Stephanie Cristello

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b. 1991, Toronto, ON, Canada

Professional Profile

Dynamic leader with outstanding experience as a curator of exhibitions, programs, and publications within the field of modern and contemporary art. Working internationally across a variety of platforms, expertise includes research-driven exhibitions, panels and symposia, strategic fundraising, writing and editorial, and site-specific installations, as well as organizing cultural exchanges between leading global institutions.

Education

2008, 2013

Bachelor of Fine Arts and Liberal Arts Thesis, Visual Critical Studies The School of the Art Institute of Chicago Chicago, IL

Relevant Skills

Fluent in English and French

Confident and experienced in public speaking, press conferences, speeches, panels, and symposia

Proven fundraising and grants from extensive international network

Meticulous copy-editing and extensive publishing experience

Proficient in Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint

Advanced in Adobe Suites: Acrobat, Photoshop, InDesign

Demonstrated leadership skills working across organizations of both small and large teams

Curator of Contemporary Art

Driehaus Museum

10.2021-Present

Chicago, IL

- Present contemporary exhibitions within the historic Gilded Age site alongside significant works of decorative arts and architecture
- Work across museum departments on fundraising, production, press, education, and public programs

Guest Curator

Kunsthal Aarhus

01.2020-05.2021

Aarhus, Denmark

- Curate series of solo exhibitions including Theodora Allen: Saturnine, and coordination of first major museum show in Europe of Ebony G. Patterson in ...to bear/bare witness...
- Liaise with museum departments for all fundraising, production, logistics, writing, and press needs

Curator

Malmö Art Museum

09.2019-10.2021

Malmö, Sweden

- Sustainable Societies for the Future exhibition project, featuring over thirty artists from the Nordic region and the United States
- · Lead editor for publication, published / distributed by Motto Books

Curatorial Advisor

Busan Biennale

01.2020-05.2021

Busan, South Korea / Chicago, IL

- · Work alongside Artistic Director to suggest new commissions as part of Words at an Exhibition 《열 장의 이야기와 다섯 편의 시》 an exhibition in ten chapters and five poems
- · Write and edit catalogue texts (published in English/Korean)
- Serve as lead Curator for Words at an Exhibition: The Chicago Chapter at the Gray Center for Arts & Inquiry, University of Chicago

Artistic Director

EXPO CHICAGO

06.2013-12.2020

(Director of Programming 2013–2018)

Chicago, IL

- · Lead outreach to international galleries for participation
- Curate on-site programs and city-wide initiatives featuring international institutions, museums, and cultural organizations
- · Oversee exhibitor relations, operations, VIP, and press staff
- · Secure sponsorships / grants for exhibitions, programs, and events
- · Develop strategic relationships with local and international partners
- · Manage publications, press releases, and texts
- · Create and maintain effective budget, manage P&L

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Selected Programs & Awards

2023

Jury | Art Hub Copenhagen

Summerworks Residency Program (New York)

2022

Panelist | Mamma Andersson & Tal R

CHART Art Fair (Copenhagen)

Jury | Salon de Montrouge

66th edition, curated by Work Method (Paris)

Participant | IASPIS Curatorial Exchange

Official guest and panelist (Gothenberg, Malmö)

2020

Publication Grantee

Awarded by the Graham Foundation

2019

Participant | Amsterdam Art Weekend

Supported by the Mondriaan Fonds Official guest of curatorial program

2018

Panelist | Dimensions of Citizenship

US Pavilion, La Biennale Architettura di Venezia Amanda Williams, Andres L. Hernández, and Shani Crowe. Moderated by Stephanie Cristello

Panelist | Curatorial Hub

Independent Curators International (ICI) In conversation with Alejandro Cesarco

2017

Participant | FOCUS Curatorial Exchange

Supported by the Institut français In collaboration with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in Chicago

Editor-in-Chief

THE SEEN, Chicago's International Journal of Contemporary and Modern Art

06.2013-06.2021

Chicago, IL

- Manage all print production, distribution, artistic direction, and oversight for editorial staff and design team
- Assign and edit features, reviews, and interviews for global network of over fifty staff writers
- · Program panels, symposia, and events for international art critics
- · Lead development and fundraising, invoicing, manage P&L

Curator / Director

Chicago Manual Style

11.2017-Present

Chicago, IL

- Present curated thematic exhibitions and scholarship with leading international artists
- Manage all logistics, operations, and communications pertaining to exhibition program

Curatorial Advisor

Palais de Tokyo

01.2017-10.2017

Paris, France & Chicago, IL

- Collaborate with Palais de Tokyo to present first off-site exhibition in the US, alongside the Institut français, DuSable Museum of African American History, EXPO CHICAGO, and Chicago Architecture Biennial
- · Concept and organize performance program and panel discussions
- · Realize production of new site-specific commissions

Senior Editor, US

ArtSlant

05.2013-03.2018

Chicago, IL

- Commission and edit national features, reviews, and essays for online publication
- · Participate in international editorial planning meetings
- Write reviews, features, and news, based on interviews with artists and curators; image permissions and fact-checks

Contributor

ArtReview, BOMB Magazine, CHART Journal, Frieze, Elephant Magazine, Mousse, Portable Gray

05.2015-Present

International

- · Pitch texts on contemporary art for print publication
- · Write on strict deadlines for both assigned pieces

Additional Positions

Curatorial Assistant (2012–13) at the Sullivan Galleries, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC); Administrative Director (2011–13) at SITE Galleries, SAIC.

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Recent Press

2022

FLAUNT Magazine

Interview: Theodora Allen at Kunsthal Aarhus

Frieze Magazine

Review: Theodora Allen at Driehaus Museum

2019

Artforum

"Critic's Picks: Saturnine at Chicago Manual Style," by Anna Kovler

Newcity

Inclusion in "Art 50: Chicago's Visual Vanguard"

2018

Artforum

"EXPO CHICAGO Names Stephanie Cristello Artistic Director"

Le Quotidien de l'Art

"Comment EXPO CHICAGO a Reconquis l'Amérique," by Armelle Malvoisin

Michigan Avenue

"Art Star: Stephanie Cristello an Emerging Force," by Kelsey Ogletree

2017

VICE Magazine

"At EXPO CHICAGO, Not-for-Profits Make the Running," by Cedar Pasori

ARTnews

"EXPO CHICAGO: New Collectors and Energy Fit for the Future," by Sarah Douglas

The Art Newspaper

"EXPO CHICAGO Courts the High-Minded Collector with Interdisciplinary Offerings"

2016

Flash Art

"Stephanie Cristello on EXPO CHICAGO," by Sam Korman

Selected Bibliography

2020-23

Book: (Editor/Author) *Barbara Kasten – Architecture & Film (2015–2020),* Stephanie Cristello, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Humberto Moro, Mimi Zeiger. Hardcover: 180 pages. ISBN: 978–88–57247–19–9

Publisher: Skira (Italy)

Catalogue Interview: Mamma Andersson & Tal R: About Hill.

Hardcover: 198 pages. ISBN: 978-87-88307-98-6

Publisher: Kunsten / Malmö Konstmuseum (Denmark, Sweden)

Book: (Editor) Alma Allen: Nunca Solo. Hardcover: 144 pages. Publisher: Museo Anahuacalli / Kasmin (Mexico City, New York)

Catalogue Essay: Lap-See Lam: Dreamer's Key / Dreamer's Quay.

Softcover: 188 pages. ISBN: 979-12-80579-25-6 Publisher: Bonniers Konsthall / Lenz Press (Sweden)

Book: (Author) Theodora Allen — Saturnine. Hardcover: 220 pages. Publisher: Kunsthal Aarhus / Motto Books (Denmark, Germany)

Book: (Editor/Author) Sustainable Societies for the Future. Softcover: 96 pages. ISBN: 978-29-40672-20-2

Publisher: Malmö Konstmusem / Motto Books (Sweden, Germany)

Catalogue: (Author) Words at an Exhibition 《열 장의 이야기와 다섯편의 시》 an exhibition in ten chapters and five poems. Softcover: 632 pages. Publisher: Busan Biennale (South Korea)

2015-19

Publication: *THE SEEN*, Chicago's International Journal of Contemporary and Modern Art (190 pages, full color)
Issue 01–09 (Spring/Summer & Fall/Winter)

2017

Review: Christopher Williams: Supplements, Models, Prototypes, Corbett vs. Dempsey

Elephant Magazine, March Issue

2016

Publication: Emergency Conditionals | Art & Language. Paperback: 30 pages. Edition Size: 250 (stamped). Stock ID: 112247 C. Printed Matter Inc.

2015

Catalogue Essay: Contact Sheet 182: Light Work Annual 2015. Paperback: 136 pages. ISBN: 935445-89-7

Publisher: Light Work

2012

Symposium: Consider This A Forecast: Simulations of the Weather Within the Contemporary Museum, presented at The Modern Wing of The Art Institute of Chicago. Publication: Hardcover. LB2369.1.C75, 2012 (Flaxman Library)

Catalogue Essay: *Unweaving the Circuit: Robin Kang*, ESSL Museum, Vienna, Austria. Translated in English and German