

ALICIA CHESTER

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EDUCATION

- 2013–2020 PHD CANDIDATE, GRADUATE PROGRAM IN VISUAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES – UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
Dissertation: “Study Nature, Not Books: A Genealogy of Photography from Psychiatric Portraiture to Brain Imaging” (degree expected 2020). **Committee:** Rachel Haidu, Joel Burges, Jacob Lewis.
Research interests: photography history and theory, science and technology studies, medical humanities, media archaeology, modern and contemporary art. **Language proficiencies:** French.
- 2018 THE SCHOOL OF CRITICISM AND THEORY – CORNELL UNIVERSITY (Summer)
- 2010 MASTER OF ARTS IN VISUAL AND CRITICAL STUDIES – SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
- 2005 CERTIFICATE IN MUSEUM STUDIES – NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
- 2003 BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS – SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
- 2002 Studio of Annette Messager – Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris (study abroad)

TEACHING

- 2013–2018 TEACHING ASSISTANT – UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, ROCHESTER, NY
- Digital Media Studies Capstone (Stephanie Ashenfelder), Spring 2018
 - Digital Media Studies Toolkit (Stephanie Ashenfelder), Fall 2016
 - Writing on Art (Dr. Joan Saab), Spring 2016
 - Introduction to the Art of Film (Dr. Jennifer Creech), Fall 2015
 - Introduction to Media Studies (Dr. Rachel Haidu), Spring 2015
 - Introduction to Modern Architecture (Dr. Peter Christensen), Fall 2014
 - Advanced Digital Art: The Art of the Remix (Cary Adams/Peppermint), Spring 2014
 - Advanced Video Art (Cary Adams/Peppermint), Fall 2013
- 2009–2013 LECTURER IN PHOTOGRAPHY – DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN, OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DES PLAINES & SKOKIE, IL
- Art 117 Introduction to Digital Photography: fundamentals of photography and their relation to digital imaging; basic electronic imaging principles; studio lighting fundamentals; digital workflow in Adobe Bridge and Photoshop; inkjet printing (5 sections per year, 2009–2013)
 - Independent Study: Conceptual Projects in Photography (Spring and Summer 2013)
 - Independent Study: Artwork Documentation (Summer 2013)
- 2011–2013 INSTRUCTOR – DIGITAL ARTS AND PHOTOGRAPHY, LILLSTREET ART CENTER, CHICAGO, IL
- Classes and workshops in digital photography, studio lighting, Photoshop, and Lightroom
- 2008 & 2011 PHOTOGRAPHY INSTRUCTOR – EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM, SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
- Beginning Photography (35mm film and gelatin silver printing)
 - Photo II: Studio (digital acquisition and output)
 - Multilevel Photography
- 2007–2008 TEACHING ASSISTANT – SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
- Photography: Digital Imaging for Photo (Jesse Avina); Black and White (Robert Clarke-Davis)
 - Early College Program: Introduction to Photography; Digital Throughput; Photo Studio: Historical and Contemporary Practice (John Opera)
 - First Year Program: Research Studio I (Fred Holland, C. C. Ann Chen, and Adam Scott)
 - Art History: Survey of Modern to Contemporary Art and Architecture (James Yood)

EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *27TH ANNUAL MEMBERS' EXHIBITION*, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester, NY (Dec 7-Jan 13)
6x6, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester, NY (Jun 2-Jul 16)
- 2017 *26TH ANNUAL MEMBERS' EXHIBITION*, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester, NY (Dec 1-Jan 14)
- 2016 *6x6*, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester, NY (Jun 4-Jul 17)
- 2015 *DESERT/ED BODIES*, Steinfeld Warehouse Community Arts Center, Tucson, AZ (Apr 18)
- 2014 *FISH UMBRELLA*, contributor to Edmund Chia's collaborative "Peregrine Papers (for Fish Umbrella)," Praxis and Project spaces, The Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore (Oct 3-26)
THE SWAP online exhibition, photo collaboration with Regina Mamou (published Sep 24)
- 2013 *A LONG LINE*, PEREGRINEPROGRAM, Chicago, IL (Oct 26-Nov 5)
30x30 – ARTICITE 30TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW PT 2, Artcite, Windsor, ON (Sep 13-Nov 16)
A HAPPENING AT SITE A, performance with Amber Ginsburg, Site A, Red Gate Woods, Lemont, IL (Jul 14)
TRYING TO BE CUTE BC THE ABYSS, ACRE exhibition at Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, IL (May 24)
- 2012 "THE PORTRAIT PROJECT," *SIC TRANSIT GLORIA MUNDI: INDUSTRY OF THE ORDINARY*, Chicago Cultural Center (Aug 17, 2012-Feb 17, 2013)
ID SHOW, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
LOCKED UP: DEMYSTIFYING THE MARGINALIZED AMONG US THROUGH ART, SCIENCE, AND COMMUNITY, exhibition & benefit for LGBTQ health awareness, High Concept Laboratories, Chicago, IL (Nov 17)
ACRE BOOTH, MDW FAIR, Mana Contemporary Chicago, IL (Nov 9-11)
- 2011 *ID SHOW*, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
THE NATURE PROJECT, Brickton Art Center, Park Ridge, IL
CALL AND RESPONSE, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
RETURNING THE GAZE: CONTEMPORARY PORTRAITS BY WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS, Northern Trust Bank, Chicago, IL
DISRUPTIVE STILLNESS, Jean Paul Slusser Gallery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2010 *PAGES: BOOK AS MEDIUM, CATALYST, AND VENUE*, Paragraph Gallery, Kansas City, MO
ID SHOW, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
NO PLACE LIKE HOME, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
- 2009 *ID SHOW*, Koehonline Museum of Art, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL
TOO BIG TO FAIL: TEXTS, BODIES, OBJECTS, IMAGES, APRIL Gallery, Twelve Galleries Project, Chicago, IL
- 2008 *A HIRSUTE AFFAIR*, Gallery X, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
WOMEN IN THE ARTS: A CELEBRATION, Effe Leven Gallery, Chicago, IL
DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS, curated by Joseph Grigely, Alogon Gallery, Chicago, IL
PICTURING MARY: CONTEMPORARY IMAGES OF THE MADONNA, Orleans Street Gallery, St. Charles, IL
- 2007 *FLASH THEORY: ON THE ARCHIVE*, Around the Coyote Fall Arts Festival, Chicago, IL
SOLO EXHIBITION, Café Ambrosia, Evanston, IL
CHICAGO ART OPEN, Iron Studios, Chicago, IL
- 2006 *CURATOR'S CHOICE EXHIBITION*, curated by Tricia Van Eck, Around the Coyote Fall Arts Festival, Chicago, IL
CURATOR'S CHOICE EXHIBITION, curated by Peter Miller, Around the Coyote Winter Arts Festival, Chicago, IL
- 2004 *BEYONDMEDIA'S 1ST ANNUAL ART AUCTION EXTRAVAGOWNZA*, Las Manos Gallery, Chicago, IL
FIGURE | BODY SELECTIONS, Hostelling International, Chicago, IL
- 2003 *BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS THESIS EXHIBITION*, Gallery 2, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
MOVIESIDE 14, The Prodigal Son, Chicago, IL
- 2002 *MOVIESIDE FILM FESTIVAL*, Biograph Theater, Chicago, IL
PORTES-OUVERTES (OPEN DOORS), Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France
- 2000 *20 FIRST*, 162 North State Street Residences Student Gallery, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
ARTBASH, Gallery 2, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- 1999 *A SURREALIST PRIMER*, Allcott Undergraduate Gallery, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
THE SHORT ORDER GALLERY SHOW, Chapel Hill, NC

CURATED EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *PERIPHERAL VIEWS: STATES OF AMERICA* co-curator, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, IL
Co-curators: Alicia Chester, Barbara Diener, Jess T. Dugan, Natasha Egan, Allison Grant, Karen Irvine, Josh Poehlein (Jul 13-Sep 30).
- 2012 *QUARTERLY SITE #11: LINE-OF-SITE* co-curator, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Guest curator for the Quarterly Site Series in the Twelve Galleries Project by Jamilee Polson Lacy.
Co-curators: Alicia Chester, Karolina Gnatowski, and Kate Ruggeri (Jul 7-Aug 11).
- 2008 *A HIRSUTE AFFAIR* curator, Gallery X, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Group exhibition engaging cultural, political, racial, and gendered meanings and representations of hair (Oct 14-31).

RESIDENCIES

- 2014 SUMMER FORUM FOR INQUIRY + EXCHANGE residency, Joshua Tree, CA
Residency brings together artists, musicians, writers, and scholars to discuss readings and ideas in a unique environment. Theme: "Networks of Belonging" (Jul 6-13).
- 2012 ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE RESIDENCY & EXHIBITIONS (ACRE) artist residency, Steuben, WI
Residents have the opportunity to expand upon their individual practices and take part in optional programming within a collaborative community. A number of visiting artists are invited to conduct studio visits and present lectures, discussions, workshops and other non-traditional programming (Aug 1-12).

PUBLICITY

- 2013 "Other Investigations: Alicia Chester." Interviewed by Lynnette Miranda on *make-space.net* (May 20).
- 2010 "'Pages' worth turning at Paragraph Gallery." Theresa Bembnister. *The Kansas City Star* (Dec 9).
- 2009 "Review: Too Big to Fail/April Gallery." Beatrice Smigasiewicz. *New City* (Apr 20).
- 2008 "On the road to Emmaus, at day's end..." Austin Fleming. *A Concord Pastor Comments* (blog, Apr 8).
- 2008 "A modern take on Mary." Molly Collins. *Daily Herald* (Mar 28).
- 2006 Interviewed by Brian Sarna. *Columbia Chronicle* (Feb 4).
- 2006 "Preview: Around the Coyote Winter Arts Festival." Interviewed by Matthew McDermott. *Chicago Living Arts* (Feb 4).

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018-2020 GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP – MOVING IMAGE DEPARTMENT
- Nitrate Picture Show film festival archival researcher and volunteer coordinator
 - Research, write, and edit film texts for the Dryden Theatre
 - Inspect archived nitrate motion picture film at the Louis B. Mayer Conservation Center
 - Conduct long-term project research for a monograph and recreation of the Photo-Drama of Creation multimedia performance of 1914 with senior curator-at-large Dr. Paolo Cherchi Usai
- 2016-2018 ANDREW W. MELLON DIGITAL HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP – UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
Trains humanities doctoral students to integrate digital technologies into innovative research
- 2013-2016 UNIVERSITY TUITION FELLOWSHIP, VISUAL & CULTURAL STUDIES – UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
- 2011-2012 COLLECTIONS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP – MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY, CHICAGO
Position funded by the Donnelley Foundation to research and write texts on artists and artworks in the museum's permanent collection and Midwest Photographers Project rotating collection, published online in the collections database

PUBLICATIONS * = peer-reviewed

- 2018 "OUTMODED INSTANT: FROM INSTAGRAM TO POLAROID," *Afterimage: The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism* 45:5 (Visual Studies Workshop/University of California Press)
- 2017 "ARCADIA AND ANXIETY: TRAVEL TRAILERS AND FALLOUT SHELTERS IN MIDCENTURY AMERICA," *Dialectic V: The Figure of Vernacular in Architectural Imagination* (School of Architecture, University of Utah) *
- 2016 "DESERT PICTURES AND POLAROID MEMORIES," *Dilettante Vol. 2: Networks of Belonging* (Summer Forum for Inquiry + Exchange)
- 2014 *WHAT IS REVOLUTIONARY ART NOW?* contributing author to exhibition catalog for *The Left Front: Radical Art in the "Red Decade": 1929-1940* (Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University)
- 2012-2014 ARTSLANT staff writer of exhibition reviews and artist interviews
- "The Poetics of Collaboration and Collision: An Interview with EcoArtTech," Mar 16, 2014
 - "An Overdue Retrospective," *Faith Wilding: Fearful Symmetries* at Threewalls, Jan 17, 2014
 - "More Aesthetic Than Pain: An Interview with Wafaa Bilal," June 16, 2013
 - "Domestica Dentata: A Tyranny of Details," Daniel Bauer at Alderman Exhibitions, May 3, 2013
 - "The Sahmat Collective: Politics and Performance in India," *The Sahmat Collective: Art and Activism in India Since 1989* at the Smart Museum of Art, Mar 22, 2013
 - "Climate of Uncertainty" at the DePaul Art Museum, Feb 7, 2013
 - "Observer Effect" at Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Jan 24, 2013
 - "2012 In Review: The Second City Comes in First," Dec 25, 2012
 - "137 &s with IAIN BAXTER& / the &MAN," interview with Iain Baxter&, Oct 21, 2012
 - "Concrete Metaphors: Soviet Modernist Architecture," Richard Pare at the Graham Foundation, Oct 16, 2012
 - "In Conversation with Dawoud Bey," Sept 20, 2012
 - "EXPO CHICAGO Photography Preview," Sept 19, 2012
 - "Afterimage" at the DePaul Art Museum, Sept 18, 2012
- 2012 "SURFACE," *THEORIZING VISUAL STUDIES: WRITING THROUGH THE DISCIPLINE* (Routledge)
- 2007-2008 F NEWSMAGAZINE art criticism staff writer (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
- "Smart Adaptation." Mar. 2008: 7
 - "Mapping the visible and the unseen." Dec. 2007: 18
 - "Common Ground." Nov. 2007: 23
 - "Pedagogical Disorientation." Oct. 2007: 26
 - "Política de la identidad." Sept. 2007: 7

EDITORIAL

- 2014-2016 *INVISIBLE CULTURE* journal editorial board (University of Rochester)
- 2012 *THEORIZING VISUAL STUDIES: WRITING THROUGH THE DISCIPLINE* anthology coeditor with lead editor Dr. James Elkins (Routledge)
- 2008 *CANON* journal cofounder (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)
- Multiform visual studies journal by SAIC Visual and Critical Studies first-year graduate students that foregrounds hybrid artistic and critical practices and seeks to feature people working outside conventional means of producing, disseminating, and engaging with images.

CONFERENCES // SYMPOSIA // INVITED LECTURES

- 2020 "THE FUTURE IS PAST: IDENTITY AND PHOTOGRAPHY THROUGH TIME" panel, Society for Photographic Education Annual Conference: *20/20 Vision*, Houston, TX (Mar 5-8)

- 2020 "SOMETHING IN THE WATER: THE COLOR OF DECAY IN MATTHEW BRANDT'S PHOTOGRAPHS" in panel "Fixing and Fading: The Material Photograph over Time," College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago (Feb 12)
- 2019 "PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE BRAIN: THE HARVEY CUSHING BRAIN TUMOR REGISTRY, 1902-1938," 9th Annual Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference, Kalamazoo, MI (Sept 19)
- 2018 THATCAMP (THE HUMANITIES AND TECHNOLOGY CAMP) ROCHESTER lead organizer. Collaboration among the Andrew W. Mellon Graduate Program in the Digital Humanities at the University of Rochester, the Digital Humanities and Social Sciences Program at the Rochester Institute of Technology, and the Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, NY (Mar 23)
- 2016 "HYSTERICAL DANCING: FROM CHARCOT'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ICONOGRAPHY TO KINUGASA TEINOSUKE'S *A PAGE OF MADNESS*," 23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Graduate Conference: Geographies of Interruption: Body, Location, and Experience, University of Rochester (Apr 8)
- 2015 "FLASHBACK AS FORM: REPRESENTING TRAUMATIC MEMORY," Open Embodiments: Locating Somatechnics in Tucson, University of Arizona (Apr 17)
- 2013 "PLOT M: NUCLEAR TEMPORALITY," 9th Visual & Cultural Studies Graduate Conference: A Matter of Time: Temporalities of Material Culture, University of Rochester (Apr 6)
- 2012 PERIPHERAL VIEWS INTO THE COLLECTION, SESSION TWO: 1960-PRESENT, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago. Curated and presented the second of a two-part print viewing of original works from the permanent collection and Midwest Photographers Project (Aug 23)
- 2012 Lecture on the relationship of art and politics, CREATING JUSTICE: A SYMPOSIUM CELEBRATING ART AND ACTIVISM, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL (Apr 21)
- 2009 "BEHOLDING BODIES AND EMBODIED BEHOLDERS IN ANNETTE MESSENGER'S *MEX VŒUX*," To Turn, To Tend Toward: Working Theses, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (May 2)
- 2009 "PERFORMING THE ABSENT BODY: LOOKING TO BE TOUCHED," performative lecture with Katherine Lennard, Radical Intersections: Performance Across Disciplines, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL (Apr 26)

WORKSHOPS

- 2018 THE NITRATE TOUCH: A GRADUATE WORKSHOP participant, 15th International Domitor Conference: Provenance and Early Cinema, Rochester, NY (Jun 11-12)
- 2017 INTRODUCTION TO CODE/ART AND DATA VISUALIZATION participant, DH@Guelph Summer Workshops, University of Guelph, ON (May 8-11)
- 2008 DISRUPTIONS: THE POLITICAL IN ART NOW participant in symposium workshop on "event" led by Gregg Bordowitz, hosted by the Open Practice Committee/Department of Visual Arts, University of Chicago, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (Oct 24)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

- 2017-18 ARCHITECTURAL BIOMETRICS, principal investigator: DR. PETER CHRISTENSEN
- Digital platform addresses the lack of tools for comparative analysis of spatial data by algorithmically analyzing 3D scans, combining the computational capacity of empirical inquiry with the humanistic concerns of authorship and process in design
 - Developed and implemented 3D scanning procedures for Paleoindian points at the Rochester Museum and Science Center
 - Co-wrote internal project grant and edited National Endowment for the Humanities grant
- 2017 THE LAZARUS PROJECT, principal investigator: DR. GREGORY HEYWORTH
- Multispectral imaging project and transportable lab that employs new technology for image processing to generate imagery from texts that have been damaged or erased

- Aided in the digital reconstruction of a concerto by Georg Philipp Telemann that had been damaged during World War II; the recovered concerto was subsequently performed by alumni of the Eastman School of Music at the Pierre Hotel in New York City

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015-2019	STUDIO ASSISTANT TO JOYCE NEIMANAS – Rochester, NY Photoshop, scanning, prepare files for lab printing, computer troubleshooting and maintenance, proposal and correspondence writing, archive and record management, studio maintenance
2010-2016	FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEOGRAPHER Publicity photos; portraits; artwork, exhibition, and performance/event documentation Clients: Greenguard USA; Detroit Underground Records; The Moving Architects dance company; Johannes Möller, classical guitarist, and Hill Guitar Company; Veronica Corzo-Duchardt (Winter-bureau), artist and graphic designer; Walsh Gallery; Twelve Galleries Project; Indoor Boys blog
2008	CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER – <i>HERE (NOW)</i> , artist's book by Danielle Sommer
2007	DOCUMENTATION PHOTOGRAPHER – <i>Domestic Tension</i> , month-long installation/performance by Wafaa Bilal, FLATFILEgalleries, Chicago, IL (May-Jun)
2006	PUBLICITY PHOTOGRAPHER – <i>The Perks of Nudity</i> , production by Dave Perez with EP Theatre, photos and review published in the print edition of the <i>Chicago Reader</i> (Nov 10)
2005	PRODUCTION ASSISTANT – <i>Midwest Olympia</i> , video installation by Wafaa Bilal exhibited in <i>Painting on Photography: Photography on Painting</i> , Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago
2004	PRODUCTION ASSISTANT – select works in <i>The Human Condition</i> , photo series by Wafaa Bilal exhibited in <i>In the Shadow of the Surreal</i> , FLATFILEgalleries, Chicago, IL LIGHTING DESIGNER – <i>Mimetic Machines and the Difficulty of Producing Art Containing Meaning</i> , digital film and animation by Daniel Torrente
2003	LIGHTING DESIGNER & ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY – <i>0 + 0 = 0</i> , digital film and animation by Daniel Torrente, 2003 Adobe Design Achievement Awards Honorable Mention DARKROOM ASSISTANT TO ALAN COHEN – Chicago, IL Printed proofs and archival exhibition prints, mixed chemistry, maintained darkroom

GRANTS // AWARDS

2015	SUSAN B. ANTHONY INSTITUTE FOR GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH GRANT, Univ. of Rochester
2014	DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES TRAVEL FUND AWARD, University of Rochester
2012	COMMUNITY ARTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs
2008-2009	STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
2007-2009	SAIC GRANT AND ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIP, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
2008	ODYSSEY TRAVEL GRANT, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
2007	COMMUNITY ARTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs
2006	COMMUNITY ARTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT, City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs
2003	BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS FELLOWSHIP, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
1999-2003	ACADEMIC INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
1999-2002	STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
1998-1999	DEAN'S LIST, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2019-Present	Member, Society for Cinema and Media Studies
2019-Present	Member, Society for Photographic Education
2019-Present	Member, Society for the Social History of Medicine
2018-Present	Member, College Art Association