

curtis bracher

340 16th St. San Diego, CA 92101 (917) 669-1053 (cell) teach@curtisbracher.info www.curtisbracher.info IG: @cwbracher

education

MFA, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY, Painting/New Media, 2003

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Painting, Summer 1998

BA, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, Painting, 1995

related skills

Over 25 years of Education and Curriculum Development experience including 13+ years teaching Studio/Foundational Art/Experimental Media-Digital Art at the College level. Scholarly writing and Interactive/Collaborative coursework developed and published. Distance Education Certified. Extensive Museum Education and Gallery management experience. Outstanding teaching skills and ability to relate well with a wide range of learners, over a full set of demographics. Administrative training with a variety of delivery platforms such as Canvas, Blackboard and Self-Service/Web Advisor/PeopleSoft. Vast managerial experience in and out of the educational domain. Member of College Art Association, National Art Educators Association.

Experience with Motion and Animation on a variety of platforms. Fifteen years computer proficiency with Processing, Arduino Platforms, TouchDesigner and other open-source real-time interactive and immersive audio/visual manipulation software environments. Working knowledge of Creative Suite applications such as Photoshop, After Effects, Premier, Audition, Animate, InDesign, Illustrator. Have worked extensively within the Blender 3D Pipeline.

Multi-Sensor Interactivity, Communication Protocols, Electrical Engineering and Neural Network Design (Tensor Flow and Python) have become a recent ascendency.

current work

Adjunct Instructor, Southwestern Community College, Chula Vista, CA

August 2008 - Present. Department of Art and Comm, 900 Otay Lakes Rd., Chula Vista, CA, 91910.

Foundation Instructor, Painting, Drawing, Design, New Media. Contact: John Pickelle, Department Chair, jpickelle@sccd.edu. (619) 421-6700

Classes Taught:

- Art 100 Drawing 1 (repeated sections)
- Art 101 2-D Design (repeated sections)
- Art 104 Intro to Visual Art (repeated sections)
- Art 104CB Intro Visual Art (College Bound High School in San Ysidro)
- Art 107 Beginning Painting (repeated sections)
- Art 108 Painting 2 - Experimental Processes, Color
- Art 200 Emerging Media - Contemporary Interactive Practices

Lecturer, California State University, San Marcos (Pool)

Jan 2013- Present. Visual and Performing Arts Department, 311 Arts Building, 333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Rd., San Marcos, CA 92096

Interactive Design Foundation Instructor, Intro to Visual Arts. Contact: Judit Hersko, Coordinator, jhersko@csusm.edu (760) 750-4639

Classes Taught:

- VSAR 380 Experimental Media (Premier/After Effects, Interactive-Live Video-Audio)
- VSAR 404 Web Design (UX/UI Design Concepts, CMS, HTML/CSS/Javascript/PHP)
- VSAR 172 Intro to Visual Arts

art, administration
and education related

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current
work
cont'd

Adjunct Instructor, Grossmont Community College, El Cajon, CA

August 2013 - Present. Visual Arts. 8800 Grossmont College Dr. El Cajon, CA 92020.

Digital Multi-Media, Contemporary Practices - Interactive Media, Drawing for Animation, Blender, Digital Foundations. Contact Marion DeKoonig (619)-644-7482. Email: marion.de.konig@gcccd.edu

Classes Taught: Art 171 Introduction to Digital Art (Adobe CC Suite)
Art 172 Interactive Media (Interaction Design, HTML5/CSS3, CMS, Interface Design, Interactive Video-Audio, Physical Computing/Sensor Control Processing/Arduino)

art, administration
and education related

Adjunct Instructor, San Diego City College, San Diego, CA

August 2019 - Present. Arts Humanities and Comm. 1313 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92101.

Foundations Instructor. Intro to Art, Freehand Drawing 1. Contact: Wayne Hulgin (619) 388-3693 whulgin@sdccd.edu

Classes Taught: Art 100 Introduction to Visual Art
Art 155 Freehand Drawing

Adjunct Instructor, Cuyamaca Community College, El Cajon, CA

January 2009 - Present. Fine Art Department, 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway El Cajon, California 92019

Pool. Foundation Instructor, Drawing and Design 1. Contact: Dr. Marie Ramos, Department Chair, marie.ramos@gcccd.edu. (619) 660-4255

Classes Taught: Art 121 Drawing 1 (repeated sections)
Art 124 Beginning 2-D Design (repeated sections)

Adjunct Instructor, Miramar College, San Diego, CA

August 2022 - Dec 2022. Arts Humanities and Comm. 10440 Black Mountain Road. San Diego, CA 92126.

Foundations Instructor. Intro to Art, Freehand Drawing 1. One semester only. Contact Lou Ascione - Dean School of Liberal Arts - (619) 388-7873

Classes Taught: Art 100 Introduction to Visual Art
Art 155A/B Freehand Drawing 1 and Freehand Drawing 2

Web Media Director, MonkeyRestless Web Productions

September 2006 - Present. Free-lance. Development and Designer. Web Design with an emphasis on the Responsive and Interactive, UX/UI Design. Analytics. HTML5 and CSS3 Proficiency. Bootstrap Theme work. CMS Development - Wordpress, e-commerce. Interactive Programming - Javascript/JQuery, Flash, Adobe After Effects, Premiere, Photoshop, Animate

past
work

Adjunct Instructor, Metropolitan State College of Denver, CO

August 2004 - May 2006. Campus Box 59, PO Box 173362, Denver, CO, 80217. Contact: (303) 556-3090

Instructor for Beginning/ Intermediate/ Advanced Drawing, 2-D design, Introduction to Computer Art.

Classes Taught: Art 114 Drawing 1 (repeated sections)
Art 224 Intermediate Drawing - Color
Art 334 Advanced Drawing
Art 200 Intro to Digital Art

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past
work
cont'd

art, administration
and education related

Adjunct Instructor, Front Range Community College, Fort Collins, CO

August 2005 - May 2006. Department of Art and Letters, 4616 Shields St., Fort Collins, CO, 80526.

Instructor for Drawing and Painting. Contact: Karl Dukstein, Department Lead (970) 204-8665

Classes Taught: Art 100 Drawing 1 (repeated sections)
Art 105 Painting 1

Teacher, Education Department, Denver Art Museum

Summer 2003. 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver, CO, 80204. Contact: (720) 913-5437

Created, developed and implemented multi-cultural art (Drawing/Painting/Sculpture) classes for children, ages 4-8.

Director, Museum Art School, San Diego Museum of Art Studio Instructor, San Diego Museum of Art

September 1994-July 1998. San Diego, CA, Contact: (619) 696-1952

Created, developed and implemented art classes, summer camps, and various other curricula and programs for children, ages 4-17.

General administrative duties included grant writing and developing, budget, hiring, marketing, teacher and intern management.

Taught adult classes in Drawing, Figure Drawing, and Painting. Also functioned as studio teacher for a variety of other adult and children's programs

community
involvement

Studio Residency, San Diego Space 4 Art

Feb 2010 - Present. 325 15th Street, San Diego, CA 92101. Contact: director@space4art.org

Developing Community Art Center. Collaborated with Program Development duties including Construction, Advocacy, Grant Writing, Budget, Marketing, Physical Plant, Education and early Web Presence.

Volunteer, Arts Education - Monarch School

2021 - Present. 1625 Newton Avenue, San Diego, California 92113

Monarch School Project nurtures resilience in unhoused youth and their families. Working to empower students to influence their own growth in the areas of academic success and social emotional learning.

Program Director, Chula Vista Arts Imperative

May 2009 - May 2010. 3525 Main Street, Chula Vista, CA, 91910.

Developing Community Art Center. Arts Program Development duties included advocacy, grant writing, budget, marketing, teacher and intern management. Program closed due to funding gaps.

Coordinator, Arte en Espanol: Para Todos

September 1997-July 1998. Barrio Logan, San Diego, CA

Originated and coordinated project to allow spanish-speaking children free access to art materials and encourage visits to cultural institutions in both Tijuana and San Diego. Project aim: To reinforce the idea that art is made by everyone for everyone.

Lecturer, Honors Seminars

March 1997-July 1998. San Diego, CA

Lectured on topics such as "Talent" and "Creativity" to high school junior and senior honor students. This program is in cooperation with San Diego City Schools/ Gifted and Talented Education and the College of Sciences at San Diego State University.

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references **Dr Chris Warren** (Colleague)

Associate Professor of Digital Composition and Sound Design,
San Diego State University
Email: cwarren@sdsu.edu
Cell: *will provide on request*

Joshua Eggleton (Chair)

Professor, Visual Performing Arts
Cuyamaca Community College
900 Rancho San Diego Parkway, El Cajon, California 92019
(619) 660-4255
Email: joshua.eggleton@gcccd.edu

Wayne Hulgins (Department Co-Lead)

Lead Faculty, Arts and Humanities, Fine Art
San Diego City College, 1313 Park Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92101
Email: whulgins@sdccd.edu - Phone: (619) 388 - 3693

John Pickelle (Past Chair)

Professor, School of Arts and Communications
Southwestern Community College
900 Otay Lakes Rd., Chula Vista, CA, 91910.
(619) 421-6700 x5604
Email: jpickelle@swccd.edu

Paul Turounet - (Past Chair)

Professor, Visual Arts and Humanities,
Grossmont Community College
8800 Grossmont College Dr. El Cajon, CA 92020
(619)-644-7241
Email - paul.turounet@gcccd.edu

Kristine Diekman (Past Department Lead)

Department Coordinator Arts + Tech, Associate Professor, Visual and Performing Arts
California State University San Marcos
301 Arts Building, 333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Rd., San Marcos, CA 92096
(760) 750-4188
email:kdiekman@csusm.edu

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Exhibitions List

solo

Hyde Gallery, Grossmont College, El Cajon, CA - Art Biology - Mycelium - Experimental Drawing as Interactive Installation - 09/23
San Diego International Airport; San Diego, CA, "Good News". Installation, Video, Drawing. 06/17
Space 4 Art Gallery; San Diego, CA. "Banquet Series Prequel". Mixed-Media Painting, Drawing. 2/12
Arts Imperative; San Diego, CA. "How To Win A War". Glass Sculpture, Image Projections (video), Drawing. 6/09
Edge Gallery; Denver, CO. "Move". Sculpture, Interactive Animations, Drawing. 2/06
Edge Gallery; Denver, CO. "Through". Sculpture, Image Projections (video), Painting, Drawing. 7/05
AC Project Room; NY, NY, "Image Violence". Sculpture, Installation, Video, Drawing. 2/03
Steuben East, Pratt Institute; Brooklyn, NY, "See Take Need". MFA thesis show. 4/02
Pratt Institute; Brooklyn, NY, "Feed". Activity/Performance. 4/01
Open Space; NY, NY, "Flag". Performance. 12/00
Open Space; NY, NY, "Dictionary". Performance. 10/00
The Green Room Gallery; San Diego, CA, "Choice/Compel". Paintings and Constructions. 6/98
The Green Room Gallery; San Diego, CA, "Unseen Structures". Paintings and Constructions. 10/97
Caja Gallery; San Diego, CA, "Persuasions". Paintings and Constructions, show included film work. 8/97
ArtWalk '96; San Diego, CA, "Art De-mystified". Lecture and Display. 4/96
Mythic Gallery; Chula Vista, CA, "Fright and Might". Installations. 10/94
Flor y Canto Gallery; San Diego, CA, "Constructed Meanings". Paintings. 4/94
Grounds Gallery; Northridge, CA, "Rhetoric". Paintings. 4/88

group

Southwestern College Gallery; Southwestern Community College, CA. "Faculty Show" - Art and Biology Installations 7/22
San Diego City College Art Gallery, San Diego, CA, "Two Friends With Flowers". Drawings. Charcoal on Paper. 9/21
Ship in the Woods; Escondido, CA. "Felicita". Standing Bears, Interactivity, Sound, Projection, Drawing. 6/16
Mesa College Gallery; San Diego Mesa College, CA. "Lure". Interactivity, Sound, Projection, Drawing. 2/14
Space 4 Art Gallery; San Diego, CA. "Anti-Freeze". Paintings/Drawings. 12/11
Cuyamaca College Gallery; San Diego, CA. "Rain". Light Sculpture, Sound. 10/11
Southwestern College Gallery; San Diego, CA. "Crawl". Mixed-Media Drawing. 09/11
Space 4 Art Gallery; San Diego, CA. "Start Here". Paintings/Drawings. 07/10
RFD Gallery; Swansboro, GA. "Unfamiliar Ground". Interactive Flash Animation. 05/08
Great Lakes Drawing Biennial; Eastern Michigan University. Detroit, MI. Drawings. 03/08
Galex 42; Galesburg, IL. "42nd National Juried". Video Sculpture. 03/08
Edge Gallery; Denver, CO. "EdgeExtremist". Image Projections (video), Drawing. 12/05
AC Project Room; NY, NY, "New Artists". Sculpture, Drawings. 11/02
Atelier SockMonkey; Brooklyn, NY, "You Will Submit, Small Show". Drawing. 6/01
Pratt Artist's League; Brooklyn, NY, "So You Thought You Were Original". Paintings. 1/00
Pratt Artist's League; Brooklyn, NY, "Avante Guard". Paintings. 1/99

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Statement of Teaching Philosophy

Tell me and I will forget; Show me and I will remember; Involve me and I'll understand. "

-Native American proverb

"I am ago button."

-Google search item

It has become singularly clear that while learning to paint/draw/computer mediate does take a bit of old-fashioned methodology and practice, the process of art-making - learning to see directly, exploring honestly, and translating clearly - is open to much technical interpretation. In all of my classes, I accentuate a content-based, critical-thinking and collaborative approach to art-making, aiming to open the basic tenets of foundational learning to an inter-disciplinary, perceptual and multi-modal dialogue. I have a firm commitment to experimental practices and continuously encourage the students to actively engage from their own personal and clarified motives.

For students to see directly and honestly, it is vital that they become personally involved in the learning process as much as possible. To do this, I use a questioning and discussion strategy, often in the form of experimental participation, where students are taught to debate, develop, reinforce and express a personal voice. This strategy encourages them to become both a learner and a teacher. It allows students to be able to translate clearly what would be rarified aesthetic formal issues into ideas that are much more grounded in personal concern. Thus, are much more likely to be used as honest searching and transformative growth. These student-led situations are where I have received the most feedback and assessment on the project and curricula ideas. It is where I have been able to best answer the "So what?" litmus test that is applied to all of my class projects.

To bring these ideas to play, much of the strategies and exercises that are found in my syllabi are an active, organic engagement with the students' public and personal environment. As much as possible, I pull in project examples from other media disciplines, philosophies and cultures. This synthesized approach allows me to continually seek projects that teach aesthetic principles and, as importantly, foster unique ideas, expand possibility and bring about more encompassing viewpoints. By using inter-disciplinary projects the process of art-making becomes exciting and truly interactive. It becomes a world that translates, not as a detached view that one observes from a detached position, but into an ever-changing interface from which we gain our meanings.

As a requirement to working individually with the students, I have found that assuming the role of "coach," that is, laying the groundwork and then encouraging a sense of motivation, has been highly beneficial. To facilitate this, it is my goal to remain semi-transparent during this explorative play while being available to discuss any questions, options, fears or concerns. I believe this expansiveness, acceptance, and caring has reflected well in previous classes and has allowed me to claim a large measure of success.

To understand where both my artwork and teaching philosophies stem from, it must also be said that I believe passionately in art and its processes. Specifically, I believe in art's ability to communicate exploration, empathy, and thus transformative understanding. The art-making process mirrors this ability in an exciting, direct, and spontaneous manner as the natural outcome of the creative process. This firm belief in art, together with a lifetime of creating experiences with children and adults, have given me every reason to believe that art is not only of necessity, but has incredible value to the human community as well. It is this belief system that compels me to make art and the reason why I enjoy guiding others along this path. I will always view teaching art as a requisite form of my life and work as an artist.

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artistic statement

My work explores with immersive and interactive art installations that develop hybrid ecologies using sensors, reactive forms and spaces, natural growing processes, and biological growth systems within the natural world.

Using Art + Science practice as a platform to hack complex social, biological and machine-based intelligences illuminates and amplifies a complex relationship to our world. That inter-relationship intertwines a beautiful symbiosis, an agency of change, and is the focus of my explorations. These sensorial and immersive experiences, informed by AI/Deep-Learning, Cultural Data, Biology, and Technology, have as an ultimate goal to see as an emergent world sees, the connection between the behavior of unseen biological processes/systems matched to the modeling of intentional communities.

Together with these more connective and external approaches of my 3D interactive work, my drawing practice continues to aim for more intimate questions. I still strive to draw passionately and expressively (especially in the Portraits) however, most of the drawings act as an organizer of sorts. An experiment, a reflection, an understanding, these drawings are the remnants of exploration into a possible future. I'm trying to interrogate connections within and comparing them to an active relationship with the world.

When the drawing process is working, I'm reveling in learning. See in the work a foundation of Experimentation, Process, Chance, Divergence, Perception, Movement as a Time-based Sensory Input, Contrast, and Interaction. In every piece a curious reflection of natural processes and my connection to them.

Curtis Bracher - 2022