

# JESSICA KALLISTA

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## EDUCATION

2002 MFA George Mason University (Creative Writing/Poetry)

1997 BA Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (English Literature/Poetry)

## EXPERIENCE

September 2022—February 2023

College of Visual and Performing Arts

School of Theater

Theater History Curriculum Development Team

George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

September 2021—Present

College of Visual and Performing Arts

DEIA Senior Advisory Council

George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

March 2021

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Inclusive Excellence Plan

ARIE Designee

George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

January 2021—May 2021

SHRINES—A Production of *The Arcanists, Inc.*

Shrine Designer

DMV

June 2020—Present

College of Visual and Performing Arts  
Kritikos Arts in Context Anti-Racist Reading Group  
Curator and Head Moderator  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

August 2018—Present

College of Visual and Performing Arts  
School of Art--InterArts  
Adjunct Professor (Teaching courses including Critical Theory, Aesthetics, and Writing for Artists)  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

July 2018

Short-term Residency Review Panel  
Juror  
Torpedo Factory Art Center  
Alexandria, VA

March 2018

Joseph A. Lohman III Poetry Award  
Judge  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

February 2018

So to Speak: a feminist journal of language and art, Visual Art Contest  
Judge  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

February 2018

Experimentation/Exploration  
Judge/Curator  
New Project Studio at Torpedo Factory Art Center  
Alexandria, VA

September 2017—December 2017

English Department

Adjunct Professor (Teaching Forms of Poetry ENGH 391)

George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

March 2017—July 2019

Gallery Director

Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center

Manassas, VA

January 2017—April 2017

Collage

Art Instructor

Corcoran Arts Continuing Education at George Washington University

Washington, DC

November 2016

Ipseity (Art Exhibition)

Judge

Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory Art Center

Alexandria, VA

November 2014 – Present

Curator

Olly Olly

Fairfax, VA

Olly Olly is an alternative arts resource for area artists and creatives who work in experimental art forms, and who might otherwise be underrepresented in our area. Olly Olly provides the local community with access to exceptional, avant garde art, as well as with additional programming such as arts education, interdisciplinary workshops, and immersive, performative events and poetry readings. Olly Olly works to build a relationship with GMU students, faculty, and staff by proactively seeking out students and alumni to participate in exhibitions and enables emerging artists and curators opportunities to explore and experiment.

January 2014 – December 2015

Consulting Curator

Epicure Café

Fairfax, VA

**SELECTED EXHIBITIONS**

- 2023 Cast/Recast, Gillespie Gallery, Fairfax, VA (Guest Oracle/Artist)
- 2022 Forecast, Tephra ICA at Signature, Reston, VA (Guest Oracle/Artist)
- 2022 Cast/Recast, Mason Exhibitions Arlington, Arlington, VA (Guest Oracle/Artist)
- 2022 Buoyant Oracle, Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art, Reston, VA (Guest Oracle/Artist)
- 2022 Cul de Sackers, Ruby Projects, Fairfax, VA (Artist)
- 2021 Conjuring Presence, Fenwick Gallery, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2021 SHRINES: A Production of The Arcanists Inc., Shrine to Your Sacred Power & Remembering You Are a Witch, Art Installation & Video, Fairfax, VA (Artist & Designer)
- 2020 Call & Response: Structures, Fenwick Gallery, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (Artist)
- 2020 Instigating Bliss: Infinite Love (Grand Hall Performance), Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA (Artist)
- 2020 That Group Show, Ruby Projects, Fairfax, VA (Artist)
- 2019 Treasure. Trash. Pleasure. Play., Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Gallerist)
- 2019 Sweet but Psycho: an avant-garde fairytale, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Gallerist)
- 2019 A groTEAsque PARTY: The Late Shift: Summer Party, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA (Artist)
- 2019 Olly Olly Talk Show @Epicure, Epicure Café, Fairfax, VA (Curator, Artist, Host)
- 2019 Somewhere Between You and Me, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Gallerist)
- 2019 Holding and Releasing, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2019 Solo Lab 5 Performance Art Festival, VisArts, Rockville, MD (Artist)
- 2019 PINK Ranchos and Other Ephemeral Zip Codes, Art Museum of the Americas, Washington, DC (Artist by Special Invitation in Response to Carolina Mayorga)
- 2019 TORN, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2019 Self and Others: a solo exhibition of new work by Jeff Duka, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2018 Ambry, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2018 a detached observer: a solo exhibition of work by Elizabeth Piper Board, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2018 Sub Rosa, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2018 Vivid Transmissions, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2018 Inner Demons (curated by Leslie Mounaime), Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Artist)
- 2018 Fractal Futures: a solo exhibition of work by Mojdeh Rezaeipour, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2018 CINZA, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2018 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Silent Auction, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2018 Experimentation/Exploration: Shadé Reneé, Olly Olly/New Project Studio at Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA (Juror)

- 2018 The Alchemy of the Sex Witch and Other Tales of Love, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Ephemeral Treasures, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Monster Drawing Rally, Greater Reston Arts Center, Reston, VA (Artist)
- 2017 War & Recovery, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Reclaiming Freedom: A Call and Response, Watergate Gallery, Washington, DC (Artist)
- 2017 Beyond the Blacklight, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Co-Curator with Tariq Omar)
- 2017 Iconographic Visions, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Talk Show, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Sacred Feminine, Buchanan Partners Art Gallery at Hylton Performing Arts Center, Manassas, VA (Curator)
- 2017 Transcendence, Galerie Kritiku, Prague, Czech Republic (Artist)
- 2017 Alchemical Vessels, Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery, Washington, DC (Artist/Co-Curator)
- 2017 March 150, The Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA (Artist)
- 2017 Ipseity, The Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA (Juror)
- 2017 Revelation/Revolution, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Co-Curator with Dawne Langford of Quota)
- 2016 The Hugo Ball: A DADA Centennial Soiree, Rhizome, Washington, DC (Artist)
- 2016 Baby Canvases SIX, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Co-Curator with Jennifer Crawford)
- 2016 DC Street Sticker Expo 3.0, The Fridge, Washington, DC (Artist)
- 2016 Flesh, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2016 CURRENTS, 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Call & Response, Fenwick Gallery, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (Artist)
- 2016 Lush Life, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Co-Curator with Yue Li)
- 2016 Making Space, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Co-Curator with Anne Smith)
- 2016 Manifesto, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Curator)
- 2016 Off the Wall, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (Guest Curator)
- 2016 GOOD FOR HEALTH, NoMüNoMü, Washington, DC (Artist)
- 2016 Dear Suburbia—SOLO Exhibition, Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, Alexandria, VA
- 2016 Embracing the Power of Artistic Practice, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 More Than a Muse, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Baby Canvases Five, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Co-Curator with Jennifer Crawford)
- 2015 Haunted, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Threshold, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Captive, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Curator)
- 2015 Ephemeral, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Pandemic, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Cut/Tear, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Subliminal, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2015 Bodylore, Olly Olly, Fairfax, VA (Curator)

- 2014 Divine, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Curator)
- 2014 Fallen, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Curator)
- 2014 Wake Up Call, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Curator)
- 2014 Tell Me Something, Epicure, Fairfax, VA (Artist/Curator)
- 2013 Gallery Underground All Member Exhibit, Gallery Underground, Arlington, VA
- 2013 Arlington Artists Alliance 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art Studio Tour, Red Studios at Art Underground, Arlington, VA
- 2013 FILTER:BORDER an Instagram Exhibition, Tempus Projects, Tampa, FL
- 2013 Fall Group Exhibit, Epicure, Fairfax, VA
- 2013 Beyond the Black Light, Adam Lister Gallery, Fairfax, VA
- 2013 Summer Group Exhibit, Adam Lister Gallery, Fairfax, VA
- 2013 STUDIO, Adam Lister Gallery, Fairfax, VA
- 2013 TQ Mason Queer Art Exhibition, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

### SELECTED EVENTS ORGANIZED

- Yoga in the Gallery at Olly Olly
- Art Gym Open Studio Nights
- Exhibition Programming Collaborative Artist Workshop
- Brunch in the Gallery at Olly Olly
- Opening and Closing Receptions
- Poetry Readings
- Cut/Tear Collage Party
- Loud Fire GMU MFA Literary Readings
- Trash with Cash: 1980s Dynasty Costume Party & “How to Trash” Maker Event

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- Mark Jenkins, “Museums: For the Arcanists, Inc., all the DMV is a stage – for installation and performance art,” Washington Post, April 7, 2021, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/museums/the-arcanists-inc-shrines/2021/04/06/da329986-92fd-11eb-a74e-1f4cf89fd948\\_story.html?fbclid=IwAR2hwirZ3axTf7uN3Jrk2AOKiZagXV8Uayq0BcJHqCUhDxBV-4aqyr9t4xk](https://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/museums/the-arcanists-inc-shrines/2021/04/06/da329986-92fd-11eb-a74e-1f4cf89fd948_story.html?fbclid=IwAR2hwirZ3axTf7uN3Jrk2AOKiZagXV8Uayq0BcJHqCUhDxBV-4aqyr9t4xk)
- David Siegel, “Adventure Awaits: Experience Magic with Arts in Fairfax City,” Fairfax Connection, March 13, 2021, <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/13/adventure-awaits-experience-magic-arts-fairfax-cit/>

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Mark Jenkins, “In the galleries: “Pink makes you think at OAS Art Museum of the Americas” [includes review of *Self and Others: a solo exhibition of new work by Jeff Duka* at Olly Olly], Washington Post, April 19, 2019, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-pink-makes-you-think-at-oas-art-museum-of-the-americas/2019/04/18/580a6b5a-5f38-11e9-bf24-db4b9fb62aa2\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.2b2d71bb32d5](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-pink-makes-you-think-at-oas-art-museum-of-the-americas/2019/04/18/580a6b5a-5f38-11e9-bf24-db4b9fb62aa2_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.2b2d71bb32d5)

Mark Jenkins, “In the galleries: Extraordinary images from ordinary settings in ‘Places We Find’” [includes review of *a detached observer: a solo exhibition of work by Elizabeth Piper Board* at Olly Olly] Washington Post, October 26, 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-extraordinary-images-from-ordinary-settings-in-places-we-find/2018/10/25/98fe96fe-d649-11e8-aeb7-ddcad4a0a54e\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.fbbc9233f743](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-extraordinary-images-from-ordinary-settings-in-places-we-find/2018/10/25/98fe96fe-d649-11e8-aeb7-ddcad4a0a54e_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.fbbc9233f743)

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Mark Jenkins, “In the galleries: Roving photographers capture street scenes around the world” [includes review of *Fractal Futures: a solo exhibition of work by Mojdeh Rezaeipour* at Olly Olly], Washington Post, June 8, 2018, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-roving-photographers-capture-street-scenes-around-the-world/2018/06/07/55069a24-6843-11e8-9e38-24e693b38637\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.da7fa788129a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-roving-photographers-capture-street-scenes-around-the-world/2018/06/07/55069a24-6843-11e8-9e38-24e693b38637_story.html?utm_term=.da7fa788129a)

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Mark Jenkins, “In the galleries: Tim Doud takes a tactile turn” [includes review of *Reclaiming Freedom* exhibition, including mention of my piece *Sugar*], Washington Post, October 27, 2017, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-tim-doud-takes-a-tactile-turn/2017/10/27/39c786c6-b810-11e7-9e58-e6288544af98\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.2a2d2301fc95](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-tim-doud-takes-a-tactile-turn/2017/10/27/39c786c6-b810-11e7-9e58-e6288544af98_story.html?utm_term=.2a2d2301fc95)

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Holly Mason, “Speaking With Jessica Kallista: Artist & Gallery Owner,” So to Speak, August 2016, <http://sotospeakjournal.org/speaking-with-jessica-kallista-artist-gallery-owner/>

Jay Hendrick, “Who’s Afraid of the Bunnyman? Olly Olly’s Manifesto Reviewed,” East City Art, June 8, 2016, <http://www.eastcityart.com/reviews/manifesto-urban-legends/>

Mark Jenkins, “In the galleries: Artist takes a detour on her journey to the past” [includes review of my *Dear Suburbia* solo exhibition], Washington Post, April 8, 2016, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-artist-takes-a-detour-on-her-journey-to-the-past/2016/04/07/d7f56df0-fa10-11e5-813a-90ab563f0dde\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-artist-takes-a-detour-on-her-journey-to-the-past/2016/04/07/d7f56df0-fa10-11e5-813a-90ab563f0dde_story.html)

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Holly Mason, “Domestic Territories,” So to Speak, March 16, 2016, <http://sotospeakjournal.org/domestic-territories/>

Meghan Meier and Jenny Cutler Lopez, “Parenthood as Art: Domestic Territories Exhibit Opens this Saturday,” Northern Virginia Magazine, March 3, 2016, <http://www.northernviriniamag.com/game-plan/2016/03/03/domesticterritories/>

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James George, "New Art Collective Emerges in Fairfax: The Bunnyman Bridge Collective," Examiner.com, March 2, 2014, <http://www.examiner.com/article/new-art-collective-emerges-fairfax-the-bunnyman-bridge>

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## MEMBERSHIPS, AFFILIATIONS, AND AWARDS

George Mason University Sojourner Truth Faculty Award 2023

George Mason University Margaret C. Howell Outstanding Achievement Award 2022

George Mason University Presidential Task Force on Anti-Racism & Inclusive Excellence Research Committee

George Mason University CVPA ARIE Liaison/Designee

George Mason University CVPA Arts in Context Advisory Committee

George Mason University English Department Distinguished Alumna Award Fall 2017

Artworks for Freedom Artist Activist Council

Common Field

Transformer 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction and Benefit Party, Auction Artist Nominating Committee Member

Arts Council of Fairfax County FY18 Project Support Grant Review Panel Member

Mosaic Yards Project

Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here DC 2016

The Bunnyman Bridge Collective (Founder)

City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts (Business Representative Spring 2016- Fall 2017)

Free Art Friday NoVA (A Project to Disrupt Art World Commodity Fetishism)