

Lisa Johnson de Gordillo

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- 2012 MFA, Sculpture (minor: intermedia)
The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Thesis: "Kotcích"
- 2011 MA, Sculpture (minor: painting)
The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Thesis: "Back To Back They Faced Each Other"
- 1997 BA *honors*, Theatre Arts (minor: studio art)
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
- 1997 BA *magna cum laude*, English (Creative Writing),
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dual degree

Academic Appointments

- 2020-present Associate Professor, Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI
- 2014-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI

Courses taught:

Contemporary Sculpture Studio	Creative Drawing Practices
Traditional Sculpture Studio	Advanced Drawing Studio
Public Sculpture	Scenic Art & Illustration (theatre)
Outdoor Sculpture	Art + Design Studio
Advanced Sculpture Studio	Two-Dimensional Design
Three-Dimensional Design	Scenic Design (theatre)

- 2010-11 Graduate Fellow, The Center for Teaching
The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- 2009-10 Graduate Teaching Assistant
The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Instructor of Record: Elements of Sculpture
- 2007-8 Visiting Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts
Graduate Assistant Supervisor (Paint Shop)
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Courses taught: Introduction to Scenic Design, Scene Painting (graduate and undergraduate students)

**Scenic Art and Scene Painting are used interchangeably in theatre to designate large-format painting, drawing, and carving.*

Adjunct Faculty Positions:

2009, 11 Department of Theatre and Dance, Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA
Course taught: Scenic Art

2009-10 Department of Theatre, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Course taught: Scenic Art for Designers (graduate-level)

2006 Department of Theatre Arts, Hollins University, Hollins, VA
Course taught: Scenic Art

Teaching Honors

- 2020 Provost's Award for Sustained Teaching Excellence, Michigan Tech
- 2019 Award, Outstanding Out-of-Class and Non-Traditional Instruction, Jackson Center for Teaching & Learning, Michigan Tech
- 2019 Dean's Teaching Showcase, College of Sciences & Arts, Michigan Tech
- 2019 Finalist, Michigan Tech Distinguished Teaching Award
- 2018 Finalist, Michigan Tech Distinguished Teaching Award
- 2016 Finalist, Michigan Tech Distinguished Teaching Award
- 2016 Member, Michigan Tech Academy of Teaching Excellence

Creative Honors

- 2021 First place, *11th Annual Juried Exhibition*, Gallery 110, Seattle, WA
Juror: Shamim Momin
- 2019 Best Three-Dimensional Work, *North Dakota Human Rights Film and Arts Festival*, Fargo, Bismark, and Grand Forks, ND
- 2019 Honorable Mention, *Arrowhead Regional Biennial*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN
- 2012 Honorable Mention, The International Sculpture Center Student Award
- 2012 Fellowship, The Obermann Institute for Engagement and the Academy, The University of Iowa
- 2011 Stanley Award for Graduate International Research, The University of Iowa
- 2011 Student Presenter, Prague Quadrennial Exhibition, Czech Republic
- 2011 Special Fellowship, School of Art and Art History, The University of Iowa
- 2009 Graduate Fellowship, School of Art and Art History, The University of Iowa
- 2007 Suzy Bass Award, Outstanding Scenic Design, *Voices Underwater*, Atlanta, GA
Director: Rachel May

Residencies

- 2022 Björkö Konstnod BKN, Björko, Sweden
- 2019 Artist-in-residence, Michigan Tech College of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences (-present)
- 2019 The Santa Fe Art institute, "Truth & Reconciliation" Residency (w/ collaborator Hugo Gordillo. Project: *Brazada*)
- 2017 Artist-in-residence, International Poetry Festival of Aguacatán, Huehuetenango, Guatemala
- 2015 Poet-in-residence, International Poetry Festival of Aguacatán, Huehuetenango, Guatemala
- 2012 Iowa Lakeside Laboratory (a biological field station), Milford, IA
- 2012 Vermont Studio Center
- 2011 Vermont Studio Center

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *American Flags*, Weitman Gallery, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- 2022 *Arena*, Esvelt Gallery, Columbia Basin College, Pasco, WA
- 2021 *Evidence of bias*, McArdle Theatre (installation), Houghton, MI
- 2018 *maybe a body*, McArdle Theatre (installation), Houghton, MI
- 2017 *Caminante, Libro Migrante* (installation in city center), Aguacatán, Guatemala
- 2017 *Prohibido Orinar Aquí*, Galería Efraín Recinos, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala
- 2017 *Chuchitos de Río* (installation in San Juan River), Aguacatán, Guatemala
- 2017 *ChickenBus*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
- 2015 *macho-maynitch ... more or less*, Kerredge Gallery, Hancock, MI
- 2013 *Coordinates, +43 13' 45.12", -95 14' 15.42"*, Spencer, IA
- 2013 *The Great Prairie Sleep Out*, The Prairie Flower Restoration Center (community event), Spencer, IA
- 2012 *Prairie*, Kendall Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 *What We Make Together*, Market-Dubuque Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 *9 Chairs* (installation), David Thayer Theatre, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 *Now and Then My Country* (installation), Public Space One, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *Listen and Speak*, Eve Drewelowe Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *J x 12*, The Porch Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *12:30* (performance inside moving Ryder truck), Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *Detection of Stowaways*, Gallery 1201, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *Four Trees* (installation), North Ridge Trail, Iowa City, IA
- 2009 *Sky Weaving Eight*, Gallery 1201, Iowa City, IA
- 2008 *Threads*, Gallery 1201, Iowa City, IA

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *Snowsports: Visual and Performing Arts Faculty Exhibit*, Michigan Tech Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI (forthcoming)
- 2022 *Hybrid*, Supermarket International Art Fair, Stockholm, Sweden
Curator: Anna-Viola Hallberg
- 2021 *(Un)Natural Boundaries and Borders*, Silverwood Park, St. Anthony, MN
Juror: Katayoun Amjadi
- 2021 *11th Annual Juried Exhibition*, Gallery 110, Seattle, WA (catalogue)
Juror: Shamim Momin
- 2021 *An Exhibition of Things Called Art*, Hilliard Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2021 *Make/Shift: It wasn't supposed to be like this*, Vox Populi, Philadelphia, PA
Curators: Brittany Webb and James Claiborne (online)
- 2021 *Down East Juried Sculpture Exhibition*, Emerge Art Gallery, Greenville, NC
- 2020 *Intertwined*, Dayton Society for Artists, Dayton, OH (online)
- 2019 *Proof of Concept: Visual Arts Faculty Exhibit*, Michigan Tech Rozsa Gallery
- 2019 *North Dakota Human Rights Film and Arts Festival*
Plains Art Museum, Fargo, ND; Bismark Downtown Artist Cooperative, Bismark, ND;
High Plains Fair Housing Center, Grand Forks, ND (catalogue)
- 2019 *Arrowhead Regional Biennial*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN (catalogue)
- 2018 *Untitled 14*, Soo Visual Art Center, Minneapolis, MN (catalogue)
Jurors: Gabriel Ritter, Curator, Minneapolis Institute of Art and Taqen Zea-Aida,
City Wide Artists, Minneapolis
- 2018 *Speakeasy Chicago*, Hubbard Street Lofts, Chicago, IL
- 2018 *Iowa Lakeside Lab Retrospective*, Public Space One, Iowa City, IA
- 2017 *Máscaras de Guatemala*, Galería Vessica, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala
- 2017 *Nasty Women*, The Knockdown Center, New York, NY
- 2017 *Nasty Women*, Red Arrow Gallery, Nashville, TN
- 2017 *North of the 45th*, DeVos Art Museum, Marquette, MI
- 2017 *Amusement Park Avenue: Visual and Performing Arts Faculty Exhibit*, Michigan Tech Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
- 2015 *The Tonic of Wilderness*, Pearson Lakes Art Center, Okoboji, IA
- 2014 *The Unmaking of Solitude*, Umpqua Valley Arts Center, Roseburg, OR
Curator: Renee Couture
- 2014 *A Quarter Section of Blue*, Pearson Lakes Art Center, Okoboji, IA
- 2012 *Purple Desdemona* (performance/event with Eva Luna Project), Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, Mitchellville, IA
- 2011 *Now and Then My Country* (performance/event with Eva Luna Project), Public Space One, Iowa City, IA
- 2011 *Now and Then My Country* (performance/event with Eva Luna Project), Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, Mitchellville, IA
- 2010 *Letters of Rozes* (performance/event with Eva Luna Project), Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, Mitchellville, IA
- 2010 *The Best Damn Art Show on Earth*, Market-Dubuque Gallery, Iowa City, IA
- 2010 *Power Grip*, Eve Drewelowe Gallery, Iowa City, IA

- 2009 *Showcasing Graduate Sculpture*, Market Dubuque Gallery, Iowa City, IA
2008 *Conversation, rough* (collaboration w/ Young Hee Yim), Studio Arts, Iowa City, IA

Curatorial Projects

- 2021 *HyperConnection: New Work by Tiffany Lange* (forthcoming)
Michigan Tech Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
- 2020 *Hero City: Portraits of Modern Mongolia*, Michigan Tech Rozsa Gallery, Pavils Honors College, Center for Diversity & Inclusion, and Van Pelt & Opie Library, Houghton, MI
Artist: Meghan Kirkwood
- 2020 *Superior Wilderness: Art from the Isle Royale Collection*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
- 2019 *Salon!* Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
80 works; a collection of 44 artists + 6 writers: U.S., England, Ghana, Guatemala
- 2018 *Never Empty*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artists: Amanda Breitbach, Dylan Miner
- 2018 *Water is Another Matter*, Great Lakes Research Center, Houghton, MI
- 2017 *Water's Edge*, Great Lakes Research Center, Houghton, MI,
- 2018 *Always Room for Rain*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artists: Ross Cheney, Raquel Alvizures
- 2017 *It's nothing personal (space)*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artist: Katie Hargrave
- 2016 *so not a goddess*, Rozsa Center (lobby installation), Houghton, MI
Artist: Sarah Hewitt
- 2016 *Flats and Rounds*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artists: Sarah Hewitt, Kathleen McCloud
- 2016 *Tipping Points*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artist: R. Kauff
- 2016 *On Currents & Eddies*, Great Lakes Research Center, Houghton MI
- 2015 *Senses of Land*, Rozsa Gallery, Houghton, MI
Artists: Sage Dawson, Allen Morris, Cathleen Faubert. Writer: David Ebenbach
- 2015 *The Texture of Water* (co-curator: Sarah Fayen Scarlett, Assoc. Professor of Social Sciences, Michigan Tech), Great Lakes Research Center, Houghton MI

Collaborative Large Projects

Sister Forests

2022-present

Project leader, collaborative artist

Connecting the forests of Björkö-Arholma, Sweden and the Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan. Art, ecology, and community exchange. Working towards shared knowledge, ecological presentation, and sense of community.

¡Fiesta!

2019-2021

Producer/ Creative Director. Concert, community event, and album combining poetry and music in Spanish and English. U.S. and Guatemalan collaborators in music, poetry, foreign languages, theatre, and sound design. www.fiestacd.com

Brazada

2018-present

Collaboration w/ Hugo Gordillo. Based jointly in Guatemala and the U.S., focusing on the Guatemalan civil war and U.S. complicity in its most destructive acts. Roughly translated as “as far as outstretched arms may reach,” *Brazada* combines journalism, poetry, and sculpture to work towards witness and reconciliation.

Keep ‘Em Flying!

2014-2018

Project Leader. Interdisciplinary project to lessen bird-window collisions. Window designs, electrical sensors, community engagement projects. Collaborations with Forestry, Materials Science, Electrical Engineering, Education. Michigan Tech.

The Iowa Lakeside Lab Artist-in-Residence Program

Founder, 2012; Director, 2012-2015

The [Lakeside Lab](#) is a biological field station and nature preserve. Residency program connects art, ecology, and community. Okoboji, IA.

The Eva Luna Project

2010–2013

Founder/Director. Collaborative arts ensemble connecting incarcerated and non-incarcerated communities through storytelling and arts. Performances, audio broadcasts, installations.

Kotcích

2011

Collaborative artist. Developed a performance-based installation connecting abandoned V. Kotcích Street and the city center. 25 artists (15 countries). Lead artist: Rolf Abderhalden Cortes. Prague, Czech Republic.

Selected Theatre Projects

Scenic Art

2007-2008

Scene Painting Head, The Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Eleven productions (theatre, opera, dance);

6 graduate assistants, additional over-hire artists. Annual budget: \$20,000.

- 2007, 2009 Lead Scenic Artist, The Santa Fe Opera
Santa Fe, NM
Four productions per season (two world premieres)
- 2006-2007 Charge Scenic Artist, The Clarence Brown Theatre
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Five productions; four graduate student assistants
- 2004-2006 Charge Scenic Artist, The Utah Shakespeare Festival
Cedar City, UT
Three productions per season; crew of four scenic artists.
Season budget: \$6000

Scenic Design

- 2023 *Chess*, Michigan Tech University Theatre, Houghton, MI
Director: Trish Helsel
- 2011 *A Hamlet*, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Director: Carol MacVey
- 2007 *My Name is Rachel Corrie*, Synchronicity Performance Group, Atlanta, GA
Director: Rachel May
- 2006 *Voices Underwater*, Synchronicity Performance Group, Atlanta, GA
Director: Rachel May
- 2006 *The World's Wife*, Live Arts, Charlottesville, VA
Director: Fran Smith
- 2005 *28: A Traveling Menstrual Show* (multiple community locations), Blacksburg, VA
Director: Ashley Sparks
- 2004 *Human Rites*, Virginia Tech Squires Studio Theatre, Blacksburg, VA
Director: Emsa Lakovic

Publications as Author

Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa. *Interstitial Spaces: Social Collage and the Zimbabwe Cultural Center of Detroit*. Iowa Journal for Cultural Studies, University of Iowa Press. 2017.

Johnson, Lisa. "Un Humorista Acido (An Acid Humorist)." Introduction. *Breves de Gordillo*, by Hugo Gordillo, Tinta y Papel, Guatemala City, Guatemala, pp. 5-7, 2013.

Lectures, Presentations, Workshops

Frew, Terri Jo, Heiden, Lindsey, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, Kilpela, Susanna, "Made When It Was Now," December 5, 2021. U.J. Noblet Forestry Building, Michigan Technological University. Houghton, MI. Lecture (forthcoming).

Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa, "Art + "non" Art: Collaboration Across Disciplines" Guest Lecture: Washington University St. Louis, October 3, 2021. (Online). Graduate seminar.

Gordillo, Hugo, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, "*iFiesta!* Community Gathering." February 15, 2020. Rozsa Center, Michigan Technological University. Houghton, MI. Community Event.

Alegre, Leyre, Gordillo, Hugo, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, "*iFiesta!* Translation Workshop." January, 2020. Michigan Technological University. Houghton, MI. Workshop.

Gordillo, Hugo, Helsel, Trish, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, "*iFiesta!* Community Puppet-making Workshop." Summer, 2019. Copper Country Community Arts Center. Hancock, MI. Workshop.

Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa, "The Eva Luna Project: Making Visible Alternative Community Connections." Guest Artist: The University of Tennessee, April 2019. Chattanooga, TN. Lecture.

Johnson de Gordillo, L. "*The Eva Luna Project: Arts, Community Engagement, and the School-to-Prison Pipeline.*" Cognitive and Learning Sciences, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015. Michigan Technological University. Houghton, MI. Lecture/workshop

Johnson de Gordillo, L. "Art in the Field: On Arts and Michigan Tech." General Sciences and Arts, 2018, 2017, 2016. Michigan Technological University. Houghton, MI. Lecture.

Baulos, Doug, Chan, Ying Kit, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, MacAvery Kane, Eileen. "Considering Sustainability." Foundations of Art Theory and Education Conference, April 6, 2017, Kansas City, MO. Conference Presentation.

Breitbach, Amanda, **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**, Webster, Frank, and Winkler, Josh. "Arts and Conservation: Artists Critiques of Socio-Ecological Relationships." International Symposium for Society and Resource Management, June 24, 2016, Houghton, MI. Conference Presentation.

Bergman, B, Fiss, Andrew, Fiss, Laura, **Johnson, Lisa**, Lark, Amy. "A World Without Ice. Open Forum: Exploring Interdisciplinary Connections at Michigan Tech." Michigan Technological University, September 27, 2015. Houghton, MI. Panel Organizer.

Johnson de Gordillo, L. "Sculpture, Scenic Design, and Scenic Art," Theatre Appreciation, 2016-19. Michigan Technological University. Lecture.

Johnson de Gordillo, L. "Art in the Field: Arts, Sciences, and Ecology." Biology Lecture Series, 2015. Michigan Technological University. Lecture.

Roth, Amber and **Johnson de Gordillo, Lisa**. "Conservation Art: Art-Science Collaboration with Conservation Solutions," Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, January 25, 2016, Grand Rapids, MI. Conference Presentation.

Johnson, L. et al. "Pechu Kucha," Prague Quadrennial of Performance, Design, and Space, June 2011, Veletrzni Palace, The National Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic. Conference Presentation.

Creative Administration

2015 – 2022

Gallery Director, The Rozsa Galleries

Three gallery spaces (two professional & one student); 7-9 exhibits yearly

Three part-time student gallery assistants

Annual budget: \$10,000

Funding

- 2022 Keweenaw Community Foundation, Community Impact Fund, "Keweenaw Nature Megaphone." \$2500.
- 2022 Michigan Arts and Cultural Council, "Mini-grant program." Professional Development Grant to attend FATE: Foundations in Art Theory & Education 2023 Conference. \$1500.
- 2021 Michigan Tech Research Excellence Award (Scholarship & Creativity Grant), "Artist Residency at the Siena Art Institute, Siena Italy" \$8431 (\$4431 Grant + \$4000 College Cost-Share)
- 2020 Michigan Tech Visiting Professor/Scholar Series, King-Chavez-Parks Foundation. Artist: Meghan Kirkwood \$1500.
- 2018 Michigan Tech Research Excellence Award (Scholarship & Creativity Grant), "Contemporary Art Installation in Pre-Hispanic Architectural Sites of Guatemala" \$5433 (\$3433 Grant + \$2000 College Cost-Share)
- 2018 Michigan Tech Visiting Professor/Scholar Series, King-Chavez-Parks Foundation. Artists: Dylan Miner (Wiisaakodewinini, Métis, Michigan) and Amanda Breitbart (Texas). \$1500.
- 2017 Michigan Tech Visiting Women and Minority Lecture Series, King-Chavez-Parks Foundation. Artists: Raquel Alvizures (Guatemala), Ross Cheney (Cherokee Nation, Osage Nation, New Mexico) \$1500.
- 2017 National Science Foundation, "Pilot and Feasibility: A Transdisciplinary Framework for Advancing Informal STEM Learning in Underserved Rural Communities: Designing Solutions for Bird-Window Collisions." In collaboration with: Dr. Stephen Kampe (Materials Science), Dr. Amy Lark (Cognitive and Learning Sciences), Christopher Kischke (Electrical Engineering), Dr. David Flaspohler (School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences) \$300,000. Unfunded.
- 2016 Michigan Tech Visiting Women and Minority Lecture Series, King-Chavez-Parks Foundation. Artist: R. Kauff (Iowa) \$625.

Service

Departmental Service

Co-leader, International Arts Immersion Student Study Abroad (2022-23)
Chair, Visual & Performing Arts Faculty Development Committee (2021-)
(Mentoring, promotion, and tenure)
Division Director, Visual Arts (2021-)
Member, Visual & Performing Arts Curriculum Committee (2021-)
Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee (2021-)
Member, Visual & Performing Arts Faculty Development Committee (2020)
Member, Visual Arts Curriculum/Program Committee (2014-2021)
Member, Safety Committee (2018-2021)
Member, Theatre Arts Curriculum/Program Committee (2016-2020)
Member, Program Review Committee (2018-2019)
Member, Grievance Committee (2017-2018)
Member, Publicity Committee (2015-2016)
Program Organizer, Thursday Night Studios (student studio events) (2014-2015)

Departmental Search Committees

Chair, Art Lecturer Search Committee (2021)
Member, Scene Shop Supervisor Search Committee (2020)
Member, Scene Shop Supervisor Search Committee (2017)
Member, Department Chair Search Committee (2016)
Member, Rozsa Director Survey Committee (2016)
Member, Director of Bands Search Committee (2015)

University Service

Member, Dean of Sciences and Arts Review Committee (2021)
Member, Faculty Study Abroad Co-Op (2019-present)
Alternate Senator, Michigan Tech University Senate (2016-2019)
Member, Curricular Policy Committee (2016-2019)
Internal Advisory Board, Pavlis Honors College (2018)
General Education, Critical & Creative Thinking Assessment Committee (2015-2018)

Community Service

Graphic Artist, The Canterbury House, Houghton MI (2021-present)
Board of Directors, The Canterbury House, Houghton MI (2018-2021)