

ALLYN GAESTEL

Born Los Angeles, California, 1987

Pronouns:

// post duality lies the flow of the spirit //
they

Award Winning Writer, Curator and Artist with 12+ Years of Global Experience.

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EDUCATION

The European Graduate School MA Candidate in Philosophy, Art and Critical Thought (2023)
Studies with Fred Moten, Catherine Malabou, Judith Butler, Manthia Diawara, Daniel Birnbaum in Curation, Theory, Art History, Philosophy, Psychoanalysis.

Haverford College B.A. Political Science with Honors, Minor in French (2009)
Emphasis on Africana studies, Philosophy, Global Affairs, Photography
Université Gaston Berger, Senegal, Study Abroad (2008)
University of Pennsylvania - Undergraduate Photography Courses(2008)

Westridge Independent Day School, Pasadena, CA - Advanced Placement Art History, Ethics, Global History, US History (2005)

Continuing Education :

Institute of Contemporary Art Miami Knight Foundation Art + Research Center:
Animating Archives Art History Seminars with Ashon T. Crawley, Jafari Sinclair Allen, Eddie Chambers (2021)

Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown: Writing Seminars with Sabrina Orah Mark (2021)
Salzburg International Summer Academy of Fine Arts : Curatorial Seminar with Cosmin Costinas and Inti Guerrero (2021)

CURATION — EXHIBITIONS

As an Independent Curator, I collaborate with artists globally for exhibitions in the US, Europe and Africa, with particular expertise with Contemporary Art, African and Diasporic Art, Photography, Abstraction, Conceptualism and Minimalism.

Rencontres de Bamako African Photography Biennial, Bamako, Mali (2019) *Curatorial assistance for Rahima Gambo's exhibition.*

Dak'art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal (2016) *Weighty Games Wrote curatorial statement for Modupeola Fadugba's exhibition Like Play, Like Play, winner of the Biennale's Grand Prize.*

Ford Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria (2015) *Design is the Personality of an Idea: on Delusion, Individuality and World Creation Curator of exhibition of Pan-African and Diasporic women artists.*

Red Door Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria (2015) *Each Passing Day: Akintunde Akinleye career retrospective Wrote catalogue text and assisted with curation.*

CultureFIX, New York (2010) *Facilitated exhibition of Haitian artists*

Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery, Haverford College Gallery Assistant (2005-2009)

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WRITING

My award-winning writing spans genres and styles. I publish conceptual essays, art writing, art and literature reviews, academic essays, and fiction in esteemed publications in The US, Europe and Africa.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

MARCH Journal of art & strategy : The Coherence of Fracture - *On Rashid Johnson, Jack Whitten, Ocean Vuong, Roland Barthes* (forthcoming 2021)

Guernica : The Texts Were Alive and They Spoke To Me - *On Vivacity in Text : Clarice Lispector, Henry Miller, Laird Hunt* (forthcoming 2021)

Riot Material Magazine : The Museum of Injury (2021) Photography as Bildungsroman (2020)

Very Vary Veri Harvard School of Design Journal : The Center of the World is Everywhere (2020)

The Common : All In and Out of Time (2020)

Der Greif : Dustin Thierry (2020)

Dust Magazine : The Revolution is Reclined (2020)

The Berlin Quarterly : Associations d'Élegance (2019) *Shortlisted for the 2019 Stack Magazine Award for Best Original Non-Fiction*

Arts and Africa : Interiors (2019)

Guernica : Space for my Thoughts to Fly (2018)

The New York Times : Opulence; Marché Noire (2018, 2019)

WePresent : Asmara with the Luminaries (2019)

The Atavist : Things Fall Apart (2018) *Longlisted for the One World Media Popular Feature Award 2019.*

Longreads/Nataal : Versage (2018) *Winner of the 2018 Stack Magazine Award for Best Original Non-Fiction*

It's Nice That : Divine Collaboration (2018)

The New Yorker : The Price of Senegal's Strict Anti-Abortion Laws (2017)

GfZK Gallery of Contemporary Art, Leipzig, Germany : Versage (2017)

MoonManMagazine: On Alara, Viviane Sassen, Roger Ballen, Sarah Moon, David Adjaye, etc. (2017)

Nataal : We are All Sentimental (2017) and Profiles of Falana, Alexis Peskine, Wura Ogunji, etc.

Intense Art Magazine The Necessity of Dreams, on Peju Alatisse and Maki Oh (2017)

Dak'art Biennale : Weighty Games (2016) *Curatorial statement for Modupeola Fadugba's exhibition Like Play, Like Play, winner of the Biennale's Grand Prize.*

Ford Foundation: Design is the Personality of an Idea: on Delusion, Individuality & World Creation (2015)

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Red Door Gallery Essay on World Press Photo Winner Akintunde Akinleye (2015)
Institute of Current World Affairs: Taste, Scent, Trade; How Long is Now; Fool's Gold, etc
(2015-16)
Los Angeles Review of Books: Still Fissured; Perilous Delivery; The Road Through Redemption
Camp (2014-15)
ETH Zürich, The Center for Security Studies: Think tank research and report writing (2010-2011)

ADDITIONAL WRITING EXPERIENCE :

Freelance Journalist (2010-2015)

Published in **The New York Times, The Atlantic, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, NPR, Christian Science Monitor, Reuters, CNN, France24, etc.**

From Haiti, India, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Senegal, Ethiopia, USA.

Topics included: Spirituality, Urbanism, Decoloniality, Feminisms, Types of Power, Queer theory, Politics, Poetry, Music, Women's Health, Human Rights, Deposed dictators and their ghosts, Peacekeeping and its discontents, Tele-imams, Racism, Elections, Pandemics, Harm Reduction, Slum demolitions, Mimicry and Mimesis, Taste, Fashion, Globalization, Etc.

My reportage continues to be cited in artistic and scholarly books, papers and projects.

United Nations Correspondent for MediaGlobal at the UN Headquarters in New York (2009-2010)

TEACHING, LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

I love to share my work through public speaking and teaching in many contexts.

Amherst Art and the History of Art Department - Class visit- *Things Fall Apart* (2020)
Haverford College - Lecture and class visits : *On Reverence and Relation*, (2019)
Lycée Français de New York - Class visits : *Form as Resistance* (2019)
Pingry Preparatory School - Lecture and class visits : *On Permeability* (2018)
Haverford College - Lecture and class visits : *The Center of the World is Everywhere* (2018)
Center for Peace and Global Citizenship - Retreat workshop facilitator (2018)
The African Artists Foundation - Curated Symposium and Workshop on Art and Architecture : *How Long is now?* (2015)
Minority Rights Group International - Training for journalists reporting on cultural issues (2015)
Asian American Journalists Association - Panel speaker "Crisis Reporting Abroad" (2014)
Bronx Documentary Center - Public Reading with RISC (2013)
Girl Up Leadership Summit - Ethical Storytelling Workshop Leader (2013)
Pulitzer Center Film Festival - Public Screening and Q+A (2013)

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PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

I exhibit and publish my photographic work internationally.

Associations d'Élegance : Published in Berlin Quarterly. Exhibited at Haverford College (2019)

Interiors : Published in Arts and Africa Journal, and Litro Magazine (2019)

Fractal : Published in Fractal Journal (2018)

Streets of Goma : Published in The Common Magazine (2018)

dream//life : Exhibited in *even if your mouth is closed (you are a mouthpiece)* at Treehouse art space (2018)

Chinafrika.Sample : Exhibited outside the New Bauhaus Museum, part of Kunstfest Weimar, Germany, and exhibited in the Das Müllprojekt, Hamburg, Germany (2017)

All of the Lights : Exhibited in *Hotspots Lagos* at Lagos Photo Party, Lagos, Nigeria and in *The Atlantic Triangle Exhibition*, Espaco Saracura, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2017)

Strut : Photographs of Wura Ogunji's Performance Exhibited in *Stitching Stars-Ways of (Self) Representation* at Künstlerhaus Mousonturm, Frankfurt, Germany (2016)

Nudes : Semi-Solo exhibition with Ryan Cameron at James House, Haverford (2009)

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Whiting Foundation Writers Aid at Ucross Foundation (2021)

Fuller Project for International Reporting Fellow (2018)

Heinrich Boll Foundation Art Research Grant (2017)

Carter Center Rosalynn Carter Fellow for Mental Health Journalism Fellow (2017)

International Women's Media Foundation Fellow (2014, 2017)

International Reporting Project Fellow (2013, 2017)

Institute of Current World Affairs Fellow (2015)

Fund for Investigative Journalism Grantee (2015)

Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting Grantee (2012, 2013)

Next City Journalism Fellow (2012-2013)

United Nations Foundation Global Issues Journalism Fellow (2012)

Kaiser Family Foundation Media Fellow (2012)

National Press Foundation Journalist to Journalist Fellow (2010)

Allied Media Conference Representative for Project Safe (2009)

Haverford Philosophy Fellow to attend Naturalized Epistemology and Philosophy of Science Conference at Soochow University, Taiwan (2006)

Grant to attend School of the Americas Protest (2006)

Grant for Common Ground New Orleans Solidarity Relief Work After Hurricane Katrina (2005)

Center for Peace & Global Citizenship Grantee in Mali, Congo, Philadelphia (2007, 2008, 2009)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Stack Magazine Best Original Non-Fiction Award: Win for Versage article in Nataal Magazine (2018) Short-listed for Associations d'Élegance article in Berlin Quarterly (2019)

One World Media Popular Feature Award Long list: For Makoko Floating School article in the Atavist Magazine (2019)

Women Deliver: Named one of the top 15 journalists working on global women's health (2015)

White House New Photographers Association Awards: For documentaries I field produced with Allison Shelley from Mexico & Nepal for The Guardian & The New York Times (2014, 2015)

Skoll World Forum: Participant in roundtable on investigative journalism, Oxford University (2015)

UNFPA : Guest at World Conference on Midwifery in Prague (2014)

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EDITING AND PUBLISHING

I consult for arts organizations, foundations, non-profits and think tanks for writing and editing projects.

UNFPA: Creative Writing Consultant (2021)

FP2030: Editorial and Script Writing Consultant (2021)

Heinrich Böll Foundation: Editor for “Gender in the City” Publication (Forthcoming 2021)

PRB & Mozaic Inc: Research and writing consultant for journalist tip sheets on environment and gender (2021)

Plan International: Researcher for Report on Gender and Safety in Lagos and Cotonou (2019)

[applied] Foreign Affairs, Institute of Architecture, University of Applied Arts, Vienna:

Transcription, Photography and Captioning for Lagos Legacy Design Lab publication and for Investigating Spatial Phenomena in Rural and Urban Sub-Saharan Africa book published by De Gruyter (2017)

Marie Stopes International: Field research and report writing (2017)

African Development Bank & Dalberg Consulting: Proofreader and editor (2014)

InfoCommerce Group Consulting: Proofreader (2014)

White Ribbon Alliance: Research for report on respectful maternity care (2013)

Culture, Health & Sexuality International Journal for Research, Intervention and Care:

Co-Author of Article: “Senegalese religious leaders’ perceptions of HIV/AIDS and implications for challenging stigma and discrimination” with David A. Ansari, University of Chicago (2010)

Haverford Center for Peace and Global Citizenship *Issues Magazine:* Editor (2008)

Constructing Democracy in Transitioning Societies of Africa: Constitutionalism and Deliberation in Mali: Field and desk researcher for award winning book by Dr. Susanna Wing (2007)

RESIDENCIES

I thrive in artist residencies.

UCross *writing residency in Wyoming, USA* (2021)

Playa *writing residency in Oregon, USA* (2020)

Est-Nord-Est *artist residency in Quebec, Canada* (forthcoming 2022)

Luminous Lagos House: My home in Lagos grew into an informal artist residency and intentional community. When I moved I donated the library, furniture and art collection and handed ownership of the space to the next generation of young Lagosian luminaries, who I continue to mentor. (2016-2020)

JURIES AND MENTORSHIPS

The Carter Center: Juror for fellowship applications (2020)

Playa : Initiated an Equity Scholarship (cancelled under leadership change); juror for residency applications (2020)

Pulitzer Center: Mentor for student journalists (2019-2020)

LANGUAGES

Fluent French; Intermediate Haitian Kreyol; Conversational Wolof; Beginner Spanish.

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