

**KATARZYNA BALUG**  
Ph.D. Candidate, Harvard University

17 Muller Ave. Cambridge, MA 02140  
kbalug@g.harvard.edu (323) 839-5353

## EDUCATION

**Harvard University** PhD, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning, expected May 2023  
Dissertation: "Myths of Enclosure: The Leaky Architecture between Subject and Environment"  
Committee: Profs. K. Michael Hays (chair), Jennifer Roberts, Diane Davis, and Antoine Picon

**Harvard University Graduate School of Design** MUP: Master in Urban Planning, May 2011

**University of Southern California** Dual BA: Fine Art, French, *cum laude*, December 2005  
Merit Awards: Trustee Scholarship, Renaissance Scholar Honors

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Architectural history (early modern to contemporary), twentieth-century visual culture and theory, socially-engaged art, media and material studies, Anthropocene, human and more-than-human agency, technology and subjectivity, public imagination, modern landscape histories and theories, cultural histories of aeronautics.

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Book Chapters*

"Institutional Orbits and the Inflatable Form in the Space Age," in *NASA and the American South*. Odom, Brian and Stephen Waring, eds. University of Florida Press. Forthcoming.

### *Articles in Refereed Journals*

"Between Mediating and Navigating the Air." *react/review: a responsive journal for art & architecture*. Santa Barbara: University of California. May, 2021. Vol. 1. 51-62.

"The Imagination Paradox: Participation or Performance of Visioning the City." *Geoforum*. June 2019. Vol. 102. 278-286.

"Imagine! You Have Nothing to Lose: Collaboration and Play in Urban Development," with Maria Vidart-Delgado. *Critical Sociology*. November 2015. Vol. 41 no. 7-8. 1027-1044.

### *Select Other Publications*

"Membrane and Ground: Performing the Post-Lunar Imaginary." *New Geographies 11: Extraterrestrial*. Harvard University Press. December, 2019. 74-78.

"Dot Future" in *Networked Urbanism: Design Thinking Alternatives for a Better Urban Life*, ed. Belinda Tato and Jose Luis Vallejo. Cambridge: Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 2014. 86-90.

"The City as a Stage. On the Body's Performance in Public Space" *Architecture Boston*, Fall 2014: Body, Vol. 18 n.3.

"Art as urban practice - Aesthetics, Ethics and Processes of Social Practice" *Biocity*. ed. Asakura Robinson. Tokyo, Japan. Vol. 57. Winter, 2014. 50-59.

"Why a Museum of the Future Now, in Mexico" *Plurale Tantum*, April 18, 2012.

"Choice Leads to Vision" in *Extreme Urbanism*, ed. Rahul Mehrotra and Victor Muñoz Sanz. Cambridge, President and Fellows of Harvard College, 2011.

"Social Infrastructure over Physical Infrastructure" in *A View on Harvard GSD*, ed. Mohsen Mostafavi. Cambridge: Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 2010.

## CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

**Co-curator**, “The New Inflatable Moment,” with Mary Hale. BSA Space, Boston Society of Architects, Boston, MA, 2015-2017. Captured utopian sensibilities of inflatable forms, 18th-21st centuries. Featured over 50 projects in 11,000 sf gallery

## MEDIA COVERAGE

“Reviews: Exhibits. The New Inflatable Moment.” *Journal of Architectural Education* by Antonio Furgiuele. March 30, 2018.

“Arts This Week: 'Fat Pig,' 'Wood as Muse,' 'The New Inflatable Moment'.” *WGBH News* by Jeremy Partyka. 13 July 2017.

“Today’s Architects Are Obsessed With Inflatable Design—Here’s Why.” *FastCo Design* by Diana Budds. 2 May, 2017.

“The Bubble is Back: Exhibit Highlights Inflatable Structures’ Resurgence.” *Metropolis Magazine* by Anna Zappia. 25 April, 2017.

“Boston’s New Cultural Plan Had a Little Help From Some Powdered Wigs.” *Next City* by Rachel Kaufman. 22 June, 2016

“Department of Play Uses Temporary Play Zones to Connect People Through Imagined Urban Planning.” *Creative Exchange*, Powered by Springboard for the Arts, by Nicole Rupersburg. 1 March, 2016.

“Czas na nic.” (Tr. “Time for Nothing.”) *2+3d* by Natalia Kaliś. 29 July, 2013.

“For Artists, Craigslist is Both Medium and Message” *National Public Radio All Things Considered*, 30 July 2008.

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

### *Academic Fellowships and Awards*

Harvard Graduate Student Council Summer Research Grant, 2021

Society of Architectural Historians Scott Opler Graduate Student Scholar Fellowship, 2020

Harvard Graduate School of Design Conference Travel Grant, 2019

Harvard University Graduate Society Pre-dissertation Summer Award, 2016

Harvard University Sinclair Kennedy Traveling Fellowship, 2011-2012

MIT IDEAS Global Challenge Competition \$3,000 Prize, 2010

Harvard Graduate School of Design Community Service Travel Fellowship, 2010

### *Artistic Fellowships, Awards and Grants*

\$125,000 National Grants Program Award, Artplace America, 2015-2016

Expressing Boston Fellowship, The Boston Foundation, 2014-2015

Creative Community Fellowship, National Arts Strategies, 2014-2015

Nominee for public commission, PXSTL: Pulitzer Foundation + Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, 2013

Wspólny Projekt/Common Project Prize, Muzeum Sztuki Łódź and ING Polish Art Foundation, 2013

Third place winner with Social Agency Lab + Rebuild Foundation, Pruitt-Igoe Now Competition, 2012

## **TEACHING AND ADVISING EXPERIENCE**

At Harvard Graduate School of Design unless otherwise noted

### **Lecturer**

Theories and Practices of Landscape Architecture, Core Landscape Architecture Lecture Course, Spring 2022.  
Co-taught with Pablo Perez-Ramos

Theories and Practices of Landscape Architecture, Core Landscape Architecture Lecture Course, Spring 2021.  
Co-taught with Pablo Perez-Ramos

### **Instructor**

Theories and Practices of Landscape Architecture, Core Landscape Architecture Lecture Course, Spring 2020.  
Co-taught with Pablo Perez-Ramos

Thing Power in the Arles Region: From Assemblages to Alchemy in the Camargue, Advanced Research Seminar in Landscape Architecture, Fall 2019

Thing Power in the Arles Region: Assemblages, Depositions and Displacements Advanced Research Seminar in Landscape Architecture, Fall 2018. Co-taught with Anita Berrizbeitia

### **Lead Instructor and Instructor, Summer Courses**

English for Design, Summer 2021, Summer 2020, Summer 2019

(Instructor) English for Design, Summer 2018

### **Master in Design Studies Research Tutor (supports masters students in select concentrations)**

All concentrations, MDes Thesis students, 2022-2023

Narratives; Art Design and the Public Domain, 2021-2022

History and Philosophy of Design and Media; Art, Design and the Public Domain, 2020-2021, 2019-2020

### **Teaching Fellow/Assistant**

Buildings and Cities, a Global History (Prof. Shuishan Yu) Northeastern University General Education Undergraduate Lecture Course, Fall 2021

Architecture and Construction: From the Vitruvian Tradition to the Digital (Prof. Antoine Picon), Fall 2021

Buildings, Texts, and Contexts II: Between Origins and Modernity: 18-19th Century Architecture, Core Architecture Lecture Course (Profs. Erika Naginski and Antoine Picon), Spring 2019

The Nature of Difference: Theories and Practices of Landscape Architecture, Core Landscape Architecture Lecture Course (Profs. Anita Berrizbeitia and Claudia Taborda), Spring 2018

Cities by Design, Core Urban Design Lecture Course (Profs. Rahul Mehrotra, Peter Rowe), Fall 2017

### **Facilitator**

Solving Problems Using Technology, Harvard Kennedy School and Graduate School of Design (Profs. Susan Crawford and Michael Hooper), Fall 2012

### **Guest Lectures in University Courses**

University of Lund, Sweden, Swedish Research School in Architecture, Summer 2021. "The New Inflatable Moment." Exhibiting Architecture, or Architectural Exhibition-ism Seminar

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, School of Architecture & Urban Planning, Spring 2021. "The New Inflatable Moment." Architecture Exhibition(ism) Seminar

Harvard Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Fall, 2017. "The imagination paradox: Participation or performance of visioning the city." Cultural Politics Seminar

Harvard Law School, Fall 2015. “Fictional Narrative and Public Space” City Use of Technology Lecture Course

Emerson College Engagement Game Lab, Fall 2012. “Collective Imagination: Tools for Radical Inclusion” Ubiquitous Media Seminar

Harvard Graduate School of Design, Fall 2012. “Community Interventions and Adaptive Processes” Networked Urbanism Studio

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México Spring 2012. “Museo del Futuro: Investigación Acción” Seminario de Sociología

### **Guest Lectures in Non-Academic Settings**

“Art and Civic Healing,” CEONet Retreat, Chicago, IL, September 9, 2022

“Keynote: Community Placemaking and Public Art,” Community Foundation of Northern Virginia Innovation Breakfast. McLean, VA, September 13, 2019

“Boston Creates: Developing a Cultural Plan for the City,” *ArchitectureBoston Expo 2015*, Boston, MA, November 18, 2015

“Digital Fabrication: Consequences for Art and Urban Planning,” *Łódź Design Festival 2013*, Invited speaker on behalf of Muzeum Sztuki Łódź, Łódź, Poland, November, 2013

“Late Aesthetic, Dissent, and Action: Museo del Futuro,” Tianguis de arte contemporaneo festival, FARO Tláhuac, Mexico City, June, 2012

“Capturing Public Imagination toward the Future City: Museo del Futuro,” Constructorio MX, Secretary of Urban and Housing Development, Mexico City, May, 2012

“My Dot Tour,” *MA History Conference*, Worcester, MA, September, 2011

### **SELECT CONFERENCES**

“Cosmic Reverberations across Centuries of Aeronautics, in Architecture” *New Aesthetic Expressions: The Social Role of Art* Eighteenth International Conference on the Arts in Society, Jagiellonian University, Poland, July 2023

“From the Atmospheres of Aeronautics toward Visionary Architecture” College Art Association of America Annual Conference, New York, February 18, 2023

“Architecture and the Cosmic: 1960s Inflatables as a Response to Earth Seen Anew” *Radical Entanglements* RAPS 2022 Eindhoven Conference, Eindhoven University of Technology, November 11, 2022

“Leaking Air: Architecture’s Response to Environmental Control” *Techno-Science: Re-centering the Social in Crisis Times*. Graduate Research in Science and Technology Studies Conference. Harvard University, October 13, 2022

“Clouds on the Ground: From the Hot Air Ballon to Inflatable Architecture” *A Symposium on Clouds*. University College London English Annual Conference. Virtual, February 12, 2021

“Immersed on Earth: Inflatable Forms and the Post-Lunar Imaginary” Society of Architectural Historians 2020 Annual International Conference. Virtual, April 29, 2020

“Membrane and Ground: Inflatable Forms and the Post-Lunar Imaginary” *Utopia and Climate Change*. 20th International Conference of the Utopian Studies Society, Europe. Prato, Italy, July 3, 2019

Selected Participant, *Apollo Dialogues Workshop*, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and the NASA History Office, Washington, D.C., December 7, 2018

“Atmospheres of the Imagination, or the Moving of the Earth” *After Effects: Architectural Histories of the Present*. Architecture Department PhD Student Conference, UC Berkeley, November 10, 2018

Invited panelist, “Lines of Flight: Inflatables and Utopia in the Anthropocene,” *Critically Visualizing Nature/Society Geographies*, Nature/Society Workshop, Clark University, September 16, 2017

Invited speaker, “The Imagination Paradox,” *Undisciplined Environments: International Conference of the European Network of Political Ecology*, Stockholm, Sweden, March 21, 2016

“Department of Play,” with Maria Vidart-Delgado. STS Making and Doing Category, *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO, November 11-14, 2015

“Fictional Narrative and Public Space,” *Open Engagement Conference*, Carnegie Mellon University, April 18, 2015

“Imagine! You Have Nothing to Lose: Collaboration and Play in Urban Development,” with Maria Vidart-Delgado. *Digital Media and Learning Conference*, Boston, MA, April, 2014

Panel moderator and convener, “Open Governance,” *MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference*, June 23, 2013

“Museo del Futuro: Collective Imagination toward 2068,” *Open Engagement Conference*, Portland State University, May, 2012

Invited speaker with Leo Burd, “Department of Play,” *MIT-Knight Civic Media Conference*, June, 2011

## ARCHIVAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Special Collections Archive Assistant**, Krzysztof Wodiczko Archive, Harvard Loeb Library, Cambridge, MA, February 2020-present

**Research Assistant**, Professor Erika Naginski, Harvard Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA, Summer 2020.

## SELECT EXHIBITIONS + PUBLIC ARTWORKS

**At Play** Group Exhibit, Gallery 360, Northeastern University, Boston, MA November 15, 2022-April 8, 2023

**Block Party Temporary Play Zone** Department of Play featured at:

- Cambridge Science Festival, Cambridge, MA October 6 & 9, 2022
- MIT Family Day, Cambridge, MA January 25, 2020
- Chelsea Night Market, October 5, Chelsea, MA 2019
- MIT Family Day, Cambridge, MA, March 2, 2019
- Women in Design Convergence: At the Confluence of Power, Identity and Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design, 2018
- National Arts Strategies, Chief Executive Program Convening, Boston, MA, October 26, 2016
- Union Square Farmers Market, Somerville, MA October, 2014

**Story Ship** Department of Play, Public Film Screening, Boston, 2016

**Portal of Tomorrow** Department of Play, Temporary Play Zone, Boston, 2016

**Boxtopia** Department of Play, Temporary Play Zone, Boston, 2015

**Other Worlds** Performance, Isles Art Initiative, Curated by Alice Vogler + Vela Phelan, Boston, 2015

**Tidraphone: a Tidal Vibraphone** Collaborative Public Art Installation, Boston, 2015

**Infinite Potential** Performance + Installation, Boston Arts Festival, Boston, 2013

**Fabryka Miejska | City Factory** Citywide Touring Exhibition, Muzeum Sztuki Łódź, Łódź, Poland, 2013

**Ruta Futura** of Museo del Futuro, Collaborative Touring Exhibition, Mexico City, 2012

**Gano El Que Perdio | He Who Won Lost** Solo Exhibit, 3001 Gallery, USC Roski School of Fine Arts, Los Angeles, 2012

**Thanks Craig** Collaborative Public Installation and Exhibition, the Landing Party Gallery, Los Angeles, 2009

**Market** Collaborative Project and Exhibition, Phantom Galleries LA, Long Beach, 2009

**Amaze** Curator of Farmlab Exhibition Featuring George Herms, Phantom Galleries LA, Beverly Hills, 2008

## **ACADEMIC + PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

External Manuscript Evaluator, University of Florida Press. Edited volume on the cultural reverberations of NASA's Apollo 11 mission. 2021-2022

External Reviewer, European Research Council Consolidator Grant Evaluations in Culture and Cultural Production. 2020

Guest Critic in studio, seminar, and thesis reviews for courses at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, the Rhode Island School of Design, MIT, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and University of New Mexico. Departments of art, architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and urban design.

## **COMMUNITY ART EXPERIENCE**

**Co-Founder**, Department of Play, Cambridge, MA, 2013-present

**Public Engagement Artist and Consultant** Boston area, 2012-2015

**Teaching Artist**, Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, Roxbury, MA, 2014

**Teaching Artist**, Dia Art Foundation and Center for Urban Pedagogy, Beacon, NY, 2014

**Artist in Residence**, Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics, Boston, MA, 2012-2013

**Co-creator, Coordinator**, My Dot Tour, Dorchester, MA, 2011

**Public Art Intern**, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, Mexico City, 2010

**Production Assistant**, Lauren Bon's Metabolic Studio/Farmlab, Los Angeles, 2006-2009

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

English (fluent), Polish (native), Spanish (very advanced), French (advanced)

## **REFERENCES**

K. Michael Hays  
Eliot Noyes Professor of Architectural Theory  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
mhays@gsd.harvard.edu, 617-496-4493  
48 Quincy Street, Room 221D, Cambridge, MA 02138

Jennifer Roberts  
Elizabeth Cary Agassiz Professor of the Humanities, American and Contemporary Art  
Harvard University, History of Art and Architecture  
roberts6@fas.harvard.edu, 617-496-0116  
485 Broadway Street, Room 511, Cambridge, MA 02138

Diane Davis  
Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning and Urbanism  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
ddavis@gsd.harvard.edu, 617-495-0728  
48 Quincy Street, Room 323A, Cambridge, MA 02138