

# Mary Callahan Baumstark, M.A.

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## 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

“Toward a Digital-Handicraft Practice,” co-authored with Theresa Slater  
In *Critical Digital Making: An Anthology*  
Edited by Aaron Knochel, Christine Liao, Ryan Patton

Forthcoming

“Social Utopia: Craft and Progress”  
in *Makers, Crafter, Educators: Working for Cultural Change*  
Edited by Elizabeth Garber, Lisa Hochtritt, and Manisha Sharma

Forthcoming

Routledge Publishing

Abingdon, United Kingdom

*McKnight Resident Exhibition Catalogue, 2018 and 2019*  
Essayist

Forthcoming

Northern Clay Center

Minneapolis, MN

*Social Objects*  
Edited by Mary Callahan Baumstark  
Designed by Amanda Leigh Evans

March 2017

Socially Engaged Craft Collective

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.

“Rehashing Modernism: Pitfalls of Popular Pottery” CFile’s journal, <i>Ostracon</i> . Abbreviated version available here: <a href="https://cfileonline.org/c-library-rehashing-modernism-contemporary-ceramic-art/">https://cfileonline.org/c-library-rehashing-modernism-contemporary-ceramic-art/</a>	Nov 2016 CFile Online
“Miriam Griffin’s “Vermin” Will Have You Celebrating the Scum of the Animal World” <a href="http://ceramicartistsnow.com/2016/08/22/miriam-griffin-ceramic-artists/">http://ceramicartistsnow.com/2016/08/22/miriam-griffin-ceramic-artists/</a>	August 2016 Ceramic Artists Now
“Commentary: Hacking NCECA” <a href="https://cfileonline.org/commentary-hacking-nceca-a-broke-students-guide-to-the-best-weekend-in-clay-contemporary-ceramics-cfile/">https://cfileonline.org/commentary-hacking-nceca-a-broke-students-guide-to-the-best-weekend-in-clay-contemporary-ceramics-cfile/</a>	May 2016 CFile Online
“Commentary: The Politics of Cute as seen at NCECA 2016” <a href="https://cfileonline.org/commentary-nceca-2016-and-the-politics-of-cute-contemporary-ceramic-art-cfile/">https://cfileonline.org/commentary-nceca-2016-and-the-politics-of-cute-contemporary-ceramic-art-cfile/</a>	May 2016 CFileOnline
“The Role of Performance in Socially Engaged Craft (And Art!)” <a href="https://sociallyengagedcraftcollective.org/2016/04/26/the-role-of-performance-in-socially-engaged-craft-and-art/">https://sociallyengagedcraftcollective.org/2016/04/26/the-role-of-performance-in-socially-engaged-craft-and-art/</a>	April 2016 The Socially Engaged Craft Collective Blog
“Craftivism Manifesto” (co-author) <a href="https://www.facebook.com/craftivista/posts/10156263520935654">https://www.facebook.com/craftivista/posts/10156263520935654</a>	2015 with Betsy Greer

<b>CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, GUEST LECTURES, AND VOLUNTEERISM</b>	
“Craftivism: From Historic Movement to Contemporary Method” In “Craft and Resistance” panel with nicole gugliotti and Elizabeth Kozlowski College Art Association Conference	February 2018 Los Angeles, CA
Roundtable Presentation “Residencies” Canadian Craft Biennial	September 2017 Burlington, Ontario
Conference Presentation “What Can Be in the World: Roberto Lugo’s “Ghetto Pottery” and the Aesthetics of Luxury in Activism” Nouveau Reach: Past, Present, and Futures	May 2017 Toronto, Ontario
Conference Presentation “Ceramic Craftivism: Resistance and Activism in Contemporary Clay” National Conference for Education in the Ceramic Arts	March 17, 2016 Kansas City, Missouri
Organizer, Speaker, Conference Presentation “Popular Potters: Neo-Modernism in Vogue and the New York Times” #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	March 12, 2016 OCAD University, Toronto

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

Centered Lewistown Art Center	Forthcoming (March 2018) Lewistown, MT
Joined: Sculpture and Function Curator Lewistown Art Center	February 2018 Lewistown, MT
Social Objects Organizer, artist, and participant c3:Initiative	2017 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	2011

Off Center Gallery	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
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
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
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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
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Assistant Director Lewistown Arts Center	March 2017-Present Lewistown, MT
Resident Art Historian and Blog Committee Chair Socially Engaged Craft Collective	March 2015-Present
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, 2016
OCAD University 3MT (3 Minute Thesis) First Place Winner	OCAD University, 2016
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship	OCAD University, 2016
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship	OCAD University, 2015
OCAD University Graduate Scholarship	OCAD University, 2014
Graduated with Honors, University Scholar Distinction	University of Montana, 2013
Treasurer of University of Montana Emerging Ceramic Artists	University of Montana, 2013
Dean's List Honor Roll	University of Montana, 2013
Dean's List Honor Roll	University of Montana, 2012
4.0 GPA Honor Roll	University of Montana, 2010
Dean's List Honor Roll	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