

ANNE THOMPSON

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www.i70signshow.org

EDUCATION

Yale University School of Art 2002
M.F.A., Painting/Printmaking

Brandeis University 2000
Post-baccalaureate in art

University of Missouri School of Journalism 1992
M.A., Newspaper Sequence

Vassar College 1986
B.A., English (departmental honors)

CURATING

Founder and Curator
[The I-70 Sign Show](#)
April 2014–

- Install art on Missouri interstate billboards as site-specific engagement of sign-saturated landscape and politically contentious messages
- Exhibit internationally acclaimed artists including Ken Lum, Marilyn Minter, Ed Ruscha and Mickalene Thomas
- Select artworks that address red-versus-blue conflict issues such as religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, guns, immigration, and consumption
- Raise nonprofit, private and corporate funding
- Stage community events including parties “under” billboards; skywriting; artist lectures; and films
- Publish multiples related to billboard content
- Write critical texts and document installations for project website

Guest Curator
[“The I-71 Project”](#)
Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati
September–November 2016

- Organized collaborative exhibition between CAC and Columbus Museum of Art to present sign-based artworks that critique political theater and rhetoric during height of presidential campaign
- Conceived extension of I-70 Sign Show from Missouri into Ohio, "traveling" the project between interstates to connect with literal and metaphorical political landscape of ultimate swing state
- Selected participating artists (Lisa Anne Auerbach, Mel Bochner, Glenn Ligon, Ryan McGinness and Kay Rosen) and guided artwork decisions
- Staged first sculptural incarnation of Bochner's signature Blah Blah Blah motif, installed on LED signs facing Statehouse in Columbus and across from historic Music Hall in downtown Cincinnati
- Scouted installation locations that contextualized artwork as political commentary
- Raised all funding (private); hired and collaborated with designers to produce brochure and online maps of artwork locations; wrote critical and informational texts

Fellow, Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute
 University of Missouri School of Journalism
 September 2015–May 2016

- Researched how analog communication mediums could adopt conceptual-art methods to address conflict, engage community and attract new audiences
- Collaborated with Columbia Tribune newspaper to publish artwork poster as Valentine's Day "gift" to readers, followed by town-hall-style discussion on gun control and the role of art in public space

Co-Curator

Charlotte Street Foundation, Kansas City
"Frank Stack: Good Thing I Used a Pseudonym"
 Winter 2011

- Mounted first exhibition of original cartoons and drawings of underground artist and graphic-novel pioneer Foolbert Sturgeon (aka Frank Stack)

**EXHIBITIONS +
 PUBLIC PROJECTS**

- The I-70 Sign Show: Photography and Videos
 Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, 2016

•Artist Project: Anne Thompson / I-70 Sign Show
[*PAD: Public Art Dialogue*](#), Special Issue: Borders and Boundaries, Vol. 6, no. 2, Fall 2016 (Text, photography, and curation/intervention of artworks into public "space" of academic journal)

•Positive Wheel Inversion Cycle
Public video projection in desert landscape
Epicenter, Green River, Utah, 2016

•The Sign Show Slide Show
Outdoor projection and community event
Epicenter, Green River, Utah, 2016

•Anne Thompson: The Color-Word Value Index
[57w57artspace](#), New York, 2016

•**Ink and Paper** (group)
Main Street Arts, Clifton Springs, NY, 2016

•Anne Thompson, Books and Video
Women's Studio Workshop, Rosendale, NY, 2013

•Color Bound: Book Artists Seek Inspiration from Color Theory (group)
[Yale University Libraries](#), New Haven, CT, 2013

•Spatial Shift (group)
Gallery Project, Ann Arbor, MI, 2012

•The Larry Show (group)
Bingham Gallery, University of Missouri, 2011

•Possibility of a Book (group/traveling)
Sommer Gallery, Tel Aviv 2011

•**NeoGeo** (two person)
Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri 2010

•**Anne Thompson at Clockwork Gallery**
[Public-art installation](#), Berlin, 2010

•**Urban Shaman** (group)
Parlor Antics, Brooklyn, New York, 2010

•**NADA Miami Beach** (two person)
Hudson Franklin Gallery, 2009

•**Anne Thompson: Recto Verso**

Hudson Franklin Gallery, New York, 2008

•**Aqua Wynwood Miami** (group)

Hudson Franklin Gallery, 2007

•**Anne Thompson: Paintings and Drawings**

Hudson Franklin Gallery, New York, 2006

•**Proper Villains** (group)

Untitled (space), New Haven, CT (group)
2002

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

California Polytechnic State University
Harvard University Fine Arts Library
Indiana University
Library of Congress
MIT
New York Public Library
Rochester Institute of Technology
Savannah College of Art and Design
University of Colorado-Boulder
University of Denver
University of Michigan
University of Missouri
Vassar College
Virginia Commonwealth University
Yale University Art Gallery
Yale University Libraries Special Collections

TEACHING

Assistant Professor (Adjunct) and Graduate Faculty
University of Missouri, August 2006–
Department of Art, also teaching in Honors College
and School of Journalism

•Honors College "Outstanding Faculty Award,"
2016, for creation and success of hands-on
public-art curatorial seminar. Students received
competitive grad-school assistantships;
museum jobs and internships (Guggenheim
and MoMA in New York; Museum of Contemporary
Art, Chicago; the Nelson-Atkins in Kansas City; and
the St. Louis Art Museum); editorial positions
at Abrams Books; and internships at podcasts
including The Organist

- Undergraduate art classes: Beginning drawing, beginning painting, portfolio development, senior seminar in professional practice
- Graduate seminars on studio practice, with assignments and rigorous critique, and on critical theory and twentieth-century art history. Thematic seminars have focused on social practice, writing as art practice, and contemporary interpretations of the early-modernist "total artwork"
- Teach in and create curriculum for MU School of Journalism Arts-in-Depth sequence, founded under Carnegie Corp. grant in 2006 and considered model program for arts journalism education

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Articles (as author)

["Art in the Newspaper: Love, guns and kiwis,"](#)

blogpost, Reynolds Journalism Institute, March 21, 2016

["'Valentine' Brings Billboard Art to Print,"](#) Columbia Tribune, Opinion Section, Feb. 14, 2016

["Follow the Money: Art Enlivens a Familiar Piece of Paper,"](#) blogpost, Reynolds Journalism Institute, Jan. 21, 2016

["Punking the Analog,"](#) blogpost, Reynolds Journalism Institute, Oct. 28, 2015

["A Conversation Between Anne Thompson and Francesca DiMattio,"](#) Francesca DiMattio (exh. cat.), Blaffer Art Museum (Houston: University of Houston) 2015

["Mark Flood,"](#) Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, December 2014, Critic's Picks, artforum.com

["Donald Judd,"](#) The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, February 2013, Critic's Picks, artforum.com

["In the Still Epiphany,"](#) The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, July 2012, Critic's Picks, artforum.com

["Richard Aldrich,"](#) Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, February 2012, Critic's Picks, artforum.com

["Mel Bochner,"](#) at Galerie Nelson-Freeman, Paris," June 2010, Critic's Picks, artforum.com

Books (as editor and/or writing coach)

Architecture for Humanity, *Design Like You Give A Damn: Architectural Responses to Humanitarian Crisis* (Metropolis, 2006)

Deborah Berke, *House Rules: An Architect's Guide to Modern Life* (Rizzoli, 2016)
Eve Blossom, *Material Change: Design Thinking and the Social Entrepreneurship Movement* (Metropolis, 2011)
Connie Butler and Michael Ned Holte, *Made in L.A. 2014* (UCLA, Hammer Museum, 2014)
Connie Butler, *Mark Bradford: Scorched Earth*, exh. cat. UCLA Hammer Museum (Prestel, 2015)
Vishaan Chakrabarti, *A Country of Cities: A Manifesto for an Urban America* (Metropolis, 2013)
Brooke Hodge, A. Quincy Jones: *Building for Better Living* (DelMonico, 2013)
Natalia Ilyin, *Chasing the Perfect: Thoughts on Modernist Design in Our Time* (Metropolis, 2005)
Sam Lubell and Greg Goldin, *Never Built Los Angeles* (Metropolis, 2013)
Peter McMahon and Christine Cipriani, *Cape Cod Modern: Midcentury Architecture and Community on the Outer Cape* (Metropolis, 2014)
Christopher Bascom Rawlins, *Fire Island Modernist: Horace Gifford and the Architecture of Seduction* (Metropolis, 2013)
Louise Sandhaus, *Earthquakes, Mudslides, Fires & Riots: California and Graphic Design 1936-1986* (Metropolis, 2014)

GRANTS + RESIDENCIES

Frontier Fellow 2016
Epicenter, Green River, Utah

Deliberative Democracy Exchange (DDex) 2016
Learning Cluster: "Citizens and Professional Journalists: Addressing Community Problems"
Kettering Foundation, Dayton, Ohio

Fellowship, Reynolds Journalism Institute 2015-16
University of Missouri School of Journalism

I-70 Sign Show (funding sources) 2013-16
•National Endowment for the Humanities in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council and Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy
•University of Missouri Provost's Office, School of Journalism, and Media of the Future Initiative

NEA Artist's Book Residency 2013
Women's Studio Workshop, Rosendale, NY

Artist-in-Residence 2012

The Writer's Room at the Betsy Hotel, Miami

NEA and Missouri Center for the Book 2012

Community letterpress and bookbinding workshop
University of Missouri, Ellis Library

DAAD Faculty Research Grant 2009-10

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
funded living and travel in Germany to visit historic
Bauhaus sites and research color theory and book
design at Bauhaus Archive in Berlin

Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin 2009-10

Letterpress and silkscreen studio production of
posters and artist book (DAAD supported)

Artist Residency 2009

Oberpfälzer Künstlerhaus, Schwandorf, Germany

Artist Residency 2008

Virginia Center for the Creative Arts

LECTURES

Anne Thompson: Artist's Talk

Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, 2016

Anne Thompson: Art, Politics and the Interstate

Fort Gondo, St. Louis, 2015

The I-70 Sign Show: Public Lecture

Speaking of Culture Series, MU Honors College,
Columbia Missouri, 2014

Panelist, "The Artist-Critic/The Critic-Artist"

International Association of Art Critics, College Art
Association Conference, New York, 2011

Visiting Critic

Yale School of Architecture, 2011

Visiting Artist

University of Nevada-Reno, 2009

SELECTED PRESS

•Jürgen Schmeider, "[Angst and Hoffnung in Columbus—die Wahlnacht in Ohio,](#)" Süddeutsche Zeitung, Nov. 9, 2016.

•Carol Motsinger and Jeremy Fugleberg, "[Who is behind those mysterious billboards?](#)" Cincinnati Enquirer, Nov. 6, 2016.

•Steven Rosen, "[Political art project needs to take a stand,](#)" CityBeat, Nov. 2, 2016.

- WKRC-TV Cincinnati (NBC), [Blah, Blah, Blah](#), Channel 12 evening news, Oct. 10, 2016. Re-broadcast by dozens of national affiliates.
- Brainard Carey, [Artist interview with Anne Thompson](#), Yale Univ. Radio WYBCX, Dec.12, 2015.
- Ryan Schussler, ["Blah, blah, blah? Billboard art show confronts Missouri drivers head-on,"](#) Al Jazeera, May 31, 2015.
- Ally Johnson, ["Blog Post: The I-70 Sign Show,"](#) New Terrains Symposium, University of Illinois, March 2015.
- Kris Husted, ["Billboards surprise motorists with art instead of ads,"](#) NPR / Marketplace, Feb. 16, 2015.
- Nancy Fowler, ["I-70 Billboard Art Will Spotlight Black Women and Message Wars,"](#) St. Louis Public Radio, Dec. 2, 2014.
- Pete Bland, ["TAKE TWO: Signs are in sky over gridiron,"](#) Columbia Daily Tribune, Oct. 31, 2014.
- Dawn Chan, ["All Across America, Artists Are Taking Over Billboards,"](#) New York Times: T Magazine Style Blog, Aug. 18, 2014.
- Joe Marianek, ["The Internet Just Looks Like Subject Matter Now,"](#) interview with Anne Thompson, The Believer Logger, June 30, 2014
- Ken Johnson, ["Art in Review: Anne Thompson,"](#) *New York Times*, June 2006.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Supervising Editor, International Desk
The Associated Press, New York, 2002–06

Election Observer, Macedonia
U.S. State Department / OSCE, September 2002

Foreign Correspondent, based in Berlin
The Associated Press, 1996–99
•Assignments included war in Kosovo, tourist massacre in Luxor, Egypt; German, Serbian, and Polish elections; Holocaust Memorial debate; Euro launch; return of German capital to Berlin

Copy Editor / Radio Host
China Daily and Radio Beijing, China, 1991-93

Gallery Assistant
Hirschl & Adler Modern, New York
1986-88

LANGUAGES

English and German