

**DR BIANCA ELZENBAUMER**

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## **SHORT CV – APRIL 2020**

### **EDUCATION IN DESIGN**

**2011-2014 Practice-led PhD in Design, Goldsmiths, University of London**

Thesis: *Designing Economic Cultures - cultivating socially and politically engaged design practices against precarisation*

**2008-2010 MA Communication Art & Design, Royal College of Art, London**

Thesis: *Department 21 - a student-led experiment in interdisciplinary learning*

**2002-2006 BA in Design, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (IT)**

Erasmus semester at Écal in Lausanne (CH)

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN OTHER FIELDS**

**January to July 2015 Permaculture Design Course, Permaculture Association, Leeds, UK**

Focus: permaculture ethics & principles, innovative and sustainable regional projects (e.g. farms, co-housing, forest management)

**2011-2013 PgCert in Management of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, Goldsmiths, University of London**

Focus: student-centred learning, diversity in Higher Education, connection between research and teaching, theory and practice relays, experiential learning cycles, action learning sets

**2006-2007 PgCert in International Peacekeeping and Conflict Mediation, Università di Bologna**

Focus: conflict analysis, micro- and macro-conflict transformation, conflict prevention, facilitation of dialogue across diversities, international cooperation

**1994-1999 A-Levels, Deutsches Humanistisches Gymnasium “Nikolaus Cusanus,” Bruneck-Brunico (IT)**

## **PRESENT POSITIONS**

**Since April 2019 - Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellow, Eurac Research (IT) - part-time**  
Running the Alpine Community Economies Lab

**Since 2006 - Co-director at Brave New Alps (IT) - part-time**  
Developing commons through participatory and co-design methods

## **PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

**July 2016 to March 2019 - Associate Professor in Design Research**  
Leeds Arts University (UK) - currently on a two-year sabbatical

**September 2014 to June 2016 - Research Fellow**  
Leeds Arts University (UK)

**January 2014 to June 2014 - Fellow**  
Akademie Schloss Solitude (DE)

**January 2011 to December 2014 - Design Fellow**  
Goldsmiths, University of London

## **PARENTAL LEAVE**

March 2016 to February 2017

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**March 2020 – ongoing – MA thesis supervisor on the MA in Eco-Social Design, Free University of Bozen (IT)**

**March 2020 – ongoing – MA thesis supervisor on the MA in Transformation Design, University of Brunswick (DE)**

**September 2014-March 2019 - Tutor, MA Creative Practice, Leeds Arts University, UK (60hrs/year)**

Preparing, co-ordinating and delivering a module on practice-based research in design and art, culminating in a one-week research trip and public presentation abroad.

**February & March 2015 - Visiting Lecturer, MA Visual Communication, Royal College of Art, (20hrs)**

Preparing, co-ordinating and delivering workshops on how to sustain socially engaged and experimental design practices in the long-term.

**October 2012 to January 2014 - Visiting Lecturer, BA Contextual Studies - *The Expanded Designer*, Camberwell College, University of the Arts, London (40hrs/year)**

- Preparing, delivering and assessing seminars on the topic of networks to students of graphic design, illustration and 3-D design;
- Introducing students to methods of practice-led design research;
- Tutoring students in their essay-writing marking final work;

**January 2011 to December 2013 - Lecturer, MA Design & Environment, Goldsmiths, University of London (180hrs/year)**

- Preparing, delivering and assessing project briefs and lectures on topics such as design research, sustainability, citizenship, collaborative practice and modes of exchange;
- delivering group and individual tutorials on project work to up to 12 students with backgrounds in design, architecture, engineering, geography and business management;
- tutoring students on their graduation projects and essays;
- marking and second-marking of projects and essays;
- end of year examiner.

**September to November 2012 - *Campus in Camps*, Project Activator, Al Quds University/Bard College, Bethlehem (PS) - MA programme in spatial practice funded through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and UNRWA (40hrs/week)**

- Deploying participatory research methods with 15 students, all of whom were Palestinian refugees and from non-design backgrounds;
- accompanying the elaboration and implementation of cultural projects in Palestinian refugee camps;
- supporting participants in the production of written and visual artefacts;
- engaging participants and camp inhabitants in investigations of the spatial, social and political dynamics of the camps through guided walks, skills exchanges and reading groups.

**2008-2020 Lectures and seminars at the following art & design universities: United Kingdom** – Royal College of Art (MA Architecture, MA Visual Communication), Goldsmiths (BA Design, PhD Design), Central Saint Martins (BA Design, MA Graphic Design), Leeds Beckett University (BA Graphic Arts & Design), London College of Communication (BA Graphic Design), Camberwell College of Arts (MA Graphic Design, BA and MA Art), University of Western England Bristol (BA in Graphic Arts); **Germany** – Duale Hochschule Ravensburg (BA Media Design), Offenbach University of Art and Design (BA Design), Merz Akademie Stuttgart (MA

Wissensbildung in Gestaltung, Kunst und Medien), Technische Universität Berlin (MA Architecture), Hochschule für Bildende Künste Hamburg (Experimentelles Design), University of Brunswick (MA Transformation Design); **Italy** – Politecnico di Milano (MA Service Design), Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (BA Design, MA in Eco-Social Design); **Sweden** – Linnéuniversitetet (BA in Design + Change); **Switzerland** – College of Art and Design FHNW Basel (MA Integrative Design), ETH Zürich (History of Art and Architecture, PhD programme).

**2014-2017 Workshops at the following summer schools:** Laboratori dal Basso (IT), Travelogue (PT), Trojan Horse (FIN).

## **VOLUNTEERING IN THE SOCIAL SECTOR**

**2018–2019 – Tutoring young people doing a year of voluntary civil service with the Municipality of Rovereto**

**2007 - Volunteer at the Isreali Committee Against House Demolitions, Jerusalem (2 months)**  
Produced the book *Decode Jerusalem*.

**2006-2007 - National voluntary civil service, La Strada-Der Weg, Bozen-Bolzano, IT (12 months/30hrs/week)**

Assisting drug addicts in therapy and contributing to the research office of the organisation.

**2006-2007 - Disability support assistant, sheltered workshop Trayah, Bruneck-Brunico, IT (twice 1 month)**

Assisting people with disabilities during their summer holidays.

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**1996-2004 - Professional snowboarder, part of the international team of Burton Snowboards and the Italian national team**

- Junior World Champion in 1996 and numerous consecutive international awards;
- eight years of international travels in mountain areas in Europe, Northern America and Japan.

## **AWARDS FOR SOCIAL DESIGN PROJECTS**

**2018 Hans Sauer Awards (DE)**

2nd prize with La Foresta: €3,000

**2010 Museion - Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Bozen-Bolzano (IT)**

Museion Art Prize: €18,000

## **PROJECT GRANTS (either individually or with Brave New Alps)**

2019	Welfare Km Zero, Fondazione Caritro, project grant 36 months: €140,000
2018	Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship, 24 months grant: €180,000
2018	Intrecci Possibili, Ufficio Svolta, project grant 12 months: €27,000
2015	Erasmus+ Adult Education, ECOLE_IG, 24 months: €13,740
2014	Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart (DE), fellowship 6 months: €17,800
2011-2013	Goldsmiths, University of London, Design Fellowship 36 months: £52,470
2012	GAI – Associazione per il Circuito dei Giovani Artisti Italiani (IT), Movin'up, promotion of international mobility 3 months: €2,500
2011	Autonomous Province of South Tyrol (IT), cultural grant: €3,000
2010	Royal College of Art, London, Academic Development Office: £1,600 & Rector's Office: £1,000
2008	Autonomous Province of South Tyrol (IT), cultural grant: €1,500
2008	European Academy of Bozen-Bolzano (IT), project grant: €7,000

## **FUNDED RESEARCH RESIDENCIES**

2016	Free University of Teremiski (PL), 2 weeks
2014	Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw (PL), 3 months
2011	Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw (PL), 5 months
2008	Decolonizing Architecture Artist Residency, Beith Sahour (oPt), 3 months

## **EXPERIMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SPACES SET UP AND COORDINATED**

Since 2017	<i>La Foresta - Accademia di Comunità</i> , a collaborative platform around ecological citizenship in Rovereto (IT)
2016-2017	<i>QuerciaLAB</i> , pilot project for a community economies resource centre working with asylum seekers, Rovereto (IT)
2013-2014	<i>New Cross Commoners</i> , a community-based research collective in South London (UK)
2011	<i>Cantiere per pratiche non-affermative</i> , Careof DOCVA, September to October, Milan (IT)
2009-2010	<i>Department 21 – an interdisciplinary student-led learning space</i> , Royal College of Art, London

## WORKSHOPS LED

- *Vallagarina 2060* - 14 workshops on sustainable and ecological futures in the alpine Vallagarina valley (IT), involving citizens, policy makers and scientists, 2019-2020.
- *Precurity Pilot* - 30 workshops on undoing precarious working conditions hosted amongst other by Laboratori dal Basso (IT), East Street Arts (UK), CSW Ujazdowski Castle & the Polish National Centre for Culture, 2014-2018.
- *Småland - economies in the anthropocene* - a one-day workshop with students of the BA Visual Communication + Change at Linnaeus University, Kalmar (SWE), 22.03.2017.
- *Making academic careers together* - one-day workshops at the XII International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems, University of Trento, as part of the EU funded project GARCIA which focuses on gender equality in academia, 24.05.2016.
- *Post-rural economies* - one-day workshops with MA students in architecture, Technische Universität Berlin, 09/2015.
- *Paradise by Design? Proposals for diversity-fostering regional developments* - a two-day key-workshop at the conference *By Design or By Disaster*, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (IT), 09/2013.
- *Zeitkapsula 2009-2041* - a one-week workshop with children at Museion, Bozen-Bolzano, 07/2009.

## PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS (selection)

- *Berlin Refugee Economies*, 6-11 February 2017 - visiting bottom-up initiatives that work with asylum seekers and refugees to create supportive economies with 5 social workers involved in the living lab QuerciaLAB.
- *Interstizi Reattivi - percorso di studi sull'altra economia* - May-November 2016 - monthly excursions with up to 10 people to visit innovative small scale enterprises and initiatives in Northern Italy (such as co-housing, independent cultural centres, community supported agriculture).

## PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

- Brave New Alps. "Co-Creating Empowering Economic Systems: Strategies for Action." *Modes of Criticism* no.5, 85–102, 2019.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, and Fabio Franz. "Footprint: A radical workers co-operative and its ecology of mutual support." *ephemera: theory and politics in organization* 18, 791–804, 2018.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca. "Speculating with Care: Learning from an Experimental Educational Program in the West Bank." *Architectural Theory Review*, 2018.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, and Fabio Franz. "Notes on design education and prefigurative (work) politics." *Art, Design & Communication in Higher Education* 16 (1), 117-123, 2017.

- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, and Fabio Franz. “Commons and Community Economies: Entry Points to Design for Eco-Social Justice?” Design Research Society conference, Brighton, June 2016.
- Brave New Alps. *Montagna Viva, The Living Mountain: Conversing with an Experiment in Making (the Local) in Common*. Architecture and Resilience on a Human Scale conference, University of Sheffield, 11 September 2015.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca. “Precarious Designers and the Transformative Potential of Biopolitical Production and the Commons.” In *The Virtuous Circle - Cumulus conference June 3-7, 2015, Milan*, edited by Anna Meroni, Laura Galluzzo, and Luisa Collina, 65-74. Milano: McGraw-Hill Education, 2016.
- Brave New Alps. “Precarity Pilot: Making Space for Socially- and Politically-Engaged Design.” Edited by Francisco Laranjo, 49-57. *Modes of Criticism*, no. 1, 2015.
- Brave New Alps. “Dheisheh’s Common Green.” *Professional Dreamers, Sociology*, Trento, 2013, <http://www.professionaldreamers.net/?p=2867>.

## EDITED BOOK

Elzenbaumer, Bianca, Fabio Franz, and Polly Hunter, eds. *Department 21*. London: Royal College of Art, 2010.

## AUTHORED & EDITED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (selection)

- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, Alison Thomson, and Maria Portugal (eds.). 2016. “Exploring what the future holds for practice-based PhDs.” *Instant Journal 03*. London. ISSN (print) 2396-846X (digital) 2396-8478.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, Alison Thomson, and Maria Portugal (eds.). 2015. “Researching Across Difference.” *Instant Journal 02*. London. ISSN (print) 2396-846x ISSN (digital) 2396-8478
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, Alison Thomson, and Maria Portugal. 2014. “PhD by Design - Navigating the Messiness of Practice-Based Research - Conference Documentation.” London. ISSN 2397-7027.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Bianca Elzenbaumer. “On practice-based research”. In *Are We There Yet? Perspectives on Design Research* edited by Gesche Joost et al. Basel: Birkhäuser, 2016.
- Brave New Alps. “Design Education as a Practice of Freedom?” In *About Learning and Design*, edited by Giorgio Camuffo et al., 65–72. Bozen-Bolzano: University Press, 2014.
- Brave New Alps. “Werte-Praktiken Für DesignerInnen Von Heute Und Morgen.” In *Design Der Zukunft*, edited by Cornelia Lund and Holger Lund, 152-64. Stuttgart: avedition, 2014.

- Brave New Alps. “Bending Spaces: Learning and Producing While Being on Show.” In *Graphic Design, Exhibiting, Curating*, edited by Giorgio Camuffo and Maddalena dalla Mura, 72-85. Bozen-Bolzano: University Press, 2013.
- Elzenbaumer, Bianca, Fabio Franz, and Stephen Knott. “Department 21.” In *Curating the Europe an University: Exposition and Public Debate*, edited by Maarten Simons et al., 57-63. Leuven: University Press, 2011.

### **AUTHORED WEBSITES (selection)**

- “PhD by Design Search” 2016-present <http://www.phdbydesignsearch.com>
- “Precarity Pilot” 2015-present <http://www.precaritypilot.net>
- “Designing Economic Cultures” 2011-2014 <http://www.designingeconomiccultures.org>

### **INVITED TALKS & DISCUSSIONS (selection)**

- “Practising the future together – getting going here and now, Beyond Crisis Symposium”, Free University of Bozen, Italy, 17.04.2020.
- “COMUNfARE – Wirtschaft gemeinsam gestalten”, How to act Symposium, HBK Braunschweig, Germany, 17.01.2020.
- “Wirtschaft gemeinsam gestalten”, Churburger Wirtschaftsgespräche, Schluderns, Italy, 4.10.2019.
- “Ethical (economic) doings: proposals for designing in our troubled times“, bi-annual Papanek Symposium, Austrian Embassy in London, 22 September 2017.
- “The future of jobs in Europe”, Poligon Co-Working Space, Ljubljana, 28.05.2015.
- “How does design function in a recession?”, Design Culture Salon, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, 26.03.2013.
- “Uncertain Outcomes in the Collaborative Process”, symposium, Camberwell College of Art, London, 2.11.2013.
- “Organising as an Open Source”, Casco – Office for Art, Design and Theory, Utrecht, 5.05.2012.

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ORGANISED (selection)**

- *Community Economies: A Practice Exchange* –three day symposium, Il Masetto, Val Terragnolo (IT), 7-9 June 2019.
- *PhD by Design* - study day “Making knowledge travel: exploring modes of dissemination for practice-based design research”, Leeds Arts University, 14 May 2015.



- *PhD by Design* - two-day international conference “Navigating the Messiness of Practice-Based Research”, Goldsmiths, University of London, 9-10 November 2014.

## SEMINARS, READING GROUPS & ROUNDTABLES ORGANISED

- *Commons Coffee Corner*, bi-weekly discussion group at EURAC Research, Italy, March 2020-ongoing.
- *Multispecies Communities reading group*, based in Rovereto & international via skype, September 2016-June 2017.
- *The Politics of Commoning and Designing* - a panel at the Design Research Society’s bi-annual conference, convened in collaboration with Dr Valeria Graziano and Dr Kim Trogal, University of Brighton, 29 June 2016.
- *Take Back The Economy* monthly reading group, based in Leeds & international via skype, October 2015-June 2016.
- *Designing economic cultures*, a series of six seminars exploring questions of precarious labour amongst designers, Design Department, Goldsmiths, London, June to November 2011.
- *Constructive dismantling*, a series of six seminars exploring DIY economic practices in Poland before and after 1989, AI-R Laboratory, CCA Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw (PL), May to July 2011.
- *Interdisciplinarity at the RCA and beyond*, roundtable discussion with rector Paul Thompson, pro rector Alan Cummings, head of Academic Development Office Chris Mitchell and Head of Sculpture Richard Wentworth, Royal College of Art, London, 12 March 2010.

## MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- Community Economies Institute (Int.);
- Cipra International Sounding Board (Alps);
- Higher Education Academy (UK);

## LANGUAGES

**German** Native speaker

**Italian** understanding (C2) speaking (C2) writing (C2)

**English** understanding (C2) speaking (C2) writing (C2)

**French** understanding (C1) speaking (B2) writing (B1)