

Emily Smith

Curriculum Vitae



PROFILE

Through her multi-disciplinary design practice, Emily Smith collaborates with international corporations, public institutions and cultural programs to recognize the narrative, spatial and conceptual potential of visual communication— from identity development to exhibition design. Selected clients include the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Neues Museum Berlin, Deutsches Technikmuseum, Zeiss Museum of Optics, LVR-RömerMuseum Xanten, Filmuniversität Babelsberg Konrad Wolf, Schering AG, and Bertelsmann Stiftung. She works with internationally renowned design agencies such as Project Projects NY, Bertron Schwarz Frey, Rimini Berlin, and Leonardi.Wollein Visuelle Konzepte.

Based in Berlin, Smith teaches a range of interdisciplinary, research-based design courses at BTK University of Art and Design and BTK Academy of Design, and lectures internationally in design, fine art, anthropology and architectural academic settings. Smith holds an MA in Visual and Media Anthropology, a BFA in Visual Communication and a BA in Latin American Studies. Her academic and professional approach values process, research, cultural content and social engagement.

EDUCATION

Master's Degree (MA Hons) in Visual & Media Anthropology FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN. Thesis "Deep Roots, Dormant Branches—Collections, Collaboration and Intergenerational Perspectives." Ethnographically-informed visual research (film, photography and exhibition) rooted in discourse around material culture, collections and spatial renarration as representation [10/2010–11/2012].

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA Hons) Degree in Graphic Design & Time-Based Media ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN (ACCD), California. Thesis "Welcome to the Dollhouse—Social Media, Creativity and Teenage Girls." Identity and online social media platform. Awarded E.A. Adams Art Center College of Design Scholarship. Profiled by Adobe Partners By Design. Elected Student Government Representative serving on the ACCD Budget Committee, Educational Policy Council, and nominated as chair-person of the Student Involvement Taskforce. Art Director of Fish-wrap Student Magazine. Design internship in the ACCD Design Office with Denise Gonzales Crisp. [01/1998– 12/2000]

Rhetoric & Technical Communications MICHIGAN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, Michigan. Master's Program [non-degree seeking 1994–1996].

Bachelor of Arts (BA Hons) Degree in Latin American Studies PITZER COLLEGE, California. Year study-abroad in Ecuador and Argentina. Thesis "Mothers of the Plaza—Female Archetypes and the Argentinian Dictatorship" [09/1987–06/1991].

DESIGN AND DIRECTION

Conceptual and content development, creative and art direction, project management and design for editorial, exhibition, identity and online projects from an international client-base including corporate commissions, public institutions, and cultural projects.

Zeiss Museum of Optics Oberkochen DE, permanent exhibition; with Bertron Schwarz Frey and The Green Eyl [2014].

Neues Museum Bauhaus Weimar Permanent exhibition proposal; with Project Projects NY, Rimini Berlin, Leong Leong and Maaskant [2013–2014].

What is (not) there? Stories of Aftermath from Colombia and Mozambique Juan Orrantia; **Chiapaneco** Contemporary Indigenous Film & Photography from Chiapas; **Peripheries & Borderless Narratives** Florence Aigner. RE: Spring Season Exhibition at GALERIE KUNSTSTIFTUNG POLL, Berlin [2013].

Discover What Moves Us OTTO BOCK SCIENCE COMPETENCE CENTER Berlin, flagship permanent exhibition; with Art+Com and Bertron Schwarz Frey [2010].

Schatzhäuser LVR-ARCHÄOLOGISCHEN PARK, Xanten, temporary exhibition; with Schiel Projekt [2010].

Trendforum DEUTSCHE TELEKOM CeBIT Hannover, trade fair event and exhibition; with q-bus Mediatektur [2009].

Parasites: Life Undercover MUSEUM FÜR NATURKUNDE Berlin, travelling exhibition; with Rimini Berlin, RotBraun and Schiel Projekt [2009].

BestForm Jarn Fashion portal screen design, launched as TribaSpace [2009].

HFF FilmMesse Catalog FILMÜNIVERSITÄT BABELSBERG KONRAD WOLF Potsdam [2008–2012].

Paleolithic to the Middle Ages MUSEUM FÜR VOR- UND FRÜHGESCHICHTE, NEUES MUSEUM Berlin, transitional exhibition; with Rimini Berlin and Schiel Projekt [2008–2009].

Mathema, Is Mathematics the Language of Nature? DEUTSCHES TECHNIKMUSEUM Berlin, temporary exhibition; with Rimini Berlin and Schiel Projekt [2008].

Fahr-Zeug DEUTSCHES TECHNIKMUSEUM Berlin, conceptual proposal for automobile collection exhibition; with Rimini Berlin and Schiel Projekt [2008].

Bertelsmann Transformation Index BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG country assessment publications for both digital and print platforms [2008].

Dinosaur World, Earth System, Cosmos and The Solar System, Evolution in Action MUSEUM FÜR NATURKUNDE Berlin, permanent exhibit; with Bertron Schwarz, Art+Com, Rimini Berlin and Schiel Projekt [2006–2007].

Schering AG Pharmaceuticals Global identity redesign and launch; with Leonardi.Wollein Visuelle Konzepte [2001–2005].

Berlin Capital City Marketing BERLIN PARTNER Branding and design of monthly Berlin marketing campaign; with Leonardi.Wollein Visuelle Konzepte [2001–2005].

Burgen, Schlösser, Altertümer Rheinland-Pfalz Orientation system proposal finalist; with Leonardi.Wollein Visuelle Konzepte [2003].

PEDAGOGY

Associate Lecturer BTK UNIVERSITY OF ART AND DESIGN (FH), Berlin [2011–present] Coursework in German and English;

Visual Anthropology Anthropology history, theory and ethnographic methods foundation for design and photography practitioners. WS1516.

Corporate Identity Systematic visual identity design based in real world practices and innovative possibilities. SS15.

Poster & Sequence Applied typography, visual hierarchy and graphic language development with a critical and conceptual foundation. WS1415; SS15.

Space Time Experiments Contemporary references and trans-medial creative strategies to broaden our understanding of space, time and movement. WS1112; SS12; WS1213; SS13; WS1314; SS14; WS1415; SS15.

Imaging Culture Documentary arts, ethics and interdisciplinary hybrid approaches to cultural representation. SS13.

Examples of coursework at: www.mseasmith.tumblr.com

Additional FH and AK administrative responsibilities include: BA diploma advisor and examiner, AK student diploma advisor, international outreach, external design workshops, AK third semester examiner, AK curriculum development, BTK-wide portfolio reviews, student exhibition advising, translations and marketing support.

Associate Lecturer BTK ACADEMY OF DESIGN (AK), Berlin [2009–present] Coursework in German and English;

Sociology, Anthropology & Media Studies Active-learning introduction to concepts of social construction, research methodology and visual literacy.

Media Ethics Critical reflection on the design industry and production of media landscapes. With Uwe Gladitz

Design Workshop 01/02 Design formal foundation, conceptual strategies, design thinking, ideation and production basics.

Creative Filmmaking Creative narrative strategies and modes of representation through non-fiction film. With Christina Voigt

Interdisciplinary Design (also Experimental Process and Design) Experimentation as playful, collaborative exploration and rigorous research methodology crossing multiple mediums.

Introduction to Design Workshop Analog introduction to design foundation elements and conceptual strategies for incoming students.

Career Development Mentoring students in final thesis projects, exhibition and future career preparation.

WORKSHOPS, LECTURES AND ACADEMIC VISITS

Moderation “Canadian Short Film Forum” BERLIN INTERFILM SHORTFILM FESTIVAL [November 2015].

Workshop “Designing Experience: Moment, Stage, Memory” OPEN SET DUTCH DESIGN SUMMER SCHOOL at Witte de Wit, Rotterdam, NL. With Prem Krishnamurthy (Project Projects NY) [July 2015].

Workshop “The Social Life of Signs” DOMAINE DE BOISBUCHET: wayfinding and exhibition design, in Boisbuchet, France. With Prem Krishnamurthy (Project Projects NY) [July 2015].

Workshop “The Art of Visual Ethnography” Multi-disciplinary Design studio final projects. UNIVERSITY OF UTAH COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING, Utah [March 2015].

Guest Critic Exhibition/Models: Intersections of Curating and Exhibition Design final projects with Ken Saylor (Saylor + Sirola NY), Catherine Ince (Barbican, London) and Prem Krishnamurthy (Project Projects NY). BARD COLLEGE CENTER FOR CURATORIAL STUDIES, New York [December 2014].

Guest Lecture “Bodies, Stories and Openings: Visual Anthropology and Cultural Display” BARD COLLEGE CENTER FOR CURATORIAL STUDIES, New York [November 2014].

Moderation “Meet the Expert in conversation with David Sproxtton”, Aardman Studio at BERLIN INTERFILM SHORTFILM FESTIVAL [November 2014].

Guest Lecture “Professional Practices: Visual Anthropology and Design” FREIE UNIVERSITÄT VISUAL AND MEDIA ANTHROPOLOGY MA Program, Berlin [May 2014].

Guest Lecture “Create, then Analyze: Creative Design Strategies” UNIVERSITY OF UTAH COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING, Utah [July 2009].

Guest Lecture “Berlin is the Capital of Germany” ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN, California [January 2005].

Invited Speaker “Making Branding Work: Schering AG Case Study” FACE2FACE CONFERENCE. Stuttgart [April 2003].

Teaching Assistant ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN with John Chambers (Graphic Design) and Brenda Laurel (Master’s Degree Media Art), California [2000].

WRITING, EXHIBITION, SCREENINGS AND PERFORMANCE

Conference Paper “Intergenerational Self-Representation in Post-Unification East Germany” ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE’S ANTHROPOLOGY AND PHOTOGRAPHY CONFERENCE, British Museum, London [May 2014].

Publication [Author] “[Dis]Orientation: Mapping in Second Life” in VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS AND CULTURES. Edited by Undine Frömming. Peter Lang Verlag [2013].

Exhibition “Deep Roots, Dormant Branches: an ethnographically-informed installation of fieldwork and research in Eastern Germany.” PLATFORM FOR ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY, Berlin and in several locations in the township of Lunow, DE [October 2012 and May 2013].

Publication [Project] “Natural History Museum, Berlin” in Bertron, A.; Schwarz, U.; Frey, C. PROJEKTFELD AUSSTELLUNG: Eine Typologie für Ausstellungsgestalter, Architekten und Museologen. Birkhäuser Verlag [November 2012]

WRITING, EXHIBITION, SCREENINGS AND PERFORMANCE CONT'D

Film Screening “Deep Roots, Dormant Branches” Heimatfenster program at the PROVINCIALE INTERNATIONAL FILMFESTIVAL, Eberswalde, and MOVIMENTO KINO, Berlin [December 2012 and May 2013].

Performance “Made in Lunow-Stolzenhagen” and “Heimat”. Multi-generational dance theatre performances at PONDEROSA and LUNOW COMMUNITY CENTER, Brandenburg and HAUS DER KULTUREN DER WELT, Berlin [Summer 2009 and 2011].

Installation and Video “Photoautomat” DESIGN MAI BERLIN [May 2005].

CURATION

Senior Curator RE: CRITICAL DIALOGUE ON PHOTOGRAPHY, FILM AND THE DOCUMENTARY ARTS. Exhibitions, events and publications at the Galerie Kunststiftung Poll, Berlin [2012–2014].

What is (not) there? Stories of Aftermath from Colombia and Mozambique Juan Orrantia; Photographic and video investigating post war/terror experiences with an ethnographic and contemporary arts sensibility.

Chiapaneco Contemporary Indigenous Film & Photography from Chiapas; Group exhibition highlighting local documentary and art practices, an alternative narrative to the mainstream images surrounding this politically-charged region.

Peripheries & Borderless Narratives Florence Aigner; Photographic assemblage practice exploring a poetic juxtaposition of time, place & material cultural within a cross-cultural context.

Curator “Unspectacular: Fieldwork as Installation” PLATFORM FOR ABSTRACT PHOTOGRAPHY, Berlin, with support from Freie Universität Visual and Media Anthropology MA Program [2012].

NON-DESIGN RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Partner and Manager SUB URBAN EXCHANGE Coffee house, performance venue and artist space in the Upper Peninsula, Michigan region. Additional projects include annual music, art and performance festivals, music compilation recordings, and regular local, national and international concert series [1994–1998].

Production Manager RKDIVERSIFIED & GOLDENVOICE PRODUCTIONS Planning, budgeting and on-site production for national concert tours such as Lollapalooza, Warped Tour and Coachella, and local concert events, Los Angeles, California [1991–1994].

MISCELLANEOUS

Excellent knowledge of most print and editing software, as well as 15+ years of print, exhibition and media production experience;

Twenty-five years choreographic, improvisational and site-specific dance/theatre performance experience;

Native English speaker, fluent in German, proficient in Portuguese and Spanish;

Berlin resident since 2001, with a permanent German work and residence permit.