

LIZ K. SHEEHAN

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EDUCATION

M.A. 2002 Tufts University, Medford, MA. Art History with certificate in Museum Studies

- Areas of Specialization: post-war modern and contemporary art
- Qualifying Papers: "Griselda Pollock: Autobiography and the Writing of Art's Histories" and "Definitions of Otherness: Ethnography and Surrealism in the Work of Graciela Iturbide."
- 2002 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Award for Outstanding Academic Performance

A.B. 1996 Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME, *Cum Laude*. Art History/Spanish, Studio Art

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Curator, 2006 - present

Research, propose and organize exhibitions and related programming in modern and contemporary art.

- December 6, 2010 - February 18, 2011. Cambridge Arts Council Gallery, Cambridge, MA. *Drawing in Public: Work* by Cassie Jones, Astrid Bowlby, Beehive Collective, and Alex Rheault.
- September 7 - November 17, 2010. Cambridge Arts Council Gallery, Cambridge, MA. *Of, By and For: New Work* by Daniel Peltz and Paul Notzold.
- May 27 - June 26, 2010. Craftland Gallery, Providence, RI. *Souvenir Stand: Work* by Shannon Buck, James Milostan, TempBergen, Lise Grossman, Alyssa Zygmunt.
- Summer 2007. Art Interactive, Cambridge, MA. *Soundmarks: New Work* by Zach Poff + NB Aldrich and Amy Stacey Curtis. Contributed brochure essay.
 - Selected "Critic's Pick" by Ken Johnson, *Boston Globe*, June 17, 2007.
 - Reviewed by Jacqueline Houton, "Soundmarks @ Art Interactive," *Big RED & Shiny*, Issue #65, June 13, 2007; Cate McQuaid, *Boston Globe*, August 2, 2007.
- Winter 2007. *MediaWorks*. Perimeter Gallery, Belfast, ME. Artist-curated show - invited to contribute wall text.

Assistant Curator for Academic and Exhibition Initiatives, Bates College Museum of Art, Lewiston, ME.

February 2004 - August 2006

- Curated four exhibitions of modern and contemporary art:
 - *Activator*: Temporary installations by seven contemporary artists, including Nicola López, Astrid Bowlby, and Jason Rogenes. Produced and authored catalogue. Reviewed by Chris Thompson, "Retooled: *Activator* at the Bates College Museum of Art," *Boston Phoenix*, February 2, 2006.
 - *Robert Indiana: The Hartley Elegies*. Permanent collection, suite of ten large-scale lithographs. Produced catalogue and contributed essay. Organized artist lecture and opening events. Worked with faculty on wall text.
 - *Off the Coast: A Landscape Chronology*. Permanent collection show of central Maine landscapes, including work by Berenice Abbott, Marsden Hartley, Neil Welliver, Katherine Bradford, and Ellen Lesperance. Negotiated loans with museums and artists; recommended new acquisitions. Compiled exhibition booklet of essays by invited faculty from Biology, English, and Asian Studies.
 - *Marsden Hartley: Image and Identity*. Permanent collection: photography, drawings, and ephemera. Organized two-day symposium and moderated panel discussion with visiting scholars and faculty.
- Developed related programming in conjunction with faculty, visiting scholars, students, alumni, museum Friends, and college Advancement Office. Worked with faculty and students to increase usage of museum collections.
- Directed Friends of the Museum program: wrote solicitations, planned special events, and developed public

relations initiatives. Created Email newsletter and print campaigns. Tripled membership income in three years.

- Researched grant opportunities and wrote proposals for collection support. Tracked exhibition budgets.
- Assisted with collections management including object research, cataloguing, photography, securing reproduction rights for publications, and database updates.
- Supervised interns in curatorial, website development, and technology outreach projects.
- Led public tours and gave presentations on permanent collection to area organizations and media.
- Generated new campus advertising and promotions. Oversaw public relations materials and updated website.

Biennial Exhibition Coordinator, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME. June 2002 - June 2003 (one year contract)

- Organized jurying of over 3200 slides. Coordinated receipt, installation and return of 130 objects by 70 artists.
- Designed layout for 3500 sq. ft. of gallery space. Compiled catalogue and wrote articles for public relations use.
- Developed PR initiative to promote local alumni artists, resulting in national coverage through alumni publications.
- Served as primary contact for artist and public inquiries.

Grants Project Coordinator, VSA arts of Maine, Portland, ME. October 2002 - July 2003 (contract)

- Researched and wrote proposals to local and state foundations, the state arts council, and the NEA.
- Selected awards included one of four annual partnership agreements given by the Maine Arts Commission and one of two state-wide NEA "Challenge America: Access to the Arts" grants.
- Identified funding priorities, developed and tracked project budgets, and created assessment strategies.

Graduate Intern, Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA. March - May 2002

- Culminating internship for certificate in Museum Studies. Assisted with publicity, development and membership projects and special events.

Graduate Intern, Registrar's Department, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. October 2000 - May 2001

- Researched and catalogued incoming loans and new acquisitions using The Museum System database.

Exhibition Coordinator, VSA arts of Maine, Portland, ME October 1997 - August 2000

- Coordinated annual traveling, juried exhibition of over 300 artworks by artists with disabilities.
- Oversaw jurying process; sought new venues and community partners statewide. Wrote press releases and served as media contact. Developed programming and supervised volunteers.
- Trained in assessing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance of exhibition spaces.

Summer Intern, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport, ME. June - September 1996

- Installed bi-monthly exhibitions and directed visitor tours. Conducted statewide studio visits with curator.

Education Assistant and Preparator's Assistant, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, ME. June 1994 - June 1996

- Surveyed faculty to determine scope of museum usage. Organized and led gallery programs for young visitors.
- Matted, framed and hung over ten shows. Researched and catalogued permanent collection objects.

Public Relations Intern, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME. September 1993 - May 1994

- Compiled publicity reports and informed media of upcoming events. Conducted visitor surveys.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, Summer Session, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA. July 2009, 2010

- Developed and taught course on "The Art of Science" for advanced high school students.

Adjunct Faculty, Art History, St. Joseph's College, Standish, ME. October 2003 - July 2010

- Developed curriculum and authored study guide for distance education course in modern art history.
- Evaluated assignments and monitored student performance via Email and ANGEL online course software.
- Worked with Information Technology staff to develop multi-media presentations for online delivery.
- Facilitated discussions via course bulletin board. Taught on-campus summer intensive courses.

Teaching Assistant, Tufts University, Medford, MA. September 2001 - May 2002

- Created lesson plans and taught weekly sections for 20-35 undergraduate students in Art History survey courses.
- Developed and evaluated writing assignments and exams. Conducted class tours in area museums.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Guest blogger, *Art:21*. May 2010: Authored a series of articles on contemporary art during a two-week time slot. <http://blog.art21.org/author/liz-sheehan/>
- "Soundmarks." *Art Interactive*, 2007. Brochure essay.
- *Activator*. Bates College Museum of Art, 2006.
- "Robert Indiana: Painter of Signs." *Robert Indiana: The Hartley Elegies*. Bates College Museum of Art, 2005.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Worcester PechaKucha, April 2010

Presented past and present research topics.

Art Interactive, June and August 2007

Moderated panel discussion with artists. Led "Curator's Talk and Walk."

Bates College Museum of Art Symposium, November 2004

"Marsden Hartley: Image and Identity." Panel discussion moderator.

Maine Archives and Museums Annual Conference, Kennebunk, ME, Fall 2003

"Expanding Your Audience: Creating Accessible Exhibitions." Presenter.

Tufts University Women's Studies "Beyond the Classroom" Forum, Medford, MA, 2001

"Griselda Pollock: Autobiography and the Writing of Art's Histories." Presenter.

MEMBERSHIPS/COMMITTEES

- Worcester Art Museum Member's Council, current member
- American Association of Museums; Association of College and Museum Universities and Galleries; College Art Association; New England Museum Association, current member
- Maine Arts Commission Percent for Art juror, Auburn School District, 2006
- *The Maine Print Project* Public Relations Committee, 2005 - 2006
- *Maine Art Museum Trail* Public Relations Committee, 2004 - 2006
- Piscataqua Region Artist Advancement Grant (NH), juror, 2004

LANGUAGE AND COMPUTER SKILLS

- Advanced knowledge of Spanish.
- MAC/PC: Microsoft Office, FileMakerPro, The Museum System, Adobe PageMaker/InDesign, Photoshop, basic HTML, Ingeniux Content Management System, ArtStor, WebCT.