

Mary Callahan Baumstark, M.A.

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CURRENTLY

Executive Director
Lewistown Art Center

July 2017-Present
Lewistown, MT

Resident Art Historian, Organizer, Artist
Socially Engaged Craft Collective

2015-Present

EDUCATION

M.A. in Contemporary Art, Design, and New Media Art Histories
OCAD University

August 2014 - June 2016
Toronto, ON, Canada

B.F.A. in Fine Art (emphasis in Ceramics)
University of Montana

August 2009 - May 2013
Missoula, MT, USA

THESES

Craftivist Clay: Resistance and Activism in Contemporary Ceramics

Defended: April, 2016

This thesis complicates and questions the history of craftivism, providing a new definition to encompass various modes of making. It examines the emergence of craftivism in contemporary, western ceramics including socially engaged, performative, political, and philanthropic ceramic works in the past 40 years.

This thesis is supervised by Assistant Professor Dorie Millerson, Dr. Michael Prokopow, and the CADN program at OCAD University.

Language in the Visual Arts: A Critical Analysis

2013

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for University Scholar distinction at the Davidson Honors College at the University of Montana. Approved by James C. McKusick, Dean of the Davidson Honors College and Dr. H. Rafael Chacón, professor of Art History at the University of Montana.

PUBLICATIONS

"Looking Into the Empty Vessel"

In *Studio Potter*

Edited by Jill Foote-Hutton

August 2020

Studio Potter

Northampton, MA, USA

"The Menstrual Cup Project"

featured in "Some Social Practice"

Compiled, written, published by Ellen Mueller

August 2020

Ellen Mueller

Minneapolis, MN

"Toward a Digital-Handicraft Practice," co-authored with Theresa Slater

In *Critical Digital Making in Art Education*

Edited by Aaron Knochel, Christine Liao, Ryan Patton

October 2020

Peter Lang

Switzerland

<p>“Tools for Uncertain Times with the Implement Archive In <i>Studio Potter</i> Edited by Jill Foote-Hutton</p>	<p>June 2020 Studio Potter Northampton, MA, USA</p>
<p>“Considering Performance with Habiba El-Sayed” In <i>Fusion: A Magazine for Clay and Glass</i> Edited by Margot Lettner</p>	<p>June 2020 Fusion Toronto, ON, Canada</p>
<p>“In Absentia: The Missing Makers of Canadian Cannabis” In <i>Fusion: A Magazine for Clay and Glass</i> Edited by Margot Lettner</p>	<p>December 2019 Fusion Toronto, ON, Canada</p>
<p>“Heavy Shine: Reciprocity and Spontaneity with Dianne Lee and Robyn LeRoy-Evans” In <i>Fusion: A Magazine for Clay and Glass</i> Edited by Margot Lettner</p>	<p>October 2019 Fusion Toronto, ON, Canada</p>
<p><i>At the Border</i> In <i>Studio Magazine</i> Edited by Leopold Kowolick</p>	<p>June 2019 Craft Ontario Toronto, ON, Canada</p>
<p>“Social Utopia: Craft and Progress” in <i>Makers, Crafter, Educators: Working for Cultural Change</i> Edited by Elizabeth Garber, Lisa Hochtritt, and Manisha Sharma</p>	<p>2019 Routledge Publishing Abingdon, United Kingdom</p>
<p><i>I'm Done Defining Craft</i> In <i>Studio Magazine</i> Edited by Leopold Kowolick</p>	<p>September 2018 Craft Ontario Toronto, ON, Canada</p>
<p><i>McKnight Resident Exhibition Catalogue, 2018 and 2019</i> Featured Interviewer and Essayist</p>	<p>August 2018, August 2019 Northern Clay Center Minneapolis, MN</p>
<p><i>Social Objects</i> Edited by Mary Callahan Baumstark Designed by Amanda Leigh Evans This collaborative text with the Socially Engaged Craft Collective corresponds with an exhibition of the same name at the c3:Initiative in Portland, OR. It is among the first texts dedicated solely to socially engaged craft. Available on Amazon.</p>	<p>March 2017 Socially Engaged Craft Collective</p>
<p>“Rehashing Modernism: Pitfalls of Popular Pottery” CFile’s journal, <i>Ostracon</i>. Abbreviated version available here: https://cfileonline.org/c-library-rehashing-modernism-contemporary-ceramic-art/</p>	<p>Nov 2016 CFile Online</p>
<p>“Miriam Griffin’s “Vermin” Will Have You Celebrating the Scum of the Animal World” http://ceramicartistsnow.com/2016/08/22/miriam-griffin-ceramic-artists/</p>	<p>August 2016 Ceramic Artists Now</p>
<p>“Commentary: Hacking NCECA”</p>	<p>May 2016</p>

<https://cfileonline.org/commentary-hacking-nceca-a-broke-students-guide-to-the-best-weekend-in-clay-contemporary-ceramics-cfile/>

CFile Online

“Commentary: The Politics of Cute as seen at NCECA 2016”

May 2016

<https://cfileonline.org/commentary-nceca-2016-and-the-politics-of-cute-contemporary-ceramic-art-cfile/>

CFileOnline

“The Role of Performance in Socially Engaged Craft (And Art!)”

April 2016

<https://sociallyengagedcraftcollective.org/2016/04/26/the-role-of-performance-in-socially-engaged-craft-and-art/>

The Socially Engaged Craft Collective Blog

“Craftivism Manifesto” (co-author)

2015

<https://www.facebook.com/craftivista/posts/10156263520935654>

with Betsy Greer

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS and GUEST LECTURES

“Craftivism and White Feminism” lecture

March 2019

In conjunction with *HeavyShine* (Guest Curator)

New Orleans, LA

The Front Gallery

<https://vimeo.com/338269603>

Closing Remarks with Professor Marcus Young

March 2019

Cross-Pollination Socially Engaged Craft Conference

Minneapolis, MN

“Craft and Technology” Instagram Live Lecture

August 2018

In conjunction with *Femynynytees* curated by Renata Moreira and Treva Legassie

AVE

Montreal, QB/Lewistown, MT

“Craftivism: From Historic Movement to Contemporary Method”

February 2018

In “Craft and Resistance” panel with nicole gugliotti and Elizabeth Kozlowski

College Art Association Conference

Los Angeles, CA

Roundtable Presentation

September 2017

“Residencies”

Canadian Craft Biennial

Burlington, Ontario

Conference Presentation

May 2017

“What Can Be in the World: Roberto Lugo’s “Ghetto Pottery” and the Aesthetics of Luxury in Activism”

Nouveau Reach: Past, Present, and Futures

Toronto, Ontario

Conference Presentation

March 17, 2016

“Ceramic Craftivism: Resistance and Activism in Contemporary Clay”

Kansas City, Missouri

National Conference for Education in the Ceramic Arts

Organizer, Speaker, Conference Presentation

March 12, 2016

“Popular Potters: Neo-Modernism in Vogue and the New York Times”

OCAD University, Toronto

#trending: mobilizing art and culture, Contemporary Art, Design, and New Media Art Histories Graduate Conference.

Conference organized by the Contemporary Art, Design, and New Media Art Histories Cohort at OCAD
Played an instrumental role in planning, organizing, and putting on the conference. Headed the Submissions and Selection Committee, the Installation Committee, and Event Planning Committee.

Conference Presentation
"Crafting Community: Craftivism in Ceramics"
Art + Design for Social Justice Exchange
Symposium and conference hosted by the OCAD Student Union
January 23, 2016
OCAD University, Toronto

Guest Lecturer
Global Visual and Material Culture
January 18, 2016
OCAD University

Volunteer, Speaker Timer
Crafting Sustainability
Conference hosted by OCAD's MAAD department and Craft Ontario
2015
OCAD University, Toronto

Volunteer and Technical Assistant
Universities Art Association of Canada Annual Conference
2014
OCAD University, Toronto

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Reproductive Justice is for Everyone!
University of South Florida Women's and Gender Studies Dept.
October/November 2019
Tampa, FL

Ferment
Minneapolis City College
Featured "The Menstrual Brooch Project," a distributive craftivist project
March 2019
Minneapolis, MN

Femynynytees
AVE
Featured "The Menstrual Cup Project," a participatory and craftivist cocktail.
July/August 2018
Montreal, QB

Centered
Lewistown Art Center
March 2018
Lewistown, MT

Joined: Sculpture and Function
Curator
February 2018

Lewistown Art Center
Social Objects
Lewistown, MT
2017

Organizer, artist, and participant
c3:Initiative
Portland, OR

BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition
Gallery of Visual Arts
2013
Missoula, MT

Montana State and University of Montana Student and Faculty Exhibition Bray North Gallery, juried by Richard Notkin	2013 Helena, MT
Medalta Resident Exhibition Yuill Family Gallery at the Medalta Museum	2013 Medicine Hat, AB
University of Montana Winter Student Juried Show Off Center Gallery, juried by Adrienne Arlio Awarded a Juror's Honorable Mention	2012 Missoula, MT
18th Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition Gallery of Visual Arts, juried by Yvonne Seng Awarded a Juror's Honorable Mention	2012 Missoula, MT
University of Montana Winter Student Juried Show Off Center Gallery	2011 Missoula, MT
Selections from Upper Division Drawing Union Hall	2011 Missoula, MT
University of Montana Winter Student Juried Show Off Center Gallery	2010 Missoula, MT

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty (Contemporary Art and Art History) Department of Fine Art	Spring 2017 University of Montana Western Dillon, Montana
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As a part of the University of Montana Western's Experience One curriculum, developed and taught Art of World Civilizations (1400-Modernity) and an upper division course, Contemporary Art and Critical Writing. Independently developed lectures, seminars, and curricula to illustrate course concepts including student presentations, proposals, interventions, and academic writings. Course objectives included developed critical thinking skills, critical and descriptive writing, reading and teaching practices, identification and analysis of art movements, and analyzing the role of "contemporaneity" in art production. Research and learning activities (independently developed) included seminar presentations, critical discourse, research papers, artistic interventions, student-run blogs, and community engagement.

Adjunct Faculty (Art History) Department of Fine Art	Fall 2016 University of Montana Western Dillon, Montana
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As part of the University of Montana Western's Experience One curriculum, developed and taught art history survey courses, Art of World Civilizations, in two sections, "Prehistory to 1400" and "1400 to Modernity." Independently developed lectures and a curriculum to illustrate course concepts. Course objectives include accurately identifying methods, styles, movements, and artists of art objects, museological and curatorial interpretation of art objects, and drawing connections. Research and learning activities (independently developed by instructor) included historical art exhibitions, research papers, visual analyses, and community engagement with Dillon, Montana.

Teaching Assistant
Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Supervised by Professor Lori Riva and Dr. Rebekah Carson

Spring/Fall 2015, Winter 2016
OCAD University, Toronto

Attended lectures and taught a one-hour, weekly tutorial for the *Global, Visual, and Material Culture: 1800-Modernity* course (approximately 10 hours per week, 15 weeks). Independently prepared and taught lectures on nineteenth and twentieth century art history. Independently designed and taught tutorials to illustrate course concepts. Provided additional support and study skills for students at their request. Had weekly office hours to advise students. Graded papers and exams.

ARTS ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNITY, AND VOLUNTEER WORK

Executive Director Lewistown Art Center	July 2017 - Present Lewistown, MT
Assistant Director Lewistown Arts Center	March 2017-Present Lewistown, MT
Resident Art Historian and Blog Committee Chair Socially Engaged Craft Collective	March 2015-Present
Trustee of the Lewistown Public Library Lewistown Public Library	June 2018 Lewistown, MT
Volunteer National Conference on Education in the Ceramic Arts	March 2017 Portland, Oregon
Ceramic Educator, Volunteer Lewistown Arts Center	October 2016 - Jan 2016 Lewistown, Montana
Volunteer The Gardiner Museum	October 2015 - June 2016 Toronto, ON
Volunteer Craft Ontario	October 2014 - June 2016 Toronto, ON
Studio Intern The Clay Studio of Missoula	February - August, 2014 Missoula, MT
Treasurer University of Montana Emerging Ceramic Artists	August 2012 - May 2013 Missoula, MT
Youth Instructor The Clay Studio of Missoula	June - August, 2012 Missoula, MT

SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

OCAD University Graduate Exhibition Medal Winner (1st place)
OCAD University 3MT (3 Minute Thesis) First Place Winner
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship
Graduated with Honors, University Scholar Distinction
Treasurer of University of Montana Emerging Ceramic Artists
Dean's List Honor Roll
Dean's List Honor Roll
4.0 GPA Honor Roll
Dean's List Honor Roll

OCAD University, 2016
OCAD University, 2016
OCAD University, 2016
OCAD University, 2015
OCAD University, 2014
University of Montana, 2013
University of Montana, 2013
University of Montana, 2013
University of Montana, 2012
University of Montana, 2010
University of Montana, 2009

INTERNATIONAL STUDY AND RESIDENCY

Canadian Craft Biennial Writing Resident
Art Gallery of Burlington and Craft Ontario

September 2017
Burlington, Toronto, ON

Short Term Resident
Shaw Artist Centre, Medalta at the Historic Clay District

January 2013
Medicine Hat, AB

Davidson Honors College Winter Session Ireland Study Abroad

January 2012
N. Ireland, Republic of Ireland