Gregory Fitzsimmons

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# Education

• School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Masters in Fine Arts-Studio Photography, 2014

• DePaul University, School for New Learning, Bachelor of Arts, with a focus in Painting, Drawing and Photography, 2012

• City Colleges of Chicago, Wilbur Wright College, Psychosocial

Rehabilitation Practitioner Certification. 2008

# Academic Awards

• *SAIC Dean****ʼ****s Scholarship*, MFA Photography, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago

*• Academic Excellence Award for Undergraduate Thesis,* “Using Stereoview Photography Cards to Address Issues of Gender and Disability,” DePaul University

# Teaching Experience

• *SAIC Dean****’****s Scholarship*, MFA Studio Photography, The School of The Art Institute of Chicago

*• Academic Excellence Award for Undergraduate Thesis,* “Using Stereoview Photography Cards to Address Issues of Gender and Disability,” DePaul University

**Teaching Experience**

*•*January 2015-Present*- Lecturer at Wright College (Chicago City Colleges)*

* + - Designed and delivered course syllabus and learning materials for eighteen classes: four semesters of Basic Drawing, Digital Photography, and Beginning Darkroom Photography; and three semesters of History of Photography and Art Appreciation.
		- Utilized a digital-learning online platform to deliver course material, track progress, and communicate with students.
		- Taught students to assemble professional portfolios of artwork, including composing artists’ statements using current language in the field of fine art.
		- Advised faculty and staff on the equipment and procedures required for a current and professional-level laboratory for analog and digital photography.

*•* September 2012 to May 2014- *Graduate* *Teaching Assistant and Tutor at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.* Worked with faculty todesign and deliver course syllabus and learning materials for four courses: Photography- Multilevel Transfer Projects (2 Semesters); Color Photography and Digital Postproduction, Introduction to Photography, Photography- Historical Practices (1 Semester). Taught digital and analog postproduction skills to graduate and undergraduate students working in SAIC’s Photography Laboratory, including Adobe Photoshop and film processing and printing.

# Community-Based Art Experience

*•* January 2002 - January 2011. *Mental Health Facilitator*, *State of Illinois, Department of Mental Health and Resurrection Healthcare, Chicago.* Facilitated creative expressions groups with patients at Chicago Read Mental Health Center and Saint Mary’s Hospital; worked collaboratively with patient and staff on visual and tactile design of comfort rooms, hallways, treatment rooms, and community areas as part of a state-wide project to reduce violence and injury within a psychiatric hospital.

*•* 1996-2002. *Co-Director, West Town Tenants’ Union, Chicago*. The WTTU was an organization that combined long-time residents of a gentrifying community with artists to fight for power against displacement. Engaged in street theater, graphic design, graffiti and photography as community-organizing strategies and social provocation. Edited and designed a monthly newspaper, *West Town Free Press*.

# Selected Exhibitions and Curatorial Projects

December 2017- *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings.* Solo exhibit of paintings exploring nontraditional mapping strategies at Uss Gallery. Chicago.

July 2015- July 2017Curated networking-sculpture work at Uss Gallery in Chicago, including *PhoneTree* by Antoinette Suiter and Alexandria by Christopher Staats.

February 2015 *Rendered In An Idiom Not For Scientists.* Curator for five-person group exhibit at Uss Gallery, Chicago

October 2014 *Mana Lobby Exhibit.* Large-scale video projection in a six-person group exhibit.

May 2014 *“Crisis of Conformity”-*Video-loop projection in afour-person group exhibit at Urban Arts Society, Chicago.

*•* November 2013 *In Security*, Solo exhibition in Columbus Building, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, of photographs and multimedia work representing psychogeographical research and mapping strategies.

*•* February 2011 *Merzwalk* Score Performance at Fluxfest, Museum of

Contemporary Art, Chicago. Participatory walking performance on the museum campus.

# Scholarly Citations

Hanover, Inga Maija. Finders Keepers ...: On the Path to a Cabinet of Curiosity. Melbourne: LAP LAMBERT, 2011. 11-12. Print. Merzwalk project cited as an example of contemporary art practice using walking as a medium.

"Deveron Arts." *The Walking Institute*. Web. 16 Apr. 2015. Page at Devon Arts featuring Merzwalking. “The Walking Institute explores, researches and celebrates the human pace by bringing walking and other journeying activities together with arts and other cultural disciplines and people from all walks of life.”

http://www.deveron-arts.com/the-walking-institute/reference/merzwalk/