

# 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

June 2020—Present

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Kritikos Arts in Context Anti-Racist Reading Group

Curator and Co-Moderator

George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

August 2018—Present

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

Gallerist/Founder/Curator

Olly Olly  
Fairfax, VA

Olly Olly, in the historic district of The City of Fairfax, is an alternative art space for area artists and creatives who work in experimental art forms, and who might otherwise be underrepresented in our area. Olly Olly also provides full time studio space for working artists. With approximately six exhibitions per year, 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, open studios, and immersive, performative events and poetry readings. Olly Olly works to build a relationship with GMU students, faculty, and staff by providing students and alumni with affordable studio space, proactively seeking out students to participate in exhibitions, and providing incubator space that enables emerging artists and curators to explore and experiment.

January 2014 – December 2015

Consulting Curator

Epicure Café

Fairfax, VA

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 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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[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)

Rachel Kiser, "A Stylish Life: Insider's Guide: Jessica Kallista," Northern Virginia Magazine, August 2018, <https://www.northernvirginiamag.com/style/insiders-guide/2018/08/14/olly-olly-founder-jessica-kallista/>

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)

Andy Johnson, "Fractal Futures: Mojdeh Rezaeipour at Olly Olly," The Rib, June 2, 2018, <http://the-rib.net/project/fractal-futures-at-olly-olly>

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)

Jay Hendrick, "East City Artnotes: Flesh, NSFW?," October 18, 2016, <http://www.eastcityart.com/reviews/east-city-artnotes-flesh-nsfw/>

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)

Jenny Cutler Lopez, "Exclusively Online" page 5 ["Discover NoVA artists in our Q&A Series" and "Local Personalities"], Northern Virginia Magazine, April 2016

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.northernvirginiamag.com/game-plan/2016/03/03/domesticterritories/>

Mark Jenkins, "Artists Prove that Bombing in Baghdad Was Not the End of Street of Booksellers," Washington Post, February 11, 2016, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/museums/artists-prove-that-bombing-in-baghdad-was-not-the-end-of-street-of-booksellers/2016/02/11/4f255f3e-c8fc-11e5-ae11-57b6aeab993f\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/goingoutguide/museums/artists-prove-that-bombing-in-baghdad-was-not-the-end-of-street-of-booksellers/2016/02/11/4f255f3e-c8fc-11e5-ae11-57b6aeab993f_story.html)

Jenny Cutler Lopez, "Sexuality on the Table: Q & A with artist Jessica Kallista," Northern Virginia Magazine, February 4, 2016, <http://www.northernvirginiamag.com/entertainment/people2/2016/02/04/qajessicakallista/>

Jenny Cutler Lopez, "On the Threshold: The Pain and Pleasure of Waiting," Northern Virginia Magazine, November 3, 2015, <http://www.northernvirginiamag.com/game-plan/2015/11/03/threshold/>

Jenny Cutler Lopez, "Long Live the Bunnyman," Northern Virginia Magazine, October 2015

East City Art, "Olly Olly Presents Threshold," September 23, 2015, <http://www.eastcityart.com/openings-and-events/olly-olly-presents-threshold/>

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Michael Balderston, "Arts on the Rise in Fairfax: Old Town Fairfax Is Becoming a New Hotbed for the Arts," Northern Virginia Magazine, April 2015, <https://www.northernvirginiamag.com/things-to-do/things-to-do-features/2015/04/15/arts-on-the-rise-in-fairfax/>

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Mark Jenkins, "In the Galleries," [review of *Divine*], Washington Post, January 23, 2015, [http://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-photos-that-take-twists-and-turns-at-civilian-art-projects/2015/01/22/64567de6-a0b9-11e4-903f-9f2faf7cd9fe\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/museums/in-the-galleries-photos-that-take-twists-and-turns-at-civilian-art-projects/2015/01/22/64567de6-a0b9-11e4-903f-9f2faf7cd9fe_story.html)

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Michelle Goldchain, "Questioning the Divine with The Bunnyman Bridge Collective's Newest Exhibition," Epicuria, January 14, 2015, <http://us3.campaignarchive1.com/?u=7610ae495ff866172a064afed&id=fd119faff4&e=7751aee3f>

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Michelle Goldchain, "Free Art Friday NoVA: Street Art to Take Home," SNAP., January 9, 2015, [http://snapazine.blogspot.com/2015/01/free-art-friday-nova-street-art-to-take\\_9.html#.VK8WJLTUqM.facebook](http://snapazine.blogspot.com/2015/01/free-art-friday-nova-street-art-to-take_9.html#.VK8WJLTUqM.facebook)

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James George, "Jessica Kallista, Artist Mixed Media Alert," Examiner.com, October 27, 2013, <http://www.examiner.com/article/jessica-kallista-artist-mixed-media-alert>

## MEMBERSHIPS, AFFILIATIONS, AND AWARDS

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

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)