

MAURA DOERN DANKO

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

I am a working artist with extensive experience in higher education. I have taught foundations courses, upper level electives, theory-based seminars, led project teams, and participated as a collaborator. My skills at teaching are at the intersection of studio practice, theory and art history. My success as an arts administrator includes people management, innovative program development and strategic problem-solving.

EDUCATION:

1986 *Painting, The American University, MFA* (Lee Newman, Ben Summerford, Norma Broude)

1984 *Studio Art: Drawing, Providence College, BA Providence -in -Europe, Pietrasanta, Italy.* (James B. Baker, Suzanne D'Avanzo, Nancy E. Hampshire, Adrian G. Dabash, O.P.)

1993-1997 *Additional Graduate Coursework in Art History and Philosophy, The University of Maryland at College Park* (Berys Gaut, John H. Brown, William L. Pressly)

1986-1990 *Atelier Classes in Landscape Painting and Printmaking, The Washington Studio School*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

2016-present *Adjunct Associate Professor, New York Institute of Technology*, Department of Digital Art and Design. Painting, Drawing 1 and 2, Design 1, Graduate Drawing Studio. (implemented as text: *The Creative Storm*, K. Leski) Drawing sessions continue online via Zoom and other virtual methods during pandemic.

2015-present *Adjunct Professor, School of Liberal Arts, Mercy College.* Art and Culture as part of General Education Department; requirement for first term students. Extra credit seminar sessions. (Extensive use of Metropolitan Museum of Art's Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History in weekly projects) Classes continue during pandemic via Zoom, Blackboard and other virtual methods.

2015-2019 *Adjunct Professor, Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online Division.* Introduction to the Visual Arts, Aesthetics, helped lead extra credit real-time discussion forums.

1998-2013 *Assistant Professor, Arts and Humanities, Department of General Education, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. (Department Lead Faculty)*

Focus on visual analysis, current and classic sources, and dialogue-driven inquiry; in a career-centric academic setting, sought to develop students' articulation of complex ideas through reading, discussion of images, writing and revision. I am interested in participating in a culture that enriches the

undergraduate experience and have contributed to this through the initiation of programs as faculty and student lecture series, student involvement in projects of various sorts, and community endeavors.

Courses initiated, proposed, and taught as upper level electives: American Art History: utilized *American Visions* (R. Hughes), *Art in Age of Revolution* (M. Lovell) and *New Art City* (J. Perl); Theories of Modernism and Postmodernism: a comparative analysis utilizing various 20th century artistic movements as topics for seminar discussion; Theories of Contemporary Drawing Applications using *Drawing Now* (L. Hoptman) and *OnLine: Drawing Through the Twentieth Century* (de Zegher and Butler); emphasis on teaching design and media arts students dynamic ways of thinking about line as abstraction. Main backbone of teaching has been to emphasize both formalism and conceptualism.

Courses Refined: Introduction to Popular Culture: utilized K. Vanadoc's *High and Low Art*; Baudelaire's *Painter of Modern Life and other essays*, and Kimmelman's *Accidental Masterpiece*.

Regularly instructed: *Aesthetics*: Introduce sophomore students to philosophical questions about the arts using close readings of artworks as navigation; discussion about problems of representation through M. Podro's *Depiction*, S. Hudsvedt's *Mysteries of the Rectangle*, Mitchell's *What do Pictures Want?* and many other various texts.

Studio Classes: Regularly taught Introductory Drawing, Figure Drawing, Color Theory for Print, and Painting Workshops

Gallery Coordinator / Guest Curator: Projects served an educational mission, including initiation of student committee, exhibitions that focus on student participation; coordinate luncheon sessions including faculty presentations, and student seminar groups. Curated many exhibitions, and worked with advanced students from various departments to develop advertising, print material, etc. Also coordinated student exhibits in library spaces. As school liaison, coordinated exhibitions and workshops in nearby shopping mall featuring Art Institute of Pittsburgh's faculty and staff.

As **Lead Faculty in Arts and Humanities Department**, coordinated Assessment of Learning Outcomes of Arts and Humanities classes. Dovetail with system-wide Institutional Effectiveness plan. Participated in Middle States review. Committee projects included Admissions committee.

AIP-Related Curated Projects:

TransformBECOME, Braddock PA, June 2014. Installation, interactive projects, animation and other media. Various expressions of the theme of transformation.

AiP Alumni Exhibition, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, Spring 2013. Coordinated a team of students who reached out to alumni from their varied academic departments to collect material; graphic design students managed branding, the development of display boards for exhibition, and advertising material.

Women, Paint, Print, Making, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, 2012. Invitational exhibition of artists working throughout Mid-Atlantic region who span generations and work with remarkably varied approaches. Educational component: display cases emphasizing process, women's leadership forum, and students from various departments aiding in curating, advertising and generating print material.

Notes on Human Experience, *The Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, 2010*. Ethereal look at figure in art featuring various contemporary media.

Finding Meaning, *Braddock PA, 2010*. Exhibition culminating yearlong lunchtime discussions with students focused on visual analysis of art historical sources.

The Body Show, *Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, 2003*. Invitational exhibition featuring work of artists across the country working with the figure as their primary subject. Worked with Design Studio student to develop print material, and exhibition booklet.

1995-1997 *Adjunct Faculty, Washington Studio School, Washington DC. Painting, Drawing, Printmaking.*

Atelier environment stressing the figure, empirical drawing and art history. Many direct links in people and pedagogy to The American University, and The Phillips Collection. Head of Faculty Search Committee member.

1993-1998 *Program Coordinator, Art and Learning Center, (1994-1998 Director, Parents' Association Gallery) Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland, College Park, MD*

As part of **Division of Student Affairs, managed Art and Learning Center**, and coordination of approximately 150 classes annually in areas of Family Arts, Leisure (topics other than studio) Pottery, Photography, Painting and administered seasonal Craft Fairs. Developed, scheduled and evaluated programs; developed and implemented annual budget, and supervised professional and student staff, studio managers, and contracted with teachers. Increased income, class offerings, and population served over 5-year term. Directed team-oriented staff, increased reportage structures and goal setting, implemented annual retreats, assumed in-house registration processes, developed training opportunities for staff. Received local grant funding for projects and general operating assistance. Under leadership of Student Union Director, great emphasis on student development.

Parents' Association Gallery, *Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland College Park, 1994-1998*. As Gallery Director, administered 8-10 exhibitions annually; most featured work of artists in greater DC community: Midsummer Landscape Show, Washington Studio School Faculty; UMCP graduate student Natasha Djukic, Costumes for *Beaux Stratagem*; *About Drawing* an interactive drawing experience featuring workshops for students. Sketchbook Show. Artists Cards. Also helped implement *Muppets Take Maryland*, (celebrating career of alumni Jim Henson) which included credit docent program.

1988-1992 *Adjunct Professor, Montgomery College, Takoma Park MD – Drawing 1, 2*

Part of small team of faculty who delivered vital range of art and design curriculum for students. Worked as independent study student to explore etching and monotype during summers.

1990-1992 *Project Coordinator, Arts Council of Montgomery County, MD*

Helped facilitate services to membership, aided in general arts advocacy, reported on legislation for County's Art in Public Architecture Program, co-developed working structure of alternative arts center

as multi-use site including exhibition space; organized juries and panelists for various projects, assisted in developing educational components for community outreach.

1985-1988 *Museum Assistant, Docent: **The Phillips Collection**, Washington DC*

Working here overlapped with my graduate work at The American University; provided services to public, worked with security and educational staff. Researched and presented tours of the collection and visiting exhibitions. Became intimately connected with holdings of early modernism.

1987-1988 *Lecturer of Art, **Charles County Community College**, La Plata MD. Art Appreciation, Art Survey.*

CONFERENCE AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

School of Visual Arts 29th Annual Conference: Art Is...? 2015 NY
A Question of Art and its Subjects: The Familiar, Home and the Auto-Narrative

Considering Landscape, Bronxville Library, 2015, NY
2-part discussion review of art in permanent collection

School of Visual Arts 28th Annual Conference: What an Art School Should Be? 2014, NY
A case for Critical Engagement through Study of the Humanities in a School for Culinary, Media Arts and Design.

Society for Educating Women, Summer Studio Conference, 2013, St. Louis MO,
Women Paint Print Making / Notes about a Campus Exhibit (focus on campus exhibition space linking educational mission of institution)

Board of Trustees, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh, 2012, PA
Thoughts After Sabbatical (personal narrative about artistic communities)

Academy for Educational Studies Conference, 2010, Chicago IL,
Edges Open: Navigating Discourse (collaborative learning space in and out of the classroom)

Art Institute of Pittsburgh Faculty, Teaching Conference, 2010, PA
Dialogue as Process

American Educational Studies Association Conference, 2009, Pittsburgh PA
Intelligent Seeing: Critical Thinking as a Crucial Cross-Disciplinary Educational Outcome

IADE (Institute of Visual Arts, Design and Marketing) Creative University Conference, 2009, Lisbon Portugal; *Finding Meaning, Narrative and Form: Experience of Critical Analysis for Art Institute Students.*

Art Institute of Pittsburgh Faculty, Teaching Conference, 2009, PA
Modernism and Postmodernism: Ideas about Form, Reality and Randomness

Student Lunchtime Discussions, April-September 2009
Seminar Series: Finding Meaning (Same band of students participated weekly for a year)

Art Institute of Pittsburgh Faculty, Teaching Conference 2008, PA
Breaking it Down: Narrative and Form, or Finding Meaning

Summer Painting Workshop, The Washington Studio School, 2008
Painting Multiple Figures

Washington Jefferson University, 2001, PA
NEH Visiting Artist Lectures to Painting and Drawing Students

Art and Learning Center, University of Maryland College Park, MD, 1993-1997
Workshops on Landscape Painting, Techniques and Materials of Painting, and Monotype

Educational Workshop, The Phillips Collection, Washington DC, 1997
Drawing in the Galleries, in conjunction with Twentieth Century Still Life Painting Exhibit

ACUI (Association of College Unions International) Regional Conferences, 1996, 1997
Arts Information Exchange; promote discussion of arts programming in Student Unions.

George Washington University, 1988
Guest Lecture: Landscape Painting

COLLABORATIVE ARTISTIC MEDIA PROJECTS WITH STUDENTS

Transilience, 2013, Media Arts and Animation Collaborative class, Art Institute of Pittsburgh; invited to work as client with a group of students who developed animation with my images.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRRabgkSgzI>

Summer Stories, 2012, Media Arts and Animation Collaborative class, Art Institute of Pittsburgh; invited to work as client with students who applied my visual images and written word to animation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFkvZvYLv20&t=73s>

Doll Project, 2010, compilation of videos submitted to me by others using my painted forms as subject; exploring dialectic. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBkHEAQADRs>

Solo Exhibitions

2020 Bronxville Women's Club, NY

2019 Gilbert Gallery, Miss Porter's School, CT

2018 Bowery Gallery, *Summer Invitational*, NY

2015 Small Paintings and Drawings, Little Gallery, Bronxville Library, NY

2014 *Observations*, Gallery at 43rd Street, Pittsburgh PA

2012 Kurt Shaw Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA

2009 Hoyt Institute of Fine Art, PA

2008 *Mutable Glimpses*, Brew House Space 101 Project Gallery, Pittsburgh PA

2004-2005 *Views From the Skinny*, Public Art Installation at Skinny Building, Pittsburgh PA

2003 *Summer Paintings*, PENN Gallery

2002 *Figures*, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL

2001-2005 *Gallery on the Avenues*, public art projects in vacant city windows, Pittsburgh PA

2001 Waynesburg College, PA

2001 Hoyt Institute of Fine Art, PA

2000 *Figures/in/Interiors*, Space 101 Project Gallery, Brew House, Pittsburgh PA

2000 Courtyard Gallery, Washington DC

1999 Parents' Association Gallery, University of Maryland, MD
1999 *Spring: Tools and Interiors*, Penn Avenue Theater, Pittsburgh, PA
1997 Joe's Movement Emporium, MD
1996 Courtyard Gallery, Washington DC
1995 *Monotypes*, Maryland College of Art and Design, MD
1994 *Recent Work*, Audubon Naturalist Society, MD
1990 *Figure Drawings and Small Paintings*, Charles County Community College, LaPlata, MD

Two Person and Group Shows:

2019 Greenbelt Community Center Art Gallery, *Unusual Family Portraits*
2015 *Osilas Invitational*, Concordia College, Bronxville NY
2015 *Captivity Narratives*, Fort Pitt Museum, PA, Curator: Megan Shalonis
2015 First Street Gallery, National Juried Exhibition, Juror: Steve Harvey, NY
2014 *TransformBECOME*, Unsmoke Systems, Braddock PA
2013 *Drawing From Perception VII*, Wright State University, Juror: Stanley Lewis
2012 *Women Paint Print Making*, Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, Pittsburgh PA
2011 *Not So %\$#! Serious*, site specific installations, Unsmoke Systems, Braddock PA
2010 Carnegie Museum of Art, First Annual Film Festival, PA
2010 *Notes on Human Experience*, Art Institute of Pittsburgh Gallery, PA
2010 *Finding Meaning*, Unsmoke Systems, Braddock PA
2009 *Drawing From Perception*, Wright State University, Juror: Ruth Miller
2008 *Forbidden Space, Real and Unreal*, collaboration with Seyhan Sitti, Unsmoke System, Braddock PA
2006 *Grand Allusions*, curated by Carmela Kohlman, The Painting Center, NY
2006 *Figure/Ground*, collaboration with Karen Antonelli, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, PA (culmination of two years field-drawing expeditions)
2005 *Bicycles/Umbrellas*, Digging Pitt Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA
2004 *Drawing From Perception*, Wright State University, Juror: Charles Cajori
2004 *Casa*, Fe Gallery, Pittsburgh PA
2002 *Recent Work*, with Houston Hill, PENN Gallery, Pittsburgh PA
2000 *Snapshot*, Contemporary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD
1999 Halbert Biennial, Appalachian State University, NC, Juror's (Terrie Sultan) First Prize
1998, 1997 Downtown Artspace, Charlottesville, VA
1996 WSS Faculty Show, The Artist's Museum, Washington DC
1993 *Six Local Artists*, The Washington Studio School (Courtyard) Gallery, Washington DC
1993 Open Studio sponsored by The Washington Project for the Arts
1985-1987 *James McLaughlin Memorial Staff Show*, The Phillips Collection, Washington DC

INDEPENDENT PROJECTS IN PUBLIC SPHERE:

Loud Rattle and Chestnuts, Summer 2019- ongoing. Experimental and evolving blog connecting colleagues, current and former students; short essays and videos – contemplations about art.

<https://aloudrattle.weebly.com/>

Girl Squad (Girls with Tools), 2019. Combination drawing, sewing and mailed correspondence. Original watercolor and graphite drawings (of costumed figures) digitally copied onto printmaking paper and sewn onto fabric swatches creating banner. Set of 7, mailed over summer months.

Mail Art Project, 2014-ongoing. Interactive project celebrating community via long distance. Explores chance. Ink drawings of auto-narrative subjects from snapshots made into booklets, 5 separate sets send to various individuals inviting them to create in booklet then send to another participant. Only 1 set returned thus far. <https://youtu.be/Cd6QkjghO70/>

Annual Parking Lot Projects, 2015, 2016, 2018. Various multi-media forms using photocopies of paintings, sewn forms and amulets, cardboard and wire affixed to fences and other elements in nearby parking lot. Left to rot or be taken, viewed by commuters. Deinstalled after 1 month.

Pink Gingham Project, 2007-2008. Marker and Gouache drawings from family photo albums printed on iron transfers, attached to fabric swatches from childhood curtains, left in landscape around Pittsburgh's 3 rivers. Archive (Booklet) produced; extended practice and invited others to send snapshots of swatches. Started to use mail here. <https://youtu.be/kluSZ6ogVzA/>

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

2019 Mercy College Faculty Development Recognition Grant Award

2013 Inez Hall Award, Outstanding Faculty, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh

2009 Student Choice Award, The Art Institute of Pittsburgh

1995 Employee Certificate of Excellence, Stamp Student Union and Campus Programs, University of Maryland

1999 First prize, Juror's Award, Halbert Biennial, Appalachian State University, NC, Terrie Sultan, Juror

1999 Purchase Award, Annual National Exhibition, Hoyt Institute of Fine Art

1986 Fred T. Gruber Award for Drawing, the American University

PRESS:

Nicole DeWald, *Artists Create Meaning, Memory Using Family Photos*, Greenbelt News Review, February 2019

Kurt Shaw, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, June 2010

Kurt Shaw, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, June 2006

Alice Winn, Pittsburgh City Paper, April 2002

Catherine Kizer, the Tunnel, April 2002

"Storefront Galleries" Caroline Abels, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, November 2001

Angie Santello, Yellow Jacket, September 2001

Alice Winn, Pittsburgh City Paper, April 2000

PUBLICATIONS:

Invited Featured Contributor, Equinox, University of Arkansas Literary Journal, 2016

Molly's Heritage, Mutable Glimpses, Little Tired Press, 2013 (artist book)

Introductory Essay, *Women Paint Print Making* Exhibition Booklet, Fall 2012

Introductory Essay, *Notes on Human Experience* Exhibition Booklet, Spring 2010

Breaking it Down: Narrative and Form, 40IAIDE International Conference, 2009

Introductory Essay, *Body Show* Exhibition Booklet, Summer 2003

Elizabeth Peak, Eyewash, June 1992

Margaret Graham Kranking, Eyewash, April 1992

Juliana Netschert, Paintings: Landscapes, Eyewash, October 1991

WORKS PURCHASED FOR COLLECTIONS:

Spector, Spector, Evans and Montague, Attorneys at Law, Pittsburgh, PA

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh, PA

Waynesburg College, PA

The Hoyt Institute of Fine Art, PA (Purchase Award)

Masonic Village, Sewickley PA

Work purchased for private collections in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Rhode Island, Washington DC,

Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine, New York and West Virginia

GALLERY AFFILIATIONS:

Gallery on 43rd Street, Pittsburgh PA

Marcia Rosenthal and Associates, Art Consultant

MEMBERSHIPS:

College Art Association

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Museum of Modern Art

Hyperallergic

WNYC