

GABRIEL R. RITTER

Art, Design & Architecture Museum || University of California, Santa Barbara
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EDUCATION

- 2016 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
Ph.D., Art History
- 2009 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
M.A., Art History
- 2002 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
B.A., Art History and Japanese, *Summa Cum Laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

EMPLOYMENT

- 2021 – present UCSB ART, DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE MUSEUM
Director
- UCSB HISTORY OF ART & ARCHITECTURE
Associate Professor
- 2016 – 2021 MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ART
Curator, Head of Contemporary Art
- 2018 (March) THE ARMORY SHOW
Focus 2018 Curator
- 2012 – 2016 DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART
The Nancy and Tim Hanley Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art
- 2011 – 2012 THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, TOKYO
Visiting Researcher (Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellow)
- 2004 – 2007 THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES
Curatorial Assistant
- 2002 – 2004 BLUM & POE
Gallery Director

RESEARCH/PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 “Nature Within/Nature Without,” in *Yoo Youngkuk: Quintessence*, ed. Rosa Maria Falva (New York: Rizzoli, 2020): 14-29.
- 2020 “Letters to the Reader,” in *Taro Izumi: Ex*, ed. Séverine Fromaigeat (Berlin: Hatje Cantz, 2020), 42-73cm; 2657-2687cm; 3243-3273cm.
- 2020 “The artist Kenneth Tam on pandemic life and the rise in anti-Asian racism.” *Mia Blog*, June 23, 2020. <https://new.artsmia.org/stories/the-artist-kenneth-tam-on-pandemic-life-and-the-rise-in-anti-asian-racism/>, np.
- 2019 “Painting and the Care of Representation: An Interview with Aliza Nisenbaum,” in *Aliza Nisenbaum*, ed. Amanda Singer (Berlin: Hatje Cantz, 2019):15-27.
- 2018 “Sara Cwynar’s Contemporary Nostalgia.” *Aperture.org*, October 3, 2018. <https://aperture.org/blog/cwynar-interview/>, np.
- 2018 Various artist entries in *TWO x TWO x TWENTY: Two Decades Supporting Contemporary Art at the Dallas Museum of Art*, ed. Anna Katherine Brodbeck. Dallas: Dallas Museum of Art, 2018. Pages 168, 171, 172, 180, 182, 184, 186, 187, 188, 190, 191, 192, 196, 200, 203, 204, 208, 211, 214, 215, 216, 222, 223, 225, 234, 236, 240-243, 250-253.
- 2017 “The Compulsive Dreamer,” in *Chihiro Mori: Omoide In My Head*. (Tokyo: Torch Press, 2017), 15-17.
- 2017 Various artist entries in *The Collection: Highlights from the Minneapolis Institute of Art*, ed. Laura Silver. Minneapolis: Minneapolis Institute of Art, 2017. Pages 343, 345, 347, 348, 351, 352, 354, 356, 361, 364-366, 368, 370, 371.
- 2015 “Between Action and the Unknown,” in *Between Action and the Unknown: The Art of Kazuo Shiraga and Sadamasa Motonaga*, ed. Gabriel Ritter (Dallas: Dallas Museum of Art, 2015): 22-39.
- 2015 “Chosil Kil: The Raconteuse.” *Art Asia Pacific* 92 (March/April 2015): 112-119.
- 2015 “Catch Sun Direct: The Work of John Wilcox, 1980 to 1983,” in *John Wilcox: The Works from 1980 to 1983, California to Texas* (Boston/Dallas: The Ioannes Project and The Edith O’Donnell Institute of Art History, 2015): 15-21.
- 2014 “Masaya Chiba Interview,” in *Masaya Chiba: A Sporty Planet* (Kunisaki: Kunisaki Art Festival Executive Committee, 2014): 13-16.
- 2014 *Symposium Report: In Search of a New Narrative of Postwar Japanese Art*. Tokyo: Japan Foundation, 2014: 39-48.

- 2013 “A Genealogy of Nonsense,” in *Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT*. Tokyo: Mori Art Museum, 2013: 246-253.
- 2013 Various artist entries in *Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT*. Tokyo: Mori Art Museum, 2013: 60, 64, 80, 102, 108, 114, 126, 132, 144.
- 2013 “Koki Tanaka: Out of the Ordinary.” *Art Asia Pacific* 84 (July/August 2013): 64-73.
- 2012 “Review of Requiem for the Sun: The Art of Mono-ha.” *Art Asia Pacific* 79 (July/August 2012): 120.
- 2011 “A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words: The Work of Yoo Seungho,” in *Yoo Seungho* (Seoul: Henkel in Korea/Alternative Space LOOP, 2011): 20-24.
- 2011 “The Future as Present Tense: Interview with Ichiro Endo.” *Set To Signal*, last modified May 20, 2011, <http://settosignal.com/obstructionism/ritter/>, np.
- 2011 Introduction and various artist entries in *ONE AND J. GALLERY at PIERRE KOENIG*. Seoul: ONE AND J. GALLERY, 2011. Pages 13; 30-77.
- 2009 “Waratte iitomo (It’s Okay to Laugh),” in *Naze Hiroshima no Sora wo Pikka to sasetewa ikenainoka*, translated by Masamichi Tamura (Tokyo: Kawade Shobo Shinsha, 2009): 212.
- 2008 “Tokyo Nonsense in L.A.” *Bijutsu Techo* 907 (May 2008): 42-43. Translated by Yuki Okumura.
- 2008 “Barry Le Va; Chris Ofili; Rirkrit Tiravanija; Richard Tuttle.” Artist Entries in *This Is Not To Be Looked At: Highlights from the Permanent Collection*. Los Angeles: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2008.
- 2007 “True Colors,” in *Makoto Aida: Monument for Nothing* (Tokyo: Graphic-sha Publishing Co., Ltd., 2007): 4-7.
- 2007 “From Endless to Everyday: The Video Work of Koki Tanaka,” in *Koki Tanaka Works 1997-2007* (Tokyo: Akio Nagasawa Publishing, 2007): 6-13.
- 2006 “Interview with Karl Haendel,” in *MOCA Focus: Karl Haendel* (Los Angeles: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2006): 64-85.
- 2006 “Takashi Murakami,” in *Ecstasy: In and About Altered States* (Los Angeles: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2006): 101.
- 2004 “Takashi Murakami: Artist of Contemporary Japanese Subculture.” *Stanford Journal of East Asian Affairs*, vol. 4, no. 1 (2004): 42-51.

EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 Curator, *Piotr Szyhalski – COVID-19: Labor Camp Reports*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, February – July 2021.
- 2021 Co-curator (with Chaka Mkali), *Rituals of Resilience*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, February – December 2021.
- 2020 Curator (organized by ICA Boston), *When Home Won't Let You Stay: Art and Migration*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, February – July 2020. (Mia-specific commissions by Ai Weiwei and Postcommodity).
- 2020 Co-curator (with Esther Callahan and Keisha Williams), *Mapping Black Identities*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, January – December 2020.
- 2020 Curator, *Nguyen Trinh Thi: Fifth Cinema*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 2019 – February 2020.
- 2019 Curator, *Speculative Bodies*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, January 2019 – March 2020.
- 2019 Curator, *Meiro Koizumi: Battlelands*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, January - April 2019.
- 2018 Curator, *Sara Cwynar: Image Model Muse*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 2018-January 2019. (traveled to Milwaukee Art Museum)
- 2018 Curator, *The Armory Show 2018 Focus Section*, The Armory Show, Pier 92, March 2018.
- 2017 Curator, *Kenneth Tam: Cold Open*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, December 2017 – April 2018.
- 2017 Curator, *Aliza Nisenbaum: A Place We Share*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 2017 – February 2018.
- 2017 Curator, *Anne Collier: Women with Cameras (Self Portrait)*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 2017 – December 2018.
- 2017 Curator (co-organized by Mia, LACMA and AGO), *Guillermo del Toro: At Home with Monsters*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, March – May 2017.
- 2016 Curator, *Dave Muller: Now Where Were We?*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, December 2016 – December 2017.

- 2016 Curator, *Concentrations 60: Lucie Stahl*, Dallas Museum of Art, September 2016 – January 2017.
- 2016 Curator, *Concentrations HK: Margaret Lee*, Duddell's, Hong Kong, March – June 2016.
- 2015 Curator (organized by Walker Art Center), *International Pop*, Dallas Museum of Art, October 2015 – January 2016.
- 2015 Curator, *Concentrations 59: Mirror Stage—Visualizing the Self after the Internet*, Dallas Museum of Art, April – December 2015.
- 2015 Co-curator (with Kawasaki Koichi), *Between Action and the Unknown: The Art of Kazuo Shiraga and Sadamasa Motonaga*, Dallas Museum of Art, February - July 2015.
- 2015 Curator, *Concentrations 58: Chosil Kil*, Dallas Museum of Art, February - August 2015.
- 2014 Curator, *Concentrations 57: Slavs and Tatars*, Dallas Museum of Art, July - September 2014.
- 2014 Curator, *Never Enough: Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary Art*, Dallas Museum of Art, March – July 2014.
- 2013 Curator, *Concentrations 56: Stephen Lapthisophon*, Dallas Museum of Art, October 2013 – March 2014.
- 2013 Co-curator (with Mami Kataoka and Reuben Keehan), *Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, September 2013 – January 2014.
- 2013 Curator, *DallasSITES: Available Space*, Dallas Museum of Art, July – August 2013.
- 2013 Curator, *DallasSITES: Charting Contemporary Art, 1963 to Present*, Dallas Museum of Art, May – September 2013.
- 2013 Curator (organized by MOMA), *Cindy Sherman*, Dallas Museum of Art, March – June 2013.
- 2012 Curator, *Sculpture by Other Means*, ONE AND J. Gallery, Seoul, March 2012.
- 2011 Curator, *In Focus: The Humorous - Recent Video Art from Israel, Japan and Mexico*, Roy and Edna Disney/Calarts Theater (REDCAT), Los Angeles, February 2011.
- 2010 Curator, *ONE AND J. GALLERY at PIERRE KOENIG*, Case Study House No. 21, Los Angeles, April 2010.

- 2008 Curator, *TOKYO NONSENSE*, SCION Installation Los Angeles, October 2008.
- 2007 Curator, *Out of the Ordinary: New Video from Japan*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, April – May 2007. (in collaboration with the Getty Research Institute).
- 2006 Curator, *MOCA Focus: Karl Haendel*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, January – April 2006.
- 2004 Curator, *Rinko Kawauchi: AILA*, UC Riverside Museum of Photography, Riverside, October 2004 – January 2005.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2020 “Beyond Surrealism: Kitawaki Noboru and the Japanese Avant-Garde.” Lecture presented at *Transnational Surrealism*, Macalester College, December 7, 2020.
- 2020 “When Home Won’t Let You Stay: Art and Migration.” Lecture presented at *Point of Displacement Festival*, Museum of Moscow, June 16, 2020.
- 2019 “#SafePassage: When Home Won’t Let You Stay.” Lecture presented at *Art and the Contemporary Refugee: Narratives, Memorials, Communities*, Kemper Art Museum, November 16, 2019.
- 2019 “Proximity & Perspective.” Lecture presented at *Bunkacho Contemporary Art Workshop 2019—Trans/National: Narrating Contemporary Art after Globalization*, March 20, 2019.
- 2019 Juror, TEFAF (The European Fine Art Foundation) New York Spring Vetting Committee
- 2019 3rd Annual MCAD Visiting Critic Review, Minneapolis College of Art and Design.
- 2018 “Genealogy of Nonsense.” Lecture at End of Summer, Yale Union, Portland, OR, August 12, 2018.
- 2018 “Armory Live: Patty Chang and Josh Kline,” Moderator for panel discussion w/ artists Patty Chang and Josh Kline. The Armory Show, March 11, 2018.
- 2018 “Curating as Politic.” Invited speaker on panel discussion with Valerie Cassel Oliver, Tosha Grantham, and Tumelo Mosaka. Investec Cape Town Art Fair, February 16, 2018.
- 2018 “Kenneth Tam: In Conversation.” Public conversation w/ artist Kenneth Tam at Minneapolis Institute of Art, January 18, 2018.

- 2018 NEA Museum Grants Panelist, Washington, DC.
- 2017 “Portraying Communities: Aliza Nisenbaum and the Care of Representation.” Lecture at Friends Lecture Series, Minneapolis Institute of Art, October 12, 2017.
- 2017 “Art as Community Platform: Transforming Practices of Engagement.” Moderator for panel discussion with DeAnna Cummings (Juxtaposition Arts), Chaka Mkali (Hope Community), Aliza Nisenbaum (artist), Rory Wakemup (All My Relations Arts). Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 28, 2017.
- 2017 “Anne Collier: In Conversation.” Public conversation w/ artist Anne Collier at Minneapolis Institute of Art, September 7, 2017.
- 2017 Juror, Mary L. Nohl Fellowship, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2016 Juror, Jerome Foundation Fellowship for Emerging Artists, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2016 Juror, TVAA (The Texas Visual Arts Association) 2016 National Juried Art Exhibition, Mesquite Arts Center, Mesquite, TX.
- 2016 Juror, Frame Stand Prize, Frieze New York.
- 2016 Juror, SMU Dijon-Dallas Exchange Program, Dallas, TX.
- 2016 Juror, DMA Awards to Artists, Dallas, TX.
- 2015–18 Initiated a three-year curatorial exchange program between a consortium of U.S. public institutions (DMA, The Getty, Hirshhorn, MoMA, SFMoMA, Walker Art Center) and The Japan Foundation to research works of postwar Japanese art in U.S. collections
- 2015 “Mirror Stage: Panel Discussion with Ed Atkins, Jacolby Satterwhite, and Ceci Moss.” Moderator. Dallas Museum of Art, October 20, 2015.
- 2015 “International Pop Artist Panel Discussion with Eduardo Costa, Jann Haworth, and Ushio Shinohara.” Moderator. Dallas Museum of Art, October 16, 2015.
- 2015 “Shiraga/Motonaga Roundtable Discussion: Koichi Kawasaki, Joan Kee, Gabriel Ritter, and James Rondeau.” Dallas Museum of Art, May 2, 2015.
- 2015 *Jiro, Digital Painting*. Organized DMA-commissioned performance by New York-based artist Ei Arakawa. April 8, 2015.
- 2015 "Challenging Voices: A Conversation about Art and the Ethical Imperative" Ming Tiampo in conversation with Paul McCarthy and Axel Vervoordt. Dallas Museum of Art, February 4, 2015.

- 2014 “Image/Object: Panel Discussion with Lucas Blalock, Margaret Lee and Erin Shirreff.” Moderator for panel discussion. Dallas Museum of Art, May 14, 2014.
- 2014 “Lost in Translation: Three Case Studies.” Lecture presented at INCCA-North America 2014 Artist Interview Workshop, Dallas Museum of Art, April 11, 2014.
- 2014 “Out of Doubt: Japanese Art Post 3/11.” Lecture presented at California State University, Long Beach, March 13, 2014.
- 2014 “Asian Art Now.” Lecture presented at The Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, July 15, 2013.
- 2014 Juror, CADD (Contemporary Art Dealers of Dallas) FUNd 2014: Winner Takes All, Dallas, TX.
- 2014 Juror, Artadia Awards 2014, Atlanta, GA.
- 2014 Reader, Creative Capital 2014 Moving Image and Visual Arts Grant, New York, NY.
- 2014 Juror, Ideas in Art 2014, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX.
- 2014 Juror, EXPO 2014, 500X Gallery, Dallas, TX.
- 2013 “Cindy Sherman: Artist as Model.” Lecture presented at Dallas Museum of Art, May 9, 2013.
- 2013 Juror, GEISAI #19, Tokyo, Japan. September 2013.
- 2012 “Post-war Japanese Art in U.S. Public Collections.” Lecture presented at *In Search of a New Narrative of Postwar Japanese Art—What Becomes Visible Through the Exhibitions at the Two Modern Art Museums in New York and Tokyo*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, December 23, 2012.
- 2012 “LA/Tokyo Story: An Exhibition History.” Lecture presented at Tokyo University of the Arts, January 13, 2012.
- 2010 “For a Language to Come: Nakahira Takuma and the Provoke Era.” Lecture presented at *Performing Politics*, UCLA Japanese Arts and Globalizations Symposium, December 5, 2010.
- 2010 “Between Nonsense and The Everyday: Recent Developments in Japanese Art.” Lecture presented at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, October 16, 2010.

- 2010 Gallery talk for *ONE AND J. GALLERY at PIERRE KOENIG*, Case Study House No. 21, Los Angeles, April 2010
- 2008 Gallery talk for *TOKYO NONSENSE*, SCION Installation L.A., October 2008
- 2007 Gallery talk for *Out of the Ordinary: New Video from Japan*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, April – May 2007
- 2006 Gallery talk for *MOCA Focus: Karl Haendel*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, January – April 2006

SERVICE

- 2019 Initiated new DEAI-centered curatorial approaches at Mia including: co-curating w/ community partners and BIPOC staff across the institution, privileging lived experience alongside curatorial expertise, and amplifying community voices within permanent collection presentations and special exhibitions
- 2018 Worked with BIPOC staff across the museum as part of Curatorial Advisory Committee (CAC) to rethink label writing process with emphasis on lived experience
- 2017 & 2018 Representative, Mia curatorial division at MASS Action (Museum as Site for Social Action) national convening of museum staff to rethink museum practice through anti-racism/DEAI lens.
- 2016 Initiated Mia's visiting artist-in-residence program, beginning with Dave Muller and Aliza Nisenbaum
- 2016 Created Mia Contemporary Art Collection Development Plan prioritizing women artists, artists of color, artists openly identifying at LGBTQ+ and regional artists
- 2016 Reorganization of Mia Contemporary Art department to consist of three full-time employees including Assistant Curator, Curatorial Assistant, and Curatorial Affairs Fellow
- 2015 – 2016 Mentored Fabián Leyva-Barragán, McDermott Curatorial Intern for Contemporary Art, Dallas Museum of Art.
- 2014 – 2015 Mentored Alexander Unkovic, McDermott Curatorial Intern for Contemporary Art, Dallas Museum of Art.
- 2013 – 2014 Mentored Temple Shipley, McDermott Curatorial Intern for Contemporary Art, Dallas Museum of Art.

2012 – 2013 Mentored Alexander Unkovic, McDermott Curatorial Intern for Contemporary Art, Dallas Museum of Art.

AWARDS AND HONORS

2015 Tate Research Center: Asia-Pacific Travel Grant

2014 Edward A. Dickson Fellowship, Art History Department, UCLA

2011-2012 Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, The Japan Foundation, Tokyo

Summer 2009;
2011 Sasakawa Language Fellowship, Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies, UCLA

2008-11; 2013 Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education

2008-09 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship for the Study of East Asia, U.S. Department of Education

Summer 2008 Quality of Graduate Education Award, Art History Department, UCLA

LANGUAGES

Japanese – Advanced in speaking, reading, and writing
Korean – Working knowledge of speaking, reading, and writing