



Vanessa Godden

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Curriculum Vitae

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

EXPLORE AND CREATE: FROM CONCEPT TO REALIZATION / DIASPORIC FUTURISMS: TEMPORAL TEMPEST / 2021

The Canada Council for the Arts (Toronto, Canada)

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 presented 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 Matheuszik 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)