

Lizz Aston

Textile Artist &
Design Strategist

c: 416-708-9213
e: fibre@lizzaston.com
www.lizz-aston-design.com

ABOUT

I am a craftsperson and designer with a keen interest in public sector design and social innovation. Whether working with my hands to create objects, installations and experiences, or employing design methods to re-frame and tackle complex problems, my approach to design is human-centered and process driven. I am interested in designing communications, products, systems, services, strategies, interventions, tools and policy - whatever it takes to address the core issue at hand.

COMPETENCIES

Research
Conceptual Thinking
Design Strategy
Signal and Trend Mapping
Experience Design
Systems Thinking
Co-Design Workshops
Collaboration & Mentorship
Social Justice and Advocacy

SKILLS

Professional Worth Ethic
Strong Interpersonal Skills
Abstract Problem Solver
Critical Thinker
Collaboration Oriented
Works Well Independently
Active Listener

EDUCATION

OCAD University, Industrial Design - BDes, 2018
Sheridan College, Crafts & Design: Textiles, 2009

EXPERIENCE

TEXTILE ARTIST & DESIGNER, Self Employed, 2009-Present

Project planning, project management, research, ideation, sketching and prototyping. Execute the design and fabrication of large-scale, site-specific installations. Write artist statements, bios, press releases and project proposals for exhibitions, sponsorships, grants and awards. Branding, web development, liaising with press, publishers, clients, corporate sponsors, contractors and volunteers to oversee the making of projects to the specifications of a design brief.

DESIGN CONSULTANT - INTERN, Summer 2018

DOBLIN, a Deloitte Business

This four-month summer internship focussed on working within two of the three main practitioner tracks in design and insights at Doblin. Working within an interdisciplinary team and using a human-centered design approach, I created tangible and compelling artifacts and tools, designed and executed the experience around participatory workshops, analyzed field research and synthesized information that connected insights to opportunities in order to solve complex problems through a rigorous approach.

PROGRAMS

Proficient in Adobe Suite:

Photoshop
Illustrator
InDesign
Lightroom
Premiere Pro
Adobe Media Encoder

Excel
Powerpoint
Microsoft Word

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Harbourfront Centre

Textile Studio AiR
2009-2012

SELECTED AWARDS

OCAD University

Awards & Medals Honourable
Mention, Industrial Design
2017

Mississauga Arts Council

Established Visual Artist Award
2015

Craft Ontario

Award For Excellence, 2014

RBC

Emerging Artist Studio
Set-up Award, 2012

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, 2016-2018

OCAD Student Union

This was a leadership role in charge of overseeing HR and the daily operations of the OCAD Student Union. The Director of Operations works to improve the student experience by identifying barriers to student success and communicate the needs of the student body, while navigating University governance structures to influence capital plans, policy development and procedures. Responsible for conducting strategic visioning and making recommendations for changes that strengthen the work of the organization in-line with the SU's mission and mandate.

STUDENT SERVICES COMMISSIONER, 2015-2016

OCAD Student Union

Works with Executive Directors and Managers to conduct research and develop recommendations for improvements to student services delivered by the Student Union and OCAD University through committee meetings, roundtable discussions and by meeting with constituents. Create and increase awareness of Student Services through surveys, campaigns and feedback mechanisms, while also participating on committees and sub-committees of the SU and the University.

GALLERY ATTENDANT, 2012-2015

Architecture Gallery - Harbourfront Centre

Gallery opening and closing duties, set-up and maintenance of AV equipment for installations. Provide information about exhibitions, events and educational programming. Organize volunteers during busy hours. Maintain daily communications across multiple gallery spaces. Edit artist statements and prepare documentation for print and web.

ARTIST TALKS, TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Xpace Gallery - Programming & Hiring Committees, 2015-2018
Sheridan Textile Design Program - Artist Talk & Studio Visit, 2015 & 2017
Peel Gallery (PAMA) - Solo Exhibition, Artist Talk & Workshop, 2014
OCAD University, Fibre Studio - Artist Talk, 2013
Xpace Gallery - Artist Talk & Screen Printing Workshop, 2010
Harbourfront Centre - Workshop Instructor, Textile Studio, 2009-2012
