

MEGAN YOUNG

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Biography

Megan Young's interdisciplinary practice affirms embodied action, collective listening, and radical archiving as a means to disrupt unjust power structures. Her grassroots organizing for the *Longest Walk* challenged police militarization in Cleveland during the 2016 RNC and became a multi-year framework for civic engagement continuing through project coordination of *A Color Removed* with SPACES for FRONT International. She combines a background in performance and interaction design to create new commissions around the world including installations for the International Symposium of Electronic Arts (Hong Kong), Biennial Symposium of Arts & Technology (New Haven, CT), Art Souterrain (Montreal), and Open Engagement (Chicago). Her work has earned critical acclaim through features in Hyperallergic, The Atlantic, ArtForum, and on National Public Radio. Additional recognition includes two Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Awards, a Creative Workforce Fellowship, and numerous project grants. She was awarded a 2021 CEC ArtsLink residency in Yerevan, Armenia to engage in creative research on government surveillance of public space.

Solo Exhibition & Durational Projects

- 2021 – ***Sign Stealing*** / Public Engagements and Counter-Surveillance Archives
Cleveland Public Square, NeighborUp Granted Engagement, Cleveland, OH
Akron Soul Train Residency, Akron, OH
CEC ArtsLink Residency, Suburb Platform, Yerevan, Armenia (*upcoming)
- 2019 ***This is not a body.*** / Interactive Performance Installation + Artist Book
Original Performance by Gregory King; Forward Essay by Gerald Casel
Transformer Station Commission, Cleveland, OH
- 2018 – ***Questions of Safety Answered by Children of Color*** / Social Practice + Safety Multiples
Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, OH
- 2018 ***Chimeric Whiteness, Or Nightmares Passing as Normal*** / Antiracist Performance Practice + Artist Book
Chicago DanceMakers Forum Commission, Curators: Peter Taub & Aaliyah Christina, Chicago, IL
- 2017 ***Cloud of Whiteness*** / Interactive Installation + Performance Score
SPACES Commission, Curator: Christina Vassallo, Cleveland, OH
The Current Sessions, Curator: Alexis Convento, New York, NY
Ammerman Center for Arts & Technology Commission, 16th Biennial Symposium, New London, CT
- 2017 ***Unsuccessful Wrestling*** / Augmented Reality + Interactive Game Play
Joy of Voting Project - Citizen University, Knight Foundation, Akron, OH
- 2016 ***Scores for Distributed Dancing*** / Algorithmic Game Play + New Media Installation
International Symposium of Electronic Arts: Cultural R>Evolution, Hong Kong, China
Woman Made Gallery, Code/Switch Exhibition, Curator: Kayla Anderson, Chicago, IL
- 2016 – ***Longest Walk*** / Embodied Installation + Print Archives
Republican National Convention Protest, Cleveland, OH
Open Engagement: Justice, University of Illinois Chicago, IL
Columbia College Chicago, Curators: Neysa Page-Lieberman & Melissa Potter, Chicago, IL
Ohio University, Athens, OH
Gund Foundation, *Art & Political Activism* Collection by Accra Shepp, Cleveland, OH
- 2015 – ***And Me in My Place*** / Feminist Social Practice + Experimental Video Series
Art Souterrain, Centre de Commerce Mondial Montréal, Canada
Woman Made Gallery, Curator: Jessica Cochran, Chicago, IL

Education

- 2014 **MFA Interdisciplinary Arts & Media** / Art+Art History, Columbia College Chicago
- 2002 **BFA Modern Dance Choreography** / Ohio University

Academic Appointments

- 2021 **Cleveland Institute of Art** / Adjunct Faculty, Liberal Arts Department, Cleveland, OH
2019 **University of Akron** / Guest Lecturer, School of Dance, Theater, and Arts Administration, Akron, OH
2016 – 2019 **Baldwin Wallace University** / Senior Lecturer, School of Humanities, Berea, OH
2014 – 2019 **Kent State University** / Part-Time Faculty, College of the Arts, Kent, OH
2013 – 2014 **ChiArts** / Dance + Visual Arts Faculty, Chicago, IL
2011 – 2013 **Columbia College Chicago** / PT Staff & Faculty Assistant, Art+Art History, Chicago, IL

Administrative Experience

- 2018 – 2021 **SPACES** / Deputy Director (Interim Executive Director), Cleveland, OH
2016 **ReMarking** / Co-Director, Womanist Arts Collective, Cleveland, OH
2012 – 2014 **Solid Ground Studio** / Co-Director, Multi-Use Creative Space, Chicago, IL
2006 – 2014 **MegLouise Collective** / Founding Director, Visual & Performing Arts Projects, Chicago, IL
2013 – 2014 **ChiArts** / Dance + Visual Arts Faculty, Chicago, IL
2011 – 2013 **Columbia College Chicago** / PT Staff & Faculty Assistant, Art+Art History, Chicago, IL

Curation

- 2021 **SPACES + Columbia College Chicago** / *Coming Suddenly, Passing Strangely*, Cleveland, OH
2020 **SPACES** / *A Public Trust*, Cleveland, OH
Zygote Press / *Past Due*, Cleveland, OH
2019 **SPACES** / *America's Well-Armed Militias*, Co-Curation with Christina Vassallo, Cleveland, OH
2018 **SPACES** / *A Color Removed*, Curatorial Support for FRONT International, Cleveland, OH
2018 - 2020 **SPACES** / Exhibition Direction for Artists-in-Residence in Cleveland, OH:
Danielle Andress, Veronique d'Entremont, Katarinia Jerinic, Marisa Williamson, Paul Catanese,
Bridget Moser, Johnny Coleman, and James Webb
2019 **Case Western Reserve University** / *Queer Love: Then & Now*, Collective Curation, Cleveland, OH
2016 **Detroit Shoreway + 78th Street Studios** / *ReMarking*, Collective Curation, Cleveland, OH
2014 **C33 Gallery** / *Dancing Audiences*, Chicago, IL
2014 **C33 Gallery** / *We Become Each Others' Unmakers*, Chicago, IL
2012 **Chicago Arts District** / *Animate, Inanimate*, Chicago, IL
2012 **Chicago Arts District** / *Oooops!* Chicago, IL
2006 - 2011 **MegLouise Collective** / *Sneak Reviews, WIP Community Engagement Series*, Cleveland, OH

Additional Exhibition & Arts Projects

- 2021 **SloMoCo** / *Poethical Profiling*, Online Event
Akron Soul Train / *Walking the Drone*, Participatory Public Action, Akron, OH
2019 **Transformer Station** / *Strategies for Survival*, Performance Direction, Cleveland, OH
Morgan Conservatory / *National Juried Paper Exhibition*, Cleveland, OH
2018 **CounterPulse & SFMOMA** / *Upstanding Others*, Performance, San Francisco, CA
Links Hall / *'To Be Two'* Performance + Direction, Chicago, IL
Hedge Gallery / *Performing R&D*, Cleveland, OH
Cleveland State University / *Emotional Creature*, Projection Design, Cleveland, OH
2017 **Columbus College of Art & Design** / *Scores for Distributed Dancing*, Group Exhibition, Columbus, OH
Ingenuity Festival / *Breakwall*, Interactive Installation + Custom Software, Cleveland, OH

- 2016 **Playhouse Square Center** / *Space for Myself*, Projection Design + Direction, Cleveland, OH
Pritzker Pavilion / *'To Be Two'* Performance + Direction, Spin Off Festival, Chicago, IL
The Nash / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Cleveland, OH
New World Performance Lab / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Akron, OH
Kent State University / *To Live is So Startling*, Choreography, Kent, OH
Rooms to Let: CLE / *And Me in My Place: Home*, Group Exhibition, Cleveland, OH
- 2015 **ARC Gallery** / *I Can't Breathe*, Group Exhibition, Chicago, IL
Chicago Cultural Center / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Chicago, IL
Chicago Home Theater Festival / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Chicago, IL
Canopy Gallery / *Let's Do A Thing*, Performance, Curator: Marcia Custer, Cleveland, OH
Vancouver Art Gallery / *URME* by Leonardo Selvaggio, Artist Assistant, Vancouver, Canada
ArtPrize / *Higher Ground* by Kate Gilmore, Performer, Juror's Grand Prize, Grand Rapids, MI
ArtPrize / *Breakwall*, Embodied Installation + Custom Software, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2014 **MCA Chicago** / *MegLouise Danst Rosas*, Rosas Remix Project, Coordinator: Peter Taub, Chicago, IL
Salonathon / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Curator: Jane Beachy, Chicago, IL
Lubeznik Center for the Arts / *Waist High & Elbow Deep*, Emergent Performance, Michigan City, IN
Sweatfest / *Unsuccessful Wrestling Techniques*, Experimental Video, Chicago, IL
Chicago Home Theater Festival / *Bend Me, Shape Me, Anyway: You Want Me*, Direction, Chicago, IL
Chicago Arts District / *Always There*, Interactive Installation + Custom Software, Chicago, IL
RADFest / *To Live is So Startling*, Choreography, Kalamazoo, MI
Columbia College Chicago / *Risk: Empathy, Art + Social Practice*, Group Exhibition, Chicago, IL
- 2013 **Links Hall** / *Watching Brief*, Emergent Performance + Custom Software, Chicago, IL
Chicago Cultural Center / *Watching Brief*, Emergent Performance + Custom Software, Chicago, IL
Columbia College Chicago / *Watching Brief*, Emergent Performance + Custom Software, Chicago, IL
Prairie Center of the Arts / *Entrails*, Interactive Installation + Custom Software, Peoria, IL
- 2012 **Hyde Park Arts Center** / *Dance Films Kino*, Experimental Film, Curator: Stephanie Acosta, Chicago, IL
Chicago Arts District / *If Being Made it So*, Performance + Artist Book, Chicago, IL
- 2011 **Philly Fringe Festival** / *I Learned Not to Kneel*, Choreography, Philadelphia, PA
Fusion Fest / *Genius Child*, Choreography, Cleveland Playhouse, Cleveland, OH

Residencies

- 2021 **CEC ArtsLink Art Prospect Residency** / Suburb Platform, Yerevan, Armenia (*)
Akron Soul Train / Artist Residency + New Commission, Akron, OH
SloMoCo Microresidency / MOCO International, Digital Residency
- 2018 **Ammerman Center for Arts & Technology** / Connecticut College, New London, CT
International Exchange Lab / CounterPulse and SFMOMA, San Francisco, CA
National Center for Choreography in Akron / RAWdance Residency, Akron, OH
- 2017 **Ingenuity Labs Incubator Program** / Ingenuity Festival, Cleveland, OH
- 2016 **LAUNCH New Works Residency Program** / Playhouse Square Center, Cleveland, OH
- 2015 **In The Works Residency** / Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
SiTE:Lab Residency / Rumsey Street Project, Art Prize, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2013 **Prairie Center of the Arts** / Supported Artist Residency, Peoria, IL
In The Works Residency / Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- 2007 **International Exchange** / Theatre of Moscow Southwest, Moscow, Russia

Research & Publication

- 2021 **SLSA Conference** / *MOCO Art Lounge: Living Code & Sharing Abundance* (Chair), Online Proceedings (*)
SloMoCo / *Living Code & Sharing Abundance* (Chair), Online Proceedings
- 2019 **Signal Culture Cookbook vol.2** / *Stress Testing Autonomous Human Robots*, Essay, Digital Publication
- 2019 **NMC Symposium** / *After Safety Removed*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- 2018 **International Biennial Symposium of Art & Technology** / *Hacking White Spaces*, New London, CT
- 2018 **Open Engagement** / *Black Bodies Reclaiming Digital Spaces* (Co-Author), Queens, NY
- 2017 **SECAC** / *New Boundaries: Art & Resistance on View*, Essay, Digital Proceedings, Columbus, OH
- 2016 **ISEA** / *Emergence in Human-Computer Interaction*, Essay, Digital Proceedings, Hong Kong
- 2016 **International Conf. on Musical Gesture as Creative Interface** / *Amplifying Identity & Agency*, Portugal
- 2016 **MACAA Conference** / *Placemaking Tactics on a Power Spectrum*, Cincinnati, OH
- 2015 **MOCO** / *A/RMA: Dance Making as Interactive System Design*, Essay, Digital Proceedings, Vancouver

Workshops & Lectures

- 2019 **Oberlin College** / Art Department, Studio Practice, Oberlin, OH
Cleveland Institute of Art / Sound Art, Guest Lecture, Cleveland, OH
Connecticut College / Ammerman Center for Arts & Technology, Commissioned Artist Lectures, CT
Baldwin Wallace University / School of Management, Guest Lecture, Berea, OH
Kent State University / School of Theater, Advanced Projection Design, Guest Lecture, Kent, OH
Kent State University / School of Art, Foundations, Guest Workshop with Mahwish Chishti, Kent, OH
- 2018 **Ohio University** / School of Art, Guest Lectures, Athens, OH
Columbia College Chicago / School of Art & Art History, Guest Workshop, Chicago, IL
- 2017 **Case Western Reserve University** / Guest Workshop, Cleveland, OH
- 2016 **University of Illinois in Chicago** / School of Theater & Music, Guest Lectures, Chicago, IL
- 2006 - 2011 **Shaker Heights High School** / Ensemble Program, Guest Artist, Shaker Heights, OH
- 2006 - 2010 **Hathaway Brown High School** / Guest Artist, Shaker Heights, OH

Bibliography

- 2020 **Pressure Magazine** / *Next Level Nostalgia*, Tesh Ekman
Cleveland.com / *Spaces Announces 50 New Emergency Relief Grants*, Steven Litt
- 2019 **Hyperallergic** / *In Response to Rampant Mass Shootings, Artists Offer a Visceral Reality*, Sarah Rose Sharp
The Plain Dealer / *Gun rights explored in provocative 'Well Armed Militias' exhibit*, Steven Litt
- 2018 **ASAP Journal** / *Feminist Practice Manifesto*, Neysa Page-Lieberman & Melissa Potter
SFMOMA Open Space: Limited Edition / *Body Group*, Jesse Hewit
SFMOMA Open Space: Limited Edition / *With Regard to Cleveland*, Bean Gilsdorf
New York Times / *An Artist Honors Tamir Rice, One Orange Object at a Time*, Jillian Steinhauer
- 2017 **New City** / *What is a Feminist Social Practice?* Kerry Cardoza
Artforum / *Practice Makes Perfect*, Alex Fialho
CultureWorks Greater Philadelphia / *Who or what do you hold space for?* Melissa Hamilton
CAN Journal / *Damage Assessment: The First 100+ Days at SPACES*, Douglas Max Utter
The Plain Dealer / *SPACES Takes on Trump's First 100 Days*, Steven Litt
Women & Performance / *Reflections on Megan Young's 'Cloud of Whiteness'* Katherine Cooper
- 2016 **The Atlantic** / *Returning the Joy to Voting*, David Giffels
National Public Radio / *Akron Works To Bring Joy to Voting, Weekend Edition Sunday*
Hyperallergic / *Art and Body Politics at the Republican National Convention*, Diana Sette

Artist Talks

- 2020 **SPACES + The Monument Lab** / Downtown Field Trip, Cleveland, OH
- 2019 **Cuyahoga Arts & Culture** / Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Arts Innovation Summit, Berea, OH
- 2018 **FRONT International Triennial** / Exhibition Tours, Cleveland, OH
Connecticut College / International Biennial Symposium, New London, CT
Case Western Reserve University / SAGES First Year Seminar: Women in Leadership, Cleveland, OH
- 2017 **Columbus College of Art & Design** / SECAC Juried Exhibition Opening, Columbus, OH
- 2016 **International Symposium on Electronic Arts** / City University of Hong Kong
- 2015 **International Symposium on Electronic Arts** / Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada
- 2014 **College Art Association** / Columbia College Chicago, IL
- 2013 **Landscapes: Performing Arts & Culture** / University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Awards

- 2021 **Neighbor Up, Cleveland Foundation** / Get Outside Grant
- 2020 **Ohio Arts Council** / Arts Next: Exhibition Production Grant (*A Public Trust*)
- 2019 **Ohio Arts Council** / Arts Next: Exhibition Production Grant (*America's Well-Armed Militias*)
- 2018 **Ohio Arts Council** / Individual Artist Excellence Award
Chicago DanceMakers Forum / Greenhouse Grant
- 2017 **Kent State University** / Faculty Research + Development Grant
- 2016 **CPAC+Cuyahoga Arts Council** / Creative Workforce Fellowship
Citizen University, Knight Foundation / Joy of Voting Project Grant
Ohio Arts Council / Individual Artist Excellence Award
Kent State University / Faculty Research + Development Grant
- 2015 **ArtPrize** / Artist Development Seed Grant
Kent State University / Faculty Research + Development Grant
- 2013 **Chicago Department of Culture and Special Events (DCASE)** / Development Grant
Columbia College Chicago / Albert P. Weisman Award
Columbia College Chicago / Art+Activism Microfunding
- 2011 - 2014 **Columbia College Chicago** / Follett Graduate Merit Award
- 2005 **Summer Stages Dance Festival** / Choreography Fellowship
- 2003, 2004 **Points of Light Foundation** / Fellowship Awards

Affiliations

- Columbia College Chicago** / Alumni Board Member (Impact Committee Co-Chair)
MOCO International / SloMoCo Committee Member
Bridge Project / Movement Matters Committee Member
Games for Change / Juror
Cleveland Public Art, Dexter Project / Juror
Weisman Grant / Juror
New Media Caucus / Member
New England Foundation for the Arts / Member
College Art Association / Member