

GABRIELLE LAVIN SUZENSKI

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE GALLERIES AT MOORE COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

October 2007 – present

Rochelle F. Levy Director

June 2016 – present

- Manage all administrative, operational, financial, programmatic and curatorial functions
- Oversee full time staff of 2 and part time staff of 4
- Schedule and curate up to 30 exhibitions in seven on-site galleries and one off-site, year round
- Develop up to 20 public programs, community partnerships, and special projects annually
- Prepare and manage annual budgets for general operating, exhibitions and grants—including managing payroll and all departmental accounting
- Collaborate with Moore’s senior management team to create five-year strategic planning and implementation processes for the college
- Work with VP of Finance and Administration to procure federal, state, local and private funding for both operational and programmatic purposes
- Maintain current fundraising commitments, including completing and filing grant reports and lead all other development opportunities including donor & board engagement and attending civic and arts-related events
- Collaborate with Academic Dean/CAO, faculty and students in developing ideas and resources for using exhibitions to foster valuable education and community-building opportunities

Assistant Director of Exhibitions and Operations

September 2011 – May 2016

- Work with the director to oversee all administrative, financial, curatorial and operational functions
- Coordinate all schedules related to year-round exhibition planning, including installation crew, artist engagement, public programming and marketing plans
- Prepare and manage annual budgets for general operating, exhibitions and grants
- Project lead and/or assist in all grant writing, editing, budget planning, and related implementation and reporting procedures
- Organize site-specific installation details in all of seven on-site gallery spaces and one off-site: design exhibition layout, draft floor plans, oversee loan agreements, head registrar duties, manage installation crew (4 part time employees) and all vendor relations
- Coordinate all communications materials including design, production and implementation of all print, signage, publications, websites and social media
- Act as liaison to the college working with finance department, communications department, human resources and others to ensure proper utilization of college’s standard procedures within The Galleries’ day to day functions

Interim Co-Director

February 2011 – August 2011

- Director of all curatorial and operational functions; interim co-directorship was shared with Outreach Coordinator who directed public programming aspects of position while we both led the search committee to find new/incoming director, responsibilities same as above

Gallery Manager

October 2007 – January 2011

- Manage administrative, financial and operational functions

- Prepare and manage annual budgets for general operating, exhibitions and grants – including managing payroll and all organizational accounting
- Prepare and present quarterly expense reports
- Organize site-specific installation details in all of seven on-site gallery spaces and one off-site: design exhibition layout, draft floor plans, oversee loan agreements, head registrar duties, manage installation crew (4 part time employees) and all vendor relations
- Coordinate all communications materials including design, production and implementation of all print, signage, publications and websites
- Coordinate and manage annual appeals and development database

BETHANY MISSION GALLERY (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

May 2013 – Present (part time)

Collection Manager

- Work with private collector to cultivate, organize, store, and display his self-taught artist acquisitions and other object collections in a 6,000 square foot museum-quality renovated Quaker meeting house
- Research artworks & artists, establish provenance for new acquisitions, and author artist biographies for didactic materials including labels, publications, and website
- Maintain and continually update comprehensive object database, label system & website and manage part time installation staff
- Track spending, document purchase history data, liaise with insurance rep to ensure adequate and routine coverage updates
- Created logo and responsible for designing all marketing materials including website, business cards, gallery notes and all printed materials
- Event collaboration with area arts institutions to host special events, private and public

THE FABRIC WORKSHOP & MUSEUM (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

October 2005 – March 2007

Assistant to the Director/Founder, Marion Boulton Stroud

- Assisted in arts administration, writing, editing, public relations, exhibition coordination, audio/visual management, and supervision of contemporary art and archival video collection
- Managed the director's calendar, appointments, travel and accommodations in conjunction with overseeing the schedule implementation for her summer art program (Acadia Summer Art Program, A.S.A.P) and its involvement with hundreds of national & international artists
- Digital photo database conception consisted of creating standard procedure for digitally cataloging and archiving comprehensive personal collection of contemporary art
- Daily tasks involving Fabric Workshop and Museum correspondence, managing FWM interim location, site-specific installation oversight and maintenance.

POST-COLLEGE APPRENTICESHIP

THE FABRIC WORKSHOP & MUSEUM (PHILADELPHIA, PA)

September 2004 – October 2005

- Studio / gallery assistant; one color and multiple color pattern design and silk-screen yardage print execution; construction assist in various artist projects; production assist for in-house shop sales items; exhibition installation assistant; archives organization assistant; gallery tour guide and administrative office assistant.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Museums
 Association of Academic Museums and Galleries
 College Art Association

TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETENCE

- Mac and PC proficient
- Proficient in all basic business software including word processing, presentation, research, financial management, small network management, and HTML authoring & web design
- Proficient in all graphic and visual design applications, digital image processing programs and mid-level experience with video editing software
- Programs include, but not limited to: Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, Outlook, etc; Adobe Creative Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Dreamweaver, etc; Filemaker Pro; The Financial Edge; The Raiser's Edge; and ArtBase

SELECT EXHIBITIONS | CURATORIAL

All exhibitions presented at The Galleries at Moore College of Art & Design, Philadelphia, PA

In my role as a curator, I am committed to supporting artists' communities through providing opportunities for emerging & established artists to exhibit new work in an educational environment, and enabling a collaborative incubator for creative ideas that encourages interdisciplinary thinking in the pursuit of new projects.

Black: Mourning to Celebration, Wilson & Graham Galleries

November 23, 2019 – January 11, 2020 (curator)

In early Western cultures, black clothing was a signifier of authority and also of mourning—and in many situations, remains so today. The garments and accessories on view in this presentation are part of Moore's Historic Costume Collection, originally gifted to the college in 1940 by Lynda Augusta Eckendorf Hering (1853 – 1940). Considered a tool and historical resource, the collection is made available to students and faculty, offering the opportunity to examine construction details and observe silhouettes and textile properties that can provide significant information about cultures that inform design.

Jill Bonovitz, June Kelly, and Paula Scher: Visionary Women, Wilson & Graham Galleries

August 3 – September 21, 2019 (curator)

Since 2003, the Visionary Woman Awards has recognized outstanding women leaders who have made a powerful impact on the worlds of art and design—through its Visionary Woman scholarship program, Moore supports the extraordinary achievements of women who provide powerful role models for our students. Presenting a curated selection of Bonovitz's wire sculptures and porcelain vessels; posters and design projects from Scher's portfolio; and interviews and ephemera celebrating Kelly's more than thirty years as a gallerist representing over thirty artists.

Caroline Woolard, Wilson Gallery

August 3 – September 21, 2019 (curator)

A curated archive of Woolard's past works, this exhibition provides viewers an introduction to the artist's processes around creating dialogue through interaction. Focused on improving communication and group dynamics, the artist creates objects that are meant to be handled, used, and shared in order to facilitate a better understanding of interpersonal skills like listening, attention, and communication—her goal is to celebrate collective capacities for care.

Gary Smith: *Pick Up Sticks*, Levy Gallery

June 15 – August 24, 2019 (curator)

Smith creates abstract objects out of found and recycled materials—such as old barn joists and repurposed construction debris—and combines them with natural wood harvested from his five acre property in rural Chester County. Smith shapes the wood, burns the wood, seals it, cuts into it with common tools and seals it again and again to preserve it. This juxtaposition of otherwise ordinary mediums are displayed in unexpected compositions that bring new life to formerly discarded and forgotten fragments.

Material Culture: *Apsara Arts of Asia*, Graham Gallery

June 8 – July 20, 2019 (curator)

Over many centuries, Sumatra has been especially influenced by Arab, Indian, and Chinese cultures due to its strategic position along historic trade routes—the consequence of which has impacted the island’s variety of textile traditions and resulted in many different patterns and production techniques. While trade enabled cultural exchange, it also brought great wealth to the island that resulted in the evolution of social and political hierarchies that used textiles to distinguish their positions. Over the centuries, textiles in Sumatra have served as threads of identity reflecting the region, wealth, status, gender, and age of the wearer; they are also valuable commodities traded at every level of society.

Making Space: *Leeway @ 25*, Goldie Paley & Levy Galleries

September 20 – December 8, 2018 (co-curator)

2018 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Leeway Foundation, an organization dedicated to grant-making and building community among artists, cultural producers and organizers in Greater Philadelphia. In celebration of this milestone year, the exhibition featured a selection of artworks by former grant recipients, as well as historical materials that recognize Leeway’s impact. On view are works that demonstrate the powerful intersection of art, culture, community and change—representing the artists and visionaries who continue to “make space” for fresh stories and new realities to emerge. Co-curated with Denise Brown, Executive Director, Leeway Foundation.

Kara Springer: *Ten Days Before Freedom*, Wilson Gallery

January 20 – March 24, 2018 (curator)

A new and monumental photographic installation that featured a series of photographs taken in Fox Hill, Nassau, a historic site founded in the early 1800s by liberated Africans in The Bahamas. Fox Hill is said to be the last village to receive news of emancipation from bondage for Africans in the British Caribbean, ten days after the initial decree of freedom in 1834. Taken in a churchyard in the town of Fox Hill, the series of images shown in repetition offer space for a closer contemplation of the precarious nature of transition, of faith, and of building towards freedom.

Nick Lenker – *Recreation: First Person*, Window on Race Gallery

September 16, 2017 – January 6, 2018 (curator)

This exhibition addressed the complexities of dealing with identity and intimacy within virtual and digital spaces. Exploring voyeurism and performance of self, Philadelphia artist Nick Lenker uses hand-built ceramic objects, digital video and sound to transform the gallery into a narrative environment that tells the story of a character whose world is rendered through three-dimensional, digital modeling software and whose existence is the sum of the objects he collects through his journeys.

Narrative Horizons: *Kay Healy, Sophia Narrett and Erin M. Riley*, Goldie Paley Gallery

September 16 – December 9, 2017 (curator)

Presented the work of three women—Kay Healy, Sophia Narrett and Erin M. Riley—whose contemporary studio practices are heavily influenced by traditions steeped in functional craft and the handmade. The exhibition considers how contemporary revivals of sewing, weaving and embroidery reflect the continuing feminist interest in historical technique and play a critical role in helping these artists understand the past while addressing identity in the present and future.

Bodyworks: A festival/exhibition celebrating performance, Levy Gallery

September 16 – December 9, 2017 (curator)

A festival of performances, workshops and collaborative projects that examine the body as both material and tool in contemporary performance. Incorporating practices of dance, theatre, costume and sound, this exhibition brings together a diverse group of Philadelphia artists who use their bodies to engage viewers with their craft and create new spaces for social action, dialogue and representation. The Levy Gallery was transformed into a multi-use performance space that hosted a robust calendar of performances and community events.

Andrea Baldeck & Ursula von Rydingsvard: Visionary Women, Wilson and Graham Galleries

September 16 – November 11, 2017 (curator)

Honoring 2017 Visionary Women Awardees Andrea Baldeck and Ursula von Rydingsvard and presented in conjunction with CraftNow—a citywide exhibition examining the *fluid boundaries* that exist between, among and surrounding varying practices in art, design and craft—the exhibition featured a selection of photographs of craftsmen and women taken by Baldeck throughout her international journeys and a series of recent handmade paper by von Rydingsvard.

RAIR: Filthy Rich – Projects made possible by the waste stream, Levy Gallery

January 28 – March 11, 2017 (co-curator)

Situated inside the Revolution Recovery construction waste recycling center in Northeast Philadelphia, RAIR (Recycled Artist In Residency) interrupts the waste stream in order to promote and support sustainable practices in the worlds of art & design. RAIR has facilitated over forty artist residencies, special projects and performances since its founding in 2010. *Filthy Rich: Projects made possible by the waste stream* focuses on twenty-five of those projects reflecting the emergence of two prevailing themes: “site as medium” and “material as medium.” Co-curated with Billy Blaise Dufala, Director of Residencies at RAIR and Lucia Thome, Director of Special Projects at RAIR.

Mark Stockton: Independent(s), Goldie Paley Gallery

January 28 – March 11, 2017 (curator)

Mark Stockton's latest work, made specifically for this exhibition, focused on the radical female voice and the breadth of its interpretation through hand-drawn imagery. Working from photographs of women—including Alice Neel, Gertrude Stein, Georgia O'Keefe, Joan Didion, Kathleen Hanna and Angela Davis—taken exclusively by men, Stockton investigates how the popular is made familiar, rendering intimate portraits in pencil with extraordinary detail. In addition to the introduction of this new series, this presentation included selections from previous projects that focus on portraiture, male identity, and American individualism.

Paper Giants: Ky Anderson, Meg Lipke & Vicki Sher, Wilson Gallery

January 28 – March 11, 2017 (curator)

Paper Giants is an ongoing project that brings together the works of three New York-based artists: Ky Anderson, Meg Lipke and Vicki Sher. Each work is exactly 72 x 60 inches on heavyweight paper and while all three artists utilize varying colors, mediums and composition, their collaborative rigor is decidedly evident. The exhibition was conceived in 2013 to investigate the ways in which a small group can present individual ideas within a shared space and through similar format, while at the same time maintaining their independent studio practices. This collective presentation includes new works by all three women, alongside recent works that have been previously shown.

Hawk Krall: The New Philadelphia, Graham Gallery

January 23 – March 12, 2016 (curator)

Featuring recent works by Philadelphia-based artist Hawk Krall, this exhibition probes the grittier side of Philadelphia through imaginative street scenes and vaguely futuristic illustrations celebrating the intersection of old and new in an ever-changing city.

Further exhibition information for below listings can be found at thegalleriesatmoore.org

Visionary Woman: Pat Steir, Wilson Gallery
September 12 – November 7, 2015 (curator)

Nadia Hironaka & Matthew Suib: Ascension (with Cat), Window on Race
June 27 – August 29, 2015 (curator)

Visionary Women: Helen W. Drutt English, Janet Fish and Nicole Miller, Wilson Gallery
September 9 – November 1, 2014 (curator)

Visionary Women: Kathy Butterly and Ann King Lajos, Wilson Gallery
September 14 – October 13, 2013 /// The Galleries at Moore College of Art & Design (curator)

A Circumstantial Assembly, Levy Gallery for the Arts in Philadelphia
January 28 – March 17, 2012 /// The Galleries at Moore College of Art & Design (curator)

Signe Wilkinson: The World in Line!, Graham Gallery
August 20 – October 15, 2011 /// The Galleries at Moore College of Art & Design (curator)

DesignLab Presents, curated collaborations and site-specific installations developed to include all areas of design, funded by a grant received from the Knight Foundation. On display in the Window on Race, on view 24/7, The Galleries at Moore College of Art & Design (curator)

DesignLab Presents: Karl Allen + Jacob Kehs "THAT HOTEL," May 25 – August 27, 2011

DesignLab Presents: Gabriel Boyce + Preston Link "ROCK," September 10 – November 26, 2011

DesignLab, a series of curated exhibitions pairing local Philadelphia fashion designers with emerging artists in creative collaborations funded by a grant received from the Knight Foundation (curator)

DesignLab: Sarah Van Aken + Brenna K. Murphy, February 7 – March 15, 2011

DesignLab: Sheila Frank '07 + Anne Schaefer, December 11, 2010 – January 29, 2011

DesignLab: Cheryl Washington + Gibbs Connors, October 22 – December 4, 2010

DesignLab: Commonwealth Proper + Emily Bowser, September 4 – October 16, 2010

DesignLab: Carmelita Couture + Humalode LLC, July 17 – August 28, 2010

References and other materials available upon request.