

CHELSEA WILLIS

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Education:

University of California, Berkeley — Masters in Education, 2009

University of California, Santa Cruz — Bachelor in Fine Arts, 2006

Projects:

One Hundred Love Letters 2017-Ongoing

A research project on how to find love and how to continue to research and understand it. By rigorously exploring love as a principle for locating and fostering community I hope to dive deep into the resiliency, agility, and longevity of movement building as durational practice.

Delicious Revolution 2015-ongoing

Delicious Revolution is an award winning radio show about food, culture and place. We talk with people whose expertise in food comes from working with food as farmers, fishers, artists, cooks, activists, scholars, journalists, and more.

Out Here: 2014-2016

OUT HERE is an artist-run initiative that expands definitions of art and it's relationship to place. With a focus on Sonoma County, we encourage collaborations between people in the area—artists, students, farmers, tourists, locals. Together we form new ways to think and learn about place, uncover what goes unnoticed, and experience our surroundings with new perspective. Our projects include exhibitions, publications, performances, lectures, radio programs, and community dinners.

428 Collective CSA 2014-2016

Inspired by community supported agriculture (CSA) programs involving small local farms, 428 Community Supported Art is an annual art subscription that showcases the work of 428collective, a 11-woman group of ambitious contemporary artists. 428collective was formed to bring awareness to the innovative, boundary-pushing art that is produced in our rural area.

428 Salon 2014-2016

A monthly public art salon for Sonoma County artists. One artist is invited each month to present work at the 428 collective headquarters. The invited artist sets the rules, using salon-goers as tools to provide constructive feedback.

Bay Area Art Workers Alliance 2014

Bay Area Art Workers Alliance is a support network of laborers involved in the installation and fabrication of exhibitions within art institutions.

Semillas Tzucacab: Participatory Photography and Biodiversity, Yucatan MX, 2011-2013

Semillas is a collaborative project that uses approaches from both arts and science to address complex and interrelated questions. It is a collaboration between Chelsea Wills, a visual artist and educator, and Devon Sampson, an agroecologist. The Semillas project is a participatory action research project that focuses on peoples relationship to biodiversity and to the changes in climate, political economy, and culture happening today. It is based in Tzucacab, a municipality in the south of Yucatan state.

Monochromatic Dinners, Various Locations, 2010-2013

The event is an applied and participatory color study. Food is the center of an exploration of color, and participants co-create the color study as they perform and experience a monochromatic dinner. A menu is carefully planned in to create monochromatic dishes using local, seasonal ingredients. Participants bring experiences or objects to share in a conversation.

Picture and Plate, www.pictureandplate.com 2010-2012

Paper Wings Farm, Sebastopol, Ca. 2009-2010

Growing Spaces, Various SF Bay Area Farm and Gardens, 2008-2009

Exhibitions/Performances:

2017:

How to write a Love Letter, Kala Art Institute, Berkeley Ca.

Delicious Revolution Season 4 Launch, La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley Ca.

100 Days Action, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, Ca.

Exquisite Corpse Storytelling, SFAC, San Francisco, Ca.

2016:

Ancient Future, Parking Lot Art Fair, San Francisco Ca.

All-town Pie Parade, Healdsburg Ca.

Coming Home: Film Night, Healdsburg, Ca.

2015:

Sitting Down to Eat, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, Ca.

FAST FOOD/SLOW FOOD CAFE, No Justice, No Arts, The Lab, San Francisco, Ca.

Sediment, Richmond Va.

So Clean, The Creek Whispers Festival, San Francisco, Ca.

Field Guide to Bottlenecks, Ebb and Flow Festival, Santa Cruz, Ca.

2014:

Blind Date, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, Ca.

Radio School, KPSU, Portland, OR

Bay Area Now 7, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco Ca.

Laughing Gas: Performance with Pablo Helguera and Mildred's Lanes Fellows, Mildred's Complexity, Narrowsburg, NY

White Rabbit Arts Festival, Economy, Nova Scotia

2013

Guapamacataro Salon, Maravatio, MX

The Dinner Parties: Art and Agriculture, Mary Porter Sesnon Gallery, Santa Cruz Ca.

Lucid Arts Foundation: Artist in Residence Group Exhibition, 2013

Mapping Colors, Oakopolis, Oakland Ca.

Around the Table, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose Ca.

2012

Semillas Fotografía Participativa Tour: Stanford Univeristy, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, Cabrillo College, CA

Paper Wings Farm, Podcast

Chan Kahal, Asociacion Mayab, SF Bay Area, Ca.

Semillas: Fotografía Participativa, COMEXUS, Mexico City

2011

Semillas: Fotografía Participativa Teatro Felipe Carillo Puerto, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

Semillas: La Inaguaracion, Tzucacab, Yucatan, MX

2010

Just Before Dawn, Casa Hilvana, Mexico City, Mexico

Odd Numbers, Big Umbrella Studio, San Francisco, Ca.
The Weight We Carry, Online, Frisbie St. Gallery, Oakland Ca.

2009

Daily Correspondence, Kaleidoscope SF, San Francisco Ca.
Strange Fruit, Sub-mission Gallery, San Francisco Ca.
Alphabet Haiku, Children's Literature Show, Education-Psychology Library UC Berkeley, Berkeley Ca.
Park Art, Collaboration with San Francisco Boys and Girls Club, City Center Hostel, San Francisco Ca.

2008

Saffron Dream, 676 Space, San Francisco, Ca.

2006

Specimens, Senior Gallery, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, Ca.

2005

Cracks in the Pavement: Gifts of the Urban Landscape, London, UK

2004

Eros Arrows, London Biennale, The Foundry, London UK.

Lectures:

Yale Food Symposium, Yale University, New Haven CT
Mary Porter Sesnon Gallery, UC Santa Cruz
Art in Service, Open Engagement, Portland State University, Portland Or.
Across Great Divides-Artist Talk
Latin American Research Group, Stanford University, Palo Alto Ca.
UC Berkeley, Berkeley Ca.
Education and Sustainable Living Project, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz Ca.
Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz Ca.
CHAN-KAHAL, San Rafael Ca.
Asociacion Mayab, San Rafael Ca.
Merida English Library, Merida MX

Publications:

2015 Mapping Colors: Intro to Ecoprinting

2015 Navigating Out Here, A Collection of Maps, 428 Collective
2015 Satori Guide: Travel Guide to Tokyo
2015 Satori Guide: Travel Guide to Kyoto
2015 Satori Guide: Travel Guide to Mexico City's Roma-Condosa
2012 Semillas Tzucacab: Participatory Photography Catalog

Grants/Awards:

2016: Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Equity Fellow
2016: California Humanities Community Stories Grant
2016: Artist-in-Residence Healdsburg SHED
2015 Ebb and Flow River Arts Recipient, Santa Cruz Arts Council
2014 Finalist for Creative Work Fund
2014 Mildred's Lane Fellow
2013 Finalist for A Blade of Grass Social
2013 Artists in Residence, Lucid Arts Foundation
2013 Artist Residency, Guapamacataro Arts and Ecology Center
2011 CONCAYT Grant Partner, UADY
2011 Kickstarter Funding Recipient
2005 Irwin Grant, University of California Santa Cruz