

# RACHEL TRUSTY

## EDUCATION

**2022** M.A. / Ph.D. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas

**2011** M.F.A. Studio Art, Lesley College

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

Areas of Specialization: Contemporary Art History, Museum Studies, Queer Theory, Gender and Sexuality in America (1900 – Present).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2023 - Present** Visiting Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies Department, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

Teach and serve as instructor of record of Introduction to Gender Studies and interdisciplinary courses such as Queer Studies, Sex, Gender, and New Media, and Feminist and LGBT+ Art. Create curriculum and assessments that align with departmental goals. Coordinate with the Samek Museum of Art to organize curatorial and archival opportunities for students. Graded all coursework.

**2018 - 2022** Graduate Teaching Assistant, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

Taught and served as instructor of record of four courses: Feminist and LGBT+ Art History (1965 – Present), Feminist Research Methods, 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.

**2016 – 2022** Instructor, 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. 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 the 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 AP and Honors US History 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

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

- 2024 “All that Glitters is not Gold: Visitor Understanding of Felix Gonzalez-Torres’s Candy Spill Installations,” *Curator: The Museum Journal*, November 22, 2024. Print and Online.  
“Chesser and Holly: A Case of Queer, Interracial Marriage in the Turn-of-the Century Frontier,” Article and Digital Exhibition, *Queer Pasts Project, Alexander Street*, July 10, 2024. Online.  
2018 “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.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2023 “*Poor Queer Studies* (2020): A Margins-to-Center Approach to Queer Pedagogies,” *FWD: Museums Journal*. 2023. Print.

### **Exhibition Reviews**

- 2023 “Entre/Between at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art,” *Burnaway Magazine*, February 9, 2023. Online.  
2019 “Queer Abstraction,” *ARTMargins Online*, MIT Press, Sept. 17, 2019. Online.

### **Editorials Etc.**

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

### **Contributing Researcher (Qualitative Data Collection)**

- 2020 Hannah E. Britton, “Understanding Risk and Prevention in Midwestern Antitrafficking Efforts: Service Providers’ Perspectives,” *GA. ST. U. L. REV* 36, no. 4 (Summer 2020): 1105 – 1128.

## **AWARDS, GRANTS, & RESIDENCIES**

### **Awards/Fellowships**

- 2024 Mellon Summer Residency Fellowship, Humanities Center, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

- Advocate for Gender Equity Award, Gender Equity Network, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- 2022 Purchase Award, Watkins Museum of History, Lawrence, KS.
- 2021 Graduate Scholarly Development Award, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- Brousseau Award, Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS.
- 2020 Graduate Teaching Award, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.
- 2018 – 9 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.
- Purchase Award, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR.
- 2013 Purchase Award, Small Works on Paper Exhibition, Arkansas Arts Council, Little Rock, AR.

### **Grants**

- 2025 High Impact Scholarship Grant, Art Council, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- 2024 High Impact Teaching Grant, Humanities Center, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- 2023 Scholarly Development Grant, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- High Impact Research Grant, Humanities Center, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.
- 2022 Travel Research 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 Research 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**

- 2020 Shelter-in-Place Artist Residency, Conducted Virtually.
- 2019 Arts, Letters, & Numbers Artist Residency, Albany, NY.

### **SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 *violets at midnight*, Art Academy of Milton, Milton, PA.
- 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

2025 *Vessels*, Curator: Julian Graham, Union Street Gallery, Chicago Heights, IL.

2024 *Girlfriends*, Jurors: Carmen M. Perez-Stoppert and Mary Stoppert, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL.

*Delta Triennial*, Curators: Amy Kligman, Alexis McGrigg, and Takako Tanabe, Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Little Rock, AR.

*Out in the Margins*, Curator: Will Wheeler, Gallery on Greenly Center, Bloomsburg, PA.

2023 *In this Body of Mine*, Curators: Joan Cox and Liz Faust, MassArt x SoWa Gallery, Boston, MA.

*People Next Door*, Curator: Bri Peterson, Acansa Gallery, North Little Rock, AR.

*It Was All Very Queer*, Juror: Brandon Anschulz, St. Louis Artists' Guild, St. Louis, MO.

*Southern Futurisms*, Jurors: Dana-Marie Lemmer and T.K. Smith, Museum of Fine Arts, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

*Ozark Home*, Curator: Samantha Signon, The Medium, Springdale, AR.

*Different Names*, Curator: Whitney LaMora, The Martin Gallery, Chicago, IL.

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: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition*, Curators: Brian Young and Sue Bennett, Baum Gallery, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR.

*Restoring and Redefining the Body*, Jury: 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 15<sup>TH</sup> 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.

*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.  
*38<sup>th</sup> 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.

## CURATORIAL

**July 2023** *Irene Rosenzweig Biennial Juried Exhibition, The Arts and Science Center of Southeast Arkansas, Pine Bluff, AR.*

I served as the juror for this biennial exhibition that included work from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas.

**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.

**Sept. 2019** *soothSAY, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR.*

This exhibition explored feminist futurity through a collection of mixed-media fiber and craft works.

**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

Digital Transcription Team Member, 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, Host, KABF 88.3 FM, Little Rock, AR.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Conferences

- 2025 *upcoming* "Queer Historical Sources and/in the Age of Digital History," Organization of American Historians National Conference, Chicago, IL, April 5, 2025.
- "Let the Little Children Come to Me: Sweet Kitsch and Spreading the Gospel," College Art Association Conference, New York City, NY, February 13, 2025.
- 2024 "Ma and Pa and All 'Em: A Visual Analysis of the Hillbilly Family in Bruce Seaton's Photographs," Arkansas Historical Association Annual Conference, Heber Springs, AR, April 26, 2024.
- 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.

### Guest Lectures

- 2023 "Queer Portraiture within the History of Image-Making," Bauhaus University, Weimar, Germany. November 6, 2023.
- "Chesser and Holly: A Case of Queer, Interracial Marriage in the Turn-of-the Century Frontier." Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA. September 12, 2023.
- 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.

### **Artist Talks**

2022 *Each Other* Artist Talk, Aplomb Gallery, Dover, NH. December 13, 2022.

*Beyond Craft* Juror and Artist Talk, Chico Art Center, Chico, CA. November 18, 2022.

2021 Artist Talk, Regional Art Museum, Fort Smith, AR. Online, October 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**

2023 – Present Member of the WGS Coordinating Committee, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, Bucknell University.

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

Organization of American Historians

Arkansas History Association