



## Vanessa Godden

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### Curriculum Vitae

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#### Statement

I am an Indo-Trinidadian and Euro-Canadian artist and academic based in Toronto, Canada. My artistic practice uses performative gestures to explore how personal histories of sexual assault, racism, cultural heritage, and the body in relation to geographic space can be conveyed through material engagements with the body. My academic research extends from my artistic practice to consider how drawing from decolonising practices of the past can be used to aid in the decolonisation of contemporary performance arts practices.

#### Education

**PHD (ART) / [EMBODYING ENTANGLEMENT](#) / 2020**

Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia)

**Supported through the Melbourne International Research Scholarship and Melbourne International Fee Remission Scholarship**

**MFA / [SOMATIC DISSONANCE](#) / 2014**

Rhode Island School of Design (Providence, USA)

**BFA / 2012**

University of Houston (Houston, USA)

#### Selected Exhibitions, Screenings, and Residencies

**FEMINIST ART FESTIVAL / 2020**

Art festival hosted by the Ontario College of Art and Design (Toronto, Canada)

**EMBODYING ENTANGLEMENT / 2019**

Solo exhibition at Margaret Lawrence Gallery (Melbourne, Australia)

**CONTEMPORARY ART FESTIVAL "VIDEOPARK" / 2018**

Video art screening in front of the Center for Visual Research and Gallery Reflektor (Užice, Serbia)

**CARTOGRAPHY | PURGE / 2018**

Live performance at Women\* Art and Feminism Symposium hosted by the Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne, Australia)

**EMBODYING ENTANGLEMENT / 2018**

Solo exhibition at Kings Artist Run Initiative (Melbourne, Australia)

**IDENTITY INTERSECTION / 2017**

A group exhibition of Triple F Collective members. Curated by Tassia Joannides and exhibited at Counihan Gallery (Melbourne, Australia)

**THE LINES IN BETWEEN / 2017**

A group exhibition at SEVENTH Gallery curated by feminist art collective Triple F Collective (Melbourne, Australia)

**FEMINIST ART COLLECTIVE RESIDENCY / 2017**

Two-week long artist residency culminating in a group exhibition. Funded through the Faculty Small Arts Grant through the Victorian College of the Arts (Toronto Island, Canada)

**YOUKOBO ART SPACE AIR / 2016**

Month long artist residency culminating in a solo exhibition (Tokyo, Japan)

**EXTREMELY SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL / 2015**

Film festival screening juried by Jolene Pinder. Event organized and hosted by Aurora Picture Show (Houston, USA)

**STEAL THIS ART / 2014**

A group exhibition curated by Jessica Palinski. Exhibited at The Granoff Center (Providence, USA)

**500X EXPO / 2014**

Juried group exhibition. Juried by Alison Hearst and exhibited at 500X (Dallas, USA)

**WHO ARE YOU? / 2014**

Group exhibition curated by Joseph C. Roberts. Event hosted by Center On Contemporary Art (Seattle, USA)

**SEVEN STORIES TALL / 2014**

Group exhibition curated by Brian Clamp. Exhibition was hosted by ClampArt (NYC, USA)

**CLOAKED AND CRASHING / 2013**

A group exhibition curated by Hao Ni and Gail Dodge. Exhibited at Expose (Providence, USA)

**TRAVELING FATHERHOOD / 2013**

Ongoing screening of my short film 'Traveling Fatherhood', curated by Sophia LaCava-Bohanan. Screened at The Living Rooms: Granoff Center (Providence, USA)

**ALL THE DIRE MOTIVES / 2013**

Group exhibition curated by Mark Moscone. The exhibition took place at Gelman Gallery (Providence, USA)

**TALK: BODY / 2013**

Group exhibition curated by Namwoo Bae and Ahrong Kim. Exhibition hosted by Gelman Gallery (Providence, USA)

**EXPERIMENTAL EYE / 2012**

Video art screening curated by Kelly Sears. Hosted by Aurora Picture Show (Houston, USA)

**UNBLOCKED / 2012**

f/16 Collective group exhibition curated by Mary Magsamen. Exhibition hosted by Aurora Picture Show (Houston, USA)

## Scholarships and Grants

**DIGITAL ORIGINALS / DIASPORIC FUTURISMS: GALVANIZED SUNS / 2020**

The Canada Council for the Arts (Toronto, Canada)

**FACULTY SMALL ARTS GRANT / 2017**

Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne, Australia)

**MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP / 2015**

Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne, Australia)

**MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FEE REMISSION SCHOLARSHIP / 2015**

Victorian College of the Arts (Melbourne, Australia)

## Symposiums, Panel Discussions, Forums, and Publications

### PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

*CONFERENCE PAPER*

**UNCOMMON SENSES III: THE FUTURE OF THE SENSES/ MAY 2021**

I will be giving a 20-minute presentation on my PhD research at this conference hosted by Concordia University (Montreal, Canada)

*KEYNOTE SPEAKER*

**INTERSECTIONS | CROSS-SECTIONS/ MARCH 2021**

Myself and Adrienne Matheusik will be delivering a keynote presentation for the annual graduate conference at Ryerson University on our collaborative work for the curatorial project *Diasporic Futurisms* (Toronto, Canada)

*PANEL DISCUSSION*

**KEEPING IT CORPOREAL / 2020**

During the Feminist Art Festival, I spoke alongside artists Samantha Lyn Aasen, Jessie Eoin, and Sarah Mo and Adwoa Toku from the Las Lobas Collective on an artist panel on the political agency of corporeality in art (Toronto, Canada)

*PANEL DISCUSSION*

**THE GREAT DIVIDE: FEMINIST ART PRACTICE ACROSS GENERATIONS AND GEOGRAPHY/ AUGUST 11, 2018**

I participated on a panel of feminist arts organizations and artists from different generations and cultural backgrounds. The event built a discussion between representatives for The Women's Art Register in Melbourne and (RE)Present in New York City to foster a broad dialogue of contemporary feminist art across generations and cultures. Hosted by Women's Art Register at the Richmond Theatre (Melbourne, Australia)

*FORUM*

**AGAINST THE ODDS: WOMEN IN ART FORUM / OCTOBER 14, 2017**

As part of this forum, I gave a 15-minute presentation of my PhD research and participated in a panel discussion. *Against the Odds: Women in Art Forum* brought together a diverse and cross-generational range of local women artists to explore issues of place, community, gender and practice within contemporary art. Hosted by Women's Art Register at the Richmond Theatre (Melbourne, Australia)

#### SYMPOSIUM

##### **SOME ARTISTS AND PHILOSOPHERS WALKED INTO A ROOM** / JULY 11, 2017

I gave a 20-minute presentation of my PhD research at this symposium. The symposium was centred on the intersections of art and philosophy at the Victorian College of the Arts and hosted by Sean Lowry and Jenny McMahon (Melbourne, Australia)

#### PANEL DISCUSSION

##### **IDENTITY INTERSECTION | WOMEN ART AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES** / JUNE 17, 2017

This was a panel discussion unpacking various perspectives on the ways art can explore the complexities of gendered and cultural subjectivities. The panel of speakers comprised of myself, Sofi Basseghi, Lisa Hilli, and Frances Tapueluelu and the discussion was moderated by Paula van Beek at *Counihan Gallery* (Melbourne, Australia)

#### WRITTEN WORKS

#### ARTICLE PUBLICATION

##### **'MATERIALIZING VOICE: A DIASPORIC LINEAGE OF FLOUR, SPICE, AND HAIR'** / DECEMBER 2020

My essay on the relationship between diasporic bodies and food has been published in a special issue of the *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies* on Indian Caribbean Visual and Performing Arts titled 'From Indenture to Double Diaspora: Music, Film, and Visual Art in the Indian Caribbean'

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'SOUCOUYANT' AND 'CARTOGRAPHY'** / AUGUST 2, 2017

A short essay and photographic documentation of one of my performances extracted from my PhD research published in *Yes Ma'am Zine* (San Antonio, USA)

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'MY MOTHER PERFORMS EXORCISMS IN HER SLEEP'** / JUNE, 2017

A short essay extracted from my PhD research published in *Pliir Magazine: The Happiness Issue* (Helsinki, Finland)

#### ARTWORK PUBLICATIONS

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'PURGE'** / FALL, 2018

Artwork documentation published in *Carnation Zine* (Winnipeg, Canada)

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'BITE YOUR TONGUE' AND 'CHIMERA COLLABORATION'** / SUMMER, 2017

Artwork documentation published in *Whiny Femmes Zine* (Winnipeg, Canada)

#### WRITTEN FEATURES

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'TRIBULATIONS AND WESTERN HALLUCINATIONS'** / MAY 5, 2017

Essay by Diego Ramirez on my performance work 'Cartography' published in *The Article* (Melbourne, Australia)

#### PUBLICATION

##### **'SEVEN STORIES TALL'** / JULY 16, 2014

Essay by Cory Rice on group exhibition including my video work '19 Slip Knots' published in *Musée Magazine* (NYC, USA)