallery Coordinator and Educator, William F. Laman Library System, North Little Rock, AR.**

Organized, mounted, and de-installed monthly and bi-monthly exhibitions for two gallery spaces. Sought out and coordinated with artists and artist groups for exhibitions. Created all exhibition texts including signage, catalogs, labels, and press releases. Created original educational programming for students in K-12 to coordinate with select exhibitions.

2016 ***Open Palace Programme* Museum Internship, London and Various Sites, England, UK.**

Worked as part of an internship team at various museum sites in southern England including the Stowe House, Windsor Castle, the Brighton Pavilion, and the Tower of London. Participated in hands-on training in curatorial, education, and preservation efforts at each location.

2013 – 2014 **Lecturer, Art + Design Department, University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR.**

Taught and served as instructor of record of Drawing I and 2D Design. Created and executed unique curriculum which included developing weekly lectures, discussions, and formative assessments such as tests, critiques, and studio projects. Graded all coursework.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2014-2015 Art Teacher, Mayflower High School, Mayflower, AR.
2012-2014 Ceramics and Art Teacher, Pulaski Academy Upper School, Little Rock, AR.
2011 Lecturer, Studio Art, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR.
2010/11 Art Instructor, University of Arkansas at Morrilton, Morrilton, AR.
2008-2011 Art Teacher, Perryville High School, Perryville, AR.
2006-2008 Art Teacher, Alma Middle School, Alma, AR.

Teaching Certification: Arkansas Department of Education, Social Studies 7- 12, Art PK - 12

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2022 Rachel Trusty. (*Under Review*) "Affect, Disorientation, and Arguing the Affective Potential of Prem Sahib's 'Sweat Panel' Artworks," *Feminist Theory*.
2018 Rachel Trusty. "Feminine Gestures: Challenging Objecthood through White and Black Feminist Performance Art," *The International Journal of Social, Political, and Community Agendas in the Arts* 13, no 4 (2018): 29-40. Print and Online.

Articles in Progress

Rachel Trusty. "Assessing Viewer Understanding of Queer Content in Felix Gonzalez-Torres's *Untitled (L.A.)*(1991)."

Book Reviews

- 2022 Rachel Trusty. (*Forthcoming*) Review: Brim, Matt. *Poor Queer Studies: Confronting Elitism in the University*. Fwd: *Museums*.

Exhibition Reviews

- 2019 Rachel Trusty. "Queer Abstraction," *ARTMargins Online*, MIT Press, Sept. 17, 2019. Online.

Editorials

- 2020 Rachel Trusty. "What Will Become of Interactive Art When Museums Reopen?," *Alliance Blog*, American Alliance of Museums, May 8, 2020. Online.
2019 Rachel Trusty. "The New Gallery offers a Contemporary Art Experience," *The Daily Record*, September 2, 2019. Print and Online.

AWARDS, GRANTS, & RESIDENCIES

Awards/Fellowships

- 2021 Graduate Scholarly Development Award, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

- Brousseau Award, *Reclaiming and Redefining the Body* Exhibition, Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS.
- 2020 Graduate Teaching Award: Best Teacher and Teaching Mentor, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2019/20 Featured Artist, Juror: Courtney Taylor, Arkansas Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Little Rock, AR.
- 2018-19 Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2017 Polly Wood Crews Award, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Arkansas Committee.
- 2016 Purchase Award, Small Works on Paper Exhibition, Arkansas Arts Council, Little Rock, AR.
- 2015 Distinguished Faculty Award, Mayflower School District, Mayflower, AR.
- 2013 Purchase Award, Small Works on Paper Exhibition, Arkansas Arts Council, Little Rock, AR.

Grants

- 2022 Travel Grant, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2020 Scholarly Presentation Travel Grant, Department of Graduate Studies, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2019 Travel Grant, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2016 Sally A. Williams Fund Artist Grant, Arkansas Arts Council, Little Rock, AR.

Residencies

- 2021 Penland Winter Residency in Painting, *Cancelled due to COVID 19*.
- 2020 Shelter-in-Place Artist Residency, Conducted Virtually.
- 2019 Arts, Letters, & Numbers Artist Residency, Albany, NY.

SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *PRESENT*, Stephens Gallery, University of the Ozarks, Clarksville, AR.
- 2019 *Summer Crush*, Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, KS.
Friends and Lovers, Resident Arts Gallery, Columbia, MO.
- 2016 *Mixed Methods*, University of Arkansas at Monticello, Monticello, AR.
- 2014/15 *Floral Collection*, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR.
- 2013 *Loud White Space*, Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts, Blue Mountain Lake, NY.
Figures in Space, The Shed Gallery, Fayetteville, AR.
- 2011 *Stories in Stitches*, Arkansas River Valley Arts Center, Russellville, AR.

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Each Other*, Juror: Danielle Fiesta, Aplomb Gallery, Dover, NH.
Beyond Craft, Juror: Adrienne Scott, Chico Art Center, Chico, CA.

- Tender with the Other*, Curator: Summer Tomes, Wavelength Gallery, Chattanooga, TN.
- Growing up Queer in the South*, Curator: Parks Mcallister, Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville, NC.
- Queer*, Curator: Brad Cushman, Fenix Gallery, Fayetteville, AR.
- 2021 *Baum Gallery: 25th Anniversary Exhibition*, Curators: Brian Young and Sue Bennett, Baum Gallery, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR.
- Restoring and Redefining the Body*, Curator: SSAB Committee, Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS.
- No Man's Land*, Curator: Rebecca Jolley, Wingate Museum of Art, Hendrix University, Conway, AR.
- Star Children*, Curators: Melissa Wilkinson and Hillary Brooks, Bradbury Museum of Art, Jonesboro, AR.
- 2020 *The 15TH Amendment at 150: The Art of Voting*, Curator: Brittany Keegan, Watkins Museum of History, Lawrence, KS.
- Threads through Time*, Curators: Brian Young and Sue Bennett, Baum Gallery of Art, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR.
- 2019 *Art Biennial 600: Textile/Fiber*, Juror: Alec Unkovic, Amarillo Museum of Art, Amarillo, TX.
- Shifts Happen*, Curators: Fausta Facciponte and Aimee Contnoir, Melanie Carr Gallery, Essex, CT.
- soothSAY*, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR.
- Artists in Residence*, Arts, Numbers, and Letters Gallery, Averill Park, NY.
- Then, Here/Now: Creating Community in the Center*, Tulsa Living Arts Gallery, OK.
- 2018 *PINK*, Curator: Melissa Wilkinson, Bradbury Museum of Art, Jonesboro, AR.
- 2016 *Hide your Rubies, Shine your Diamonds*, Butler Center Gallery, Little Rock, AR.
- Arkansas Contemporaries: Then, Now, Next*, Curator: Donna Uptigrove, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR
- 2014 *2014 Small Works on Paper Exhibition*, Juror: Mary Kennedy, Arkansas Arts Council, Traveling Exhibition.
- 2013 *Women Take Flight Exhibition*, Juror: Fran Otten, Fayetteville Underground, Fayetteville, AR.
- Ovolution*, Curator: Lilia Hernandez, 707 E. Main Street, North Little Rock, AR
- Objectified*, Washburn Gallery, Cambridge, MA.
- 38th Annual Toys Designed by Artists*, Juror: Tim Tate, Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Little Rock, AR.
- 2012 *SAAC Juried Competition*, Juror: Manuela Well-Off-Man, South Arkansas Arts Center, El Dorado, AR.
- 2011 *Boston Young Contemporaries*, Jurors: Jen Mergel, Camilo Alvarez, and Matt Rich, Boston University Gallery, Boston, MA.

CURATED EXHIBITIONS

May 2022 *Mining the Gap Exhibition, Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS.*

Exhibition of works from the permanent collection of the Spencer Museum of Art that demonstrate both Feminist and Queer approaches. Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas. Lawrence, KS.

2015 – 2020 *Delta des Refusés Annual Exhibition. Various sites in Little Rock and North Little Rock, AR.*

This annual exhibition was organized in tandem with the *Delta Exhibition* at the Arkansas Arts Center. The *Refusés* acted as a counter-show where artists who were rejected from the *Delta* could participate.

Jan. 2018 *One Year Down Exhibition, New Deal Gallery, Little Rock, AR.*

Co-Curated with John Hardy and Lee Weber. This exhibition included works that commented on events in and themes of the first year of the Trump Administration

2016 – 2018 *Arkansas Fiber Arts Annual Exhibition. Laman Library Gallery System, North Little Rock, AR.*

This annual exhibition features contemporary artists from Arkansas who bring innovative approaches to fiber arts including quilting, embroidery, soft sculpture, and basketry.

NEW MEDIA

- 2019 Website Consultant, African American Quilt Museum, Lawrence, KS.
- 2018 Social Media and Branding Consultant, Arkansas Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Little Rock, AR
- Transcription Team Member and K-12 Curriculum Developer, Spencer Research Library, Spencer Research Library Digitization Project: Transcription and Programming for Elizabeth Dyke's *Book of Recaits* (1668), University of Kansas.
- 2016/17 "Art Talk" Radio Program and Podcast, KABF 88.3 FM, Host, Little Rock, AR.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022 Featured Artist, *The Museum of Americana: A Literary Review*, Issue #28, October 2022.
- 2020 Featured Artist, *Phototrouvé Magazine*, June 2020.
- Featured Artist, *Candyfloss Magazine*, May 25, 2020.
- 2019 Featured Artist, *Lavender Review*, December 2019.
- "Arkansans Abroad: Rachel Trusty," *Idle Class Magazine*, September 12, 2019.
- Featured Artist, [Bible Belt Queers Anthology](#), October 2019.
- Cover Artist/Featured Artist, *Gertrude Press*, Issue 29, Sept. 15, 2019.
- Brooke Johnson. "Rachel Trusty Explores Female Relationships in Her Show, 'Friends and Lovers,' *VOX Magazine*. March 12, 2019.
- 2018 Becca Bona. "A Tale of Two Exhibitions: Art in the Rock," *The Daily Record*, June 25, 2018.
- 2017 Leslie Newell Peacock. "Get your Fiber at the Main Branch of the Laman Library: Cade, Halsey, Kuster, Zarco, Trusty, Hernandez, and Others," *Arkansas Times*, August 11, 2017.
- 2016 Carol Rolf. "Russellville Artist's Career Continues to Grow," *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, August 14, 2016.
- "Delta des Refuses," *Good Day Arkansas*, Fox 16., June 16, 2016, Television.
- 2015 Becca Bona. "Artist Insider- Rachel Trusty," *Rock City Life*, July 9, 2015.
- 2012 Leslie Peacock Newell. "A Toy Show for Grown Ups," *Arkansas Times*, December 5, 2012.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

- 2022 “Reimagining the Queer Body: Abstraction as Visibility Strategy,” Posthuman Bodies: Embodied Posthumanisms Conference, University of Warwick, United Kingdom, October 13, 2022.
- “Understanding Embodiment within the Artistic Genre of Queer Abstraction,” Dismantling the Body: Possibilities and Limitations in Art Making Symposium, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, March 16, 2022.
- 2021 “The Queer, Affective Potential in Prem Sahib's 'Sweat Panels,’” LGBTQ Research Symposium, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, June 4, 2021.
- 2020 “Audience Understanding of *Untitled (Placebo-Landscape-for-Roni)* by Felix Gonzalez-Torres,” College Art Association Conference, Chicago, Chicago, IL, February 15, 2020.
- 2017 “The Lavender Menace Makes: Lesbian Art in the Feminist Movement,” Midwest Popular Culture Assoc./American Culture Assoc. Conference, Hyatt Regency, St. Louis, MO, October 18-22, 2017.
- “Feminine Gestures: Challenging Objecthood with White and Black Performance Art,” Twelfth International Conference on Arts in Society, American University of Paris, Paris, France, June 15, 2017.
- “Ways of Seeing: Representations of the LGBTQ Communities in Contemporary Art,” Seventh Annual Gender and Communication Conference, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, April 8, 2017.

Invited Talks

- 2022 “Intersecting Feminist Practices,” Department of Art and Design, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL, September 21, 2022.
- “Performative Objects/ Performative Bodies: Queer Abstraction as an Intervention into Subjecthood and Resistance,” Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, February 3, 2022.
- 2021 “An Introduction to Sex and Gender,” Kansas Women’s Leadership Institute Lawrence, KS, July 15, 2021.
- “Interventions into Portraiture,” Visual Arts Department, Southwestern College, Chula Vista, CA, April 27, 2021.
- 2020 “Assessing Queer Failure in the artistic genre of Queer Abstraction,” Coalition of Masters Scholars on Material Culture, Online, November 21, 2020.
- “Gender and Craft,” Craft Conscious Website, Online, August 25, 2020.
<https://www.craftconsciousedu.com/gender-1>.

Artist Talks

- 2021 Artist Talk, Regional Art Museum, Fort Smith, AR. Online, Oct. 14, 2021.
- No Man’s Land* Artists Roundtable, Windgate Museum of Art, Hendrix College, Conway, AR, April 21, 2021.
- Star Children* Exhibition Artists Roundtable, Bradbury Museum of Art, Jonesboro, AR, March 15, 2021.
- 2019 Artist Talk, Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, KS, July 1, 2019.
- 2016 Artist Talk, University of Arkansas Monticello, Monticello, AR, September 29, 2016.
- 2011 Artist Talk, Lesley College, Boston, MA, June 10, 2011.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/SERVICE

- 2018 – Present Member of the Queer & Trans Caucus for Art, College Art Association.
- 2021-22 Member of the Undergraduate Committee, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas.
- 2020-21 Member of the Diversity and Inclusion in Curriculum Committee, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas.
- 2018/20 MFA Mentor, Lesley College.
- 2016-18 Member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton.
- 2014-15 President and Board Member of the Arkansas League of Artists.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

College Art Association: General and Queer and Trans Caucus of Art Member

Arkansas Women's History Institute