

Ruth Skinner | Arts Educator, Administrator, Publisher

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Education

2024 PhD Doctor of Philosophy, Art and Visual Culture, Western University, London
Supervisor: Dr. Joy James; Dr. Christof Migone

Recent Arts Grants

2025 London Arts Council Research Grant
2024 London Community Foundation Community Vitality Grant – for Forest City Gallery (author)
Ontario Trillium Foundation Capital Grant – for Forest City Gallery (editor)
London Arts Council Community Arts Investment Program (CAIP) Organizational Funding – for Forest City Gallery (author)
Ontario Arts Council Visual Arts Artist-Run Centres and Organizations, Operating Grant – for Forest City Gallery (author)

Recent Employment Experience

2026 Art Event Coordinator (short-term contract), McIntosh Gallery, Western University
2024 – 2026 Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, School for Advanced Studies in the Arts & Humanities, Western University
2020 – 2026 Course Instructor, School for Advanced Studies in the Arts & Humanities, Western University
2023 – 2024 Director, Forest City Gallery
2022 – 2023 Course Instructor, Department of Visual Arts, Lakehead University
2022 Course Instructor, Department of Visual Arts, Western University
2021 – 2022 Course Instructor, Language & Liberal Studies, Fanshaw College (Woodstock Campus)
2020 – 2021 Manager, Artlab Gallery, Dept of Visual Arts, Western University

Recent Authored Publications

“Virginia(s) Woolf reclining in a deck chair, undated.” Exhibition text for Ioana Dragomir, *very, very, very*, Forest City Gallery, March 2026.

“‘STOP the American takeover of Canada!’ — Inspiration and humour from a London, Ont. art movement,” *The Conversation*, 16 April 2025.

“Kim Ondaatje: Grounding Artistic Advocacy,” *Art and Activism: An Alternative Cultural History of London, Ontario*, edited by Jamelie Hassan and Ron Benner, London, ON: Embassy Cultural House, 2024.

“A sword far heavier than any sword has rights to be,” *In Media Res: Props and Media Materialisms*, 2 December 2022.

“The Renal Community Photo Initiative: A Program Report in Ontario, Canada,” *Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease*, co-authored with Cindy House, Dr. Chris McIntyre, project participants, 2022.

“The Renal Community Photo Initiative - A Visual Essay,” *Canadian Journal of Kidney Health and Disease*, co-authored with Cindy House, Dr. Chris McIntyre, project participants, 2022.

Review of *Sheila Butler: Other Circumstances* for *Border Crossings Magazine*, Issue 157, August 2021

“Deception is a co-effect which cannot be neglected,” *SDUK07: “Tilting,”* Toronto/Mississauga, ON: Blackwood Gallery, 2020.

“A Manual for Saving Head,” exhibition text with Lili Huston-Herterich, Zalucky Contemporary, Toronto, 2019.

“Small changes may happen,” exhibition text for *Adam Revington: Non-Music Life, Assorted Footage & Projects*, Main Street Gallery, Toronto, 2019.

“Moving Mountains: Aislinn Thomas and Ruth Skinner in Conversation,” London, ON: London Ontario Media Arts Association; A Museum for Future Fossils, 2019.

Arts Publisher (select)

- 2020 *A Study of Mundane Being (Split Folio #2)*, Jeff Downer and Justas Patkauskas. London, ON: Edna Press.
Canadian Artists' Pension Program #2: Parker Branch. London, ON: Edna Press
- 2019 *Black Box: The Objectless Perception Game (Split Folio #1)*, Sarah Munro and Faith Patrick. London, ON: Edna Press
- 2018 *dog in swimming pool*, Mike Jordan, Kelly Jazvac, Kim Ondaatje, Lena Suksi. London, ON: Edna Press
Inventory/shipping labels, Adam Revington. London, ON: Edna Press
One Step Below, Kirsten Kurvink Palm / Gitche Sabe. London, ON: Out of Sound Records, Edna Press
Canadian Artists' Pension Program #1: Kim Ondaatje. London, ON: Edna Press
- 2015 *What do you Want?* London, ON: Good Sport Project Space

Curatorial Projects / Programming (select)

- 2024 Co-curator, *Water (Deshkan Ziibi)*, presented by the artLAB Gallery IN PARTNERSHIP WITH the Art Gallery Of Hamilton, Doris McCarthy Gallery, Forest City Gallery, Futura Resistenza, Glenfiddich Artists-In-Residence, McIntosh Gallery, NAISA, National Indigenous Media Arts Coalition (NIMAC), Other Sights, School for Advanced Studies in the Arts & Humanities (SASAH), Thames Art Gallery, and WalkingLab. Co-curated with Christof Migone and Sheri Osden Nault.
- 2023 Programmer, *ginny*: Ioana Dragomir, Support, Montréal
- 2021 Organizer, *Distance makes the heart grow weak*, Artlab Gallery, London. Co-organized with Dickson Bou
- 2020 Programmer, *75 Oriole Rd*: Niloufar Salimi, Support, London
- 2019 Curator, *Anti-Profit: Independent Publishing in London*, McIntosh Gallery, London
- 2018 Programmer, *DIY Karma Kit*: Adam Revington. Support, London
Programmer, *this will never finish*: Juliane Foronda, Lauryn Youden, Emily Geen, Kristine Mifsud, Faith Patrick. Support, London. Co-programmed with Liza Eurich, Graham Macaulay, and Tegan Moore

Recent Academic Presentations

- 2024 “Archives of Advocacy: Explorations of the Forest City Gallery,” Teaching with Western Libraries’ Archives and Special Collections, organized by Karin Schwerdter, Western University, 2024
- 2023 Conference speaker, “Haunted Whispers and the Point of No Return: Remaking (and Renewing) Final *Fantasy VII*,” Reconnecting and Recovering: The second virtual joint conference of the Literature Film Association and the Association of Adaptation Studies
Speaker: “Artists’ Publishing: When Things Get Real Rough,” Arts & Humanities Student Council Series, organized by Cole Van Der Velden, Western University
- 2022 Conference speaker: “‘Snake in My Mouth’: Cartomancy as Curatorial Strategy,” Universities Art Association of Canada Conference (UAAC), University of Toronto, 2022
Speaker, “Artist-run strategies for when the world is on fire,” Arts & Humanities Student Council Speaker Series, organized by Anjali Singh, Western University
- 2021 Contributor, “The Dawn of Aquarius: Art, Intuition and Technology,” -empyre- soft-skinned space listserv, moderated by Renate Ferro and Dr. Arshiya Lokhandwala (Cornell University), co-curated by Jennifer Fisher (York University)
- 2020 Exhibition tour and discussion, “Niloufar Salimi: 75 Oriole Rd at Support,” for Chelsea College of Arts MA Fine Art Program (livestream event with Niloufar Salimi, Liza Eurich, Olivia Mossuto)

Recent Public Talks

- 2026 Lightning Talk, “‘It’s about time for a little revenge from the old internet’: Teaching nostalgia and coding with Web 1.0, HTML, and LLMs,” Day of Digital Humanities, Western Libraries
Moderator, “Why I Write: Lynn Hutchinson Lee, Colleen Coco Collins and Hollay Ghadery,” Little Lit Fest, The Grand Theatre
Moderator, “Brazilian Art: Interdisciplinarity with Alessandra Santos, Gabriel Menotti, Pamela Block and Nadia Meinerz,” From Brazil to Canada, and in between, John Labatt Visual Arts Centre
- 2025 Presenter, “Has the internet always been this messy?” Arts and Humanities Day (high school outreach event), Western University
- 2023 Speaker, “GardenShip and Sate: A Book is a World,” with Patrick Mahon, Jeff Thomas, Katie Wilhelm, Tom Cull, Michelle Wilson, Marlene Creates and Patricia Deadman, Words Fest, Museum London, London
- 2022 Speaker, “Confluences: GardenShip and State’s Community Gathering and Symposium,” Museum London, London
- 2021 Host, Shani Mootoo: In Conversation with Richard Fung, Wordsfest: The Literary and Creative Arts Festival [virtual discussion], London
- 2020 In conversation with Jamelie Hassan, “Walking Backwards into the Future,” Art Now Speakers Series, Western University’s School for Advanced Studies in the Arts and Humanities

Community Associations, Boards & Committees

- Present Board of Directors, Pillar Nonprofit Network
Advisory Circle, Embassy Cultural House, London
Welcoming Communities Committee, London and Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership
- 2022 – 2023 Visual Art Acquisition Committee, Museum London, London
- 2014 – 2020 Board of Directors, Forest City Gallery, London

Recent Academic Service

- Present Alumni Achievement Awards Committee, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Western University
Fanshawe College Fine Art/Fine Art Foundation Program Advisory Committee
Peer Reviewer, First Monday: Peer-reviewed Journal on the Internet
- 2025 Advisory Committee, McIntosh Gallery, London
Social Committee, Faculty of Arts and Humanities
- 2024 Juror, Dept of Visual Arts Annual Juried Exhibition, Western University
- 2021 Steering Committee, Satellite Project Space
Peer Reviewer, *tba: Journal of Art, Media, and Visual Culture*, Western University
- 2020 Hiring Committee, Satellite Project Space

Press

- 2025 Paniz Vedavarz, “The internet’s vanishing act.” *The Gazette*, 27 November 2025.
- 2024 Beatriz Baleeiro, “Gallery event planned to raise money for SafeSpace women’s shelter,” *London Free Press*, 7 June 2024
- 2021 Debora Van Brenk, “Art up-close and from a distance,” interview about Artlab exhibition, *Distance make the heart grow weak*, *Western News*
- 2019 Artists’ Publishing - Interview with Dave O’Halloran, Radio What Wave, 94.9 Western Radio
Paul Mayne, “Alt press makes own headlines in exhibition,” interview about McIntosh Gallery exhibition, *Anti-Profit: Independent Publishing in London*, *Western News*.
“Bringing Healing into Focus: The Renal Community Photo Initiative,” expanded feature by Jo Jennings, Emily Leighton, Crystal Mackay and Jennifer Parraga for Schulich Medicine & Dentistry, Lawson Health Research Institute and Western Arts & Humanities, Western University
Review of Adam Revington’s *DIY Karma Kit* (Support) by Brennan Kelly for *Peripheral Review*
- 2018 Review of *this will never finish* (Support) by Kim Neudorf for *akimbo*
- 2017 Amy Skodak, “Hundreds of alumni involved in visual arts department exhibition,” *The Gazette*, 7 September 2017.