

Curriculum Vitae (abridged)

Fern Helfand

Associate Professor, Creative Studies
 Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies
 University of British Columbia Okanagan
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Education

Post Diploma, Computer Graphics, Sheridan College, Oakville, Ontario
 Master of Fine Arts, The University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
 Post Baccalaureate Studies, York University, Toronto, Ontario,
 Honours B.A. in Studio Art, York University, Toronto, Ontario

Academic Positions

1998 – current, Associate Professor, Creative Studies, University of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna, BC (1998 – 2005 Okanagan University College)
 1997 Sessional Lecturer, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario
 1994-95 Sessional Lecturer, Ontario College of Art, Toronto, Ontario
 1989 - 93 Visiting Professor, *Bali Seni Lukas* (Art Centre) *Universiti Sains Malaysia*, Penang, Malaysia
 1982-89 Assistant Professor, Visual Arts, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
 1981-82 Sessional Lecturer, York University, Toronto, Ontario

 1990 *Balai Seni Lukis Negara*, (National Gallery of Malaysia), First prize, National Juried Photography Exhibition, *Wajah- Wajah* Malaysia (Malaysian Faces).

Residency

September – December 2008 Art Channel, Beijing, China,

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2018 *Logs*, Kelowna Art Gallery Satellite Space, Kelowna International Airport
 2016 *What does it mean to be the problem?* with invited respondents, Samuel Roy-Bois & Tannis Nielsen, Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, Kelowna, BC
 2012 *Subtle Slurs*, Headbones Gallery, (2 person exhibition) Vernon BC (catalogue)
 2011 *About looking*, Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, BC (catalogue)

 2007 *Piazza San Marco A Photo-installation*, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
 2006 *From Forested Hills to Paved Plateaus*, One-person exhibition within *Kaunas Photo Days 06, Annual Festival of Photography*, Kaunas, Lithuania (catalogue)
From Forested Hills to Paved Plateaus, International Visual Sociology Association Annual Conference, University of Urbino, Urbino, Italy

- 2003 *Valley The Photo Passage*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Ontario
- 1999 *Fabricated Communities*, McIntosh Gallery, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, (Catalogue)
Millennium Lament, Michael Gibson Gallery, London, Ontario,
- 1995 - 2000 *Another Time, Another Place* (Photographs from Malaysia and Nepal)
Curated by James Patton, The London Regional Art & Historical Museums, London Ontario. (catalogue) Also exhibited at Toronto Premier Dance Theatre, Harbourfront Toronto, Toronto Image Works, Toronto, Kelowna Public Library, Kelowna, BC
- 1992 *Sightings*, Presented and funded by *L'Alliance Français de Penang*, Penang, Malaysia
- 1989 *Photographic Drawings*, *Luar Pusat Galeri*, Penang, Malaysia,
Tourists at Niagara Falls, The Photography Gallery, Harbourfront, Toronto, Ontario
Photo-drawings, Lake Tamiskaming Art Gallery, Haileybury, Ontario sponsored by The Art Gallery of Ontario's *Artists With Their Work* extension program
- 1988 *Photo-Drawings*, Niagara Artists Centre (NAC), St. Catharines, Ontario
The Great Wall, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1986 *Reconstructions*, The Photography Gallery, Harbourfront, Toronto, Ontario
Photo-drawings, The Justina Burnicke Gallery Hart House, University of Toronto, Ontario
- 1985 *Recent Work*, Forest City gallery, London, Ontario

Collaborative Projects

- 2004 *The Meaning of Home and the Okanagan Fires, 2003*, Kelowna Museum,
Photography, digital imaging, research and exhibition installation: Fern Helfand
Audio and text: research director Dr. Mary Ann Murphy, Sociology Dept. Okanagan University College, (OUC) Research: Dr Penny Cash, Nursing Dept. OUC and Scientific contribution: Dr. David Scott, Earth Sciences, OUC, Funded by Fortis BC
- 2003 *Interface*, Exhibition and artist's book-work, Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC
Photography, digital imaging and book design by Fern Helfand, consultation and text by Portia Priegert, *Interface* image on cover and text published in *dANDelion Magazine* issue 30.1 **Disaster!** University of Calgary, 2004
- 1992 *The Music of Sound, Laras Bunyi* worked with Dr. Tan Sooi Beng to create the visuals for an experimental music production performed at the British Council Hall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, March 1992

Group Exhibitions (Selected)

- 2018 *Handpicked Okanagan*, Headbones Gallery (catalogue)
- 2014 *Salonus Papyrus*, Headbones Gallery, Vernon BC
- 2013 *Okanagan Artists in Their Studios*, Penticton Art Gallery, curated by Patricia

- Ainslie, Penticton, BC
Imaging Disaster London Museum, London, Ontario curated by Cassandra Getty and Adam Lauder, (Catalogue)
OK Thaumaturgy, Headbones Gallery, (Catalogue)
- 2012 *The Embassy Cultural House 1983 to 1990*, London Museum, London, Ontario curated by Robert McKaskell, (catalogue)
- 2011 *Works from the Interior* AHVA Gallery, UBC Vancouver, BC
Insight: Artists as Educators, Penticton Art Gallery, Penticton, BC
Opening borders/Opening Objects University of Western Ontario on-line exhibition
- 2008 *Boundaries*, UBCO Faculty Exhibition, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC (catalogue)
- 2006-7 *Hybrids: Biennial Small City Art Museums Exhibition of Contemporary Art*, juried exhibition, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, BC. Art Gallery of Swift Current, Saskatchewan, The Little Gallery, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Estevan Art Gallery and Museum, Saskatchewan, Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery, Saskatchewan, Esplanade Art Gallery, Medicine Hat, Alberta,
Hourglass, Creative Studies Faculty Exchange, University of Willongong, New South Wales, Australia
- 2005 *Oasis*. Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
- 2004 *Panoramic Vision, Making sense of new landscapes*, Kelowna Museum, Kelowna
Looking Back: Reflections of the Okanagan Mountain Park Fire, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
Faculty Exchange Exhibition, University of Washington, Bellingham, Washington
- 2001 *Artropolis*, Celebrating Contemporary BC Visual Art, juried exhibition, CBC Broadcast Centre Studios, Vancouver BC
- 2000 *Valley 2000, A photographic record of life in the Okanagan During the Year 2000*, Government of Canada's Millennium Partnership Grant, Project Coordinator and participant, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna B.C.
The Sun Never Sets, Burnaby Art Gallery, Vancouver, B.C
Niagara! curated by Robert McKaskell, Windsor Art Gallery, Windsor, Ontario
- 1998 *Fine Arts Faculty Exhibition* Okanagan University College, Kelowna, B.C.
Visual Arts Faculty Show, The University of Windsor, Ontario
Sisters and White Bread, Definitely Superior Gallery, Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 1997 *Sketching Social Hope for Women*, Breccia College, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
Sisters and White Bread, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario
Drawing Portfolio, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario

- 1995 *Between Cultures Art Dialogue*, Cross Cultural Arts Committee (of London), London
New Arts Festival Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1992 *Bengawan Solo Sekali Sekala*, (curator and participant) *Balai Seni*,(art gallery)
Maybank Building, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and *Universiti Kebangsaan* Malaysia,
Bangi, Malaysia, (catalogue)
Wanita dan Kreativiti, (Women and Creativity) National Art Gallery of Malaysia,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1991 *Penang Women Artists*, Penang State Art Gallery and Museum, Penang, Malaysia
Framing War, Penang State Art Gallery and Museum, Penang, Malaysia
One World, No War, Kuala Lumpur City Hall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Arts And The Social Context, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Framing War, Creative Centre, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1990 *International Invitational Exhibition 1990*, State Museum and Art Gallery,
Penang, Malaysia (Catalogue)
Wajah-Wajah Malaysia, (Malaysian Faces), *Balai Seni Lukis* Negara, (National
Gallery of Malaysia), National juried exhibition, *Muzium Sultan Shah Alam* Malaysia
- 1988 *London/Havana Exchange*, curated by Jamelie Hassan, Casa de las Americas Havana,
Cuba, (Catalogue)
Documentary Styles, Seven Contemporary Canadian Photographers, Burlington
Cultural Centre Gallery, Burlington, Ontario
The Artist as Traveler, 3 person show, The Art Gallery of Peterborough, Peterborough,
Ontario, through the Art Gallery of Ontario's Artists with their work program
5th Anniversary Exhibition, The Embassy Cultural House, London, Ontario
Victoria Hospital New Acquisitions Exhibition, The London Regional Art Gallery,
London, Ontario
Visual Arts Faculty Exhibition, McIntosh Gallery, University of Western Ontario,
London, Ontario
- 1987 *Homage to Duchamp*, Curated by Dr, Robert McKaskell, London Regional Art
Gallery, London, Ontario
Encounters and Enquiries, Curated by Marnie Fleming, London Regional Art
Gallery
- 1986 *London Women Artists*, The Office of the Premier of Ontario, (David Peterson)
Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario
- 1985 *Photoperspectives '85*, National Juried Exhibition, Image Selected for the cover of
the catalogue, Presentation House, Vancouver, British Columbia
Extending a Hand, Embassy Cultural House, London, Ontario
Works of Art and Scholarship, (catalogue) McIntosh Gallery, University of
Western Ontario, London, Ontario
Contemporary Canadian Textiles curated by the Ontario Crafts Council,
internationally traveling exhibition, France, England and Canada

Old Fields, New Paths Juried exhibition by the Department of External Affairs, Internationally travelling exhibition, Japan, New Zealand, Anima Gallery, Adelaide, Australia, 1985

Grants and Awards (selected)

- 2007 Internal Research Grant, UBC Okanagan,
Hampton Travel Grant, UBC Vancouver
- 2006 Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies Faculty Grant
- 2005 Okanagan University College, Grant in Aid
- 2004 *Fortis BC Award* to conduct multi-disciplinary research and create museum exhibition
Principle Director Dr. Mary Ann Murphy, *The Meaning of Home and the Okanagan Fires, 2003 \$25,000*
- 2000 The Government of Canada's Millennium Bureau's Partnership Program Grant, *Valley 2000, A Photographic Record of Life in the Okanagan*. **Principle director** of project in partnership with Okanagan University College, Kelowna Art Gallery, and the Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC. Consisted of 3 exhibitions, catalogue of project with commissioned creative writing, an extensive web site hosted by The Royal BC Museum and photographic collection permanently housed in the Kelowna City Archive. **\$43,000** and matching funds (in kind from UBC, Kelowna Art Gallery and the Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art for a total budget of **\$86,000**)
- 2004 2002, Okanagan University College Professional Development Grants **\$1000** each
- 1999 Canada Council Travel Grant, (Travel to Toronto for solo exhibition)
- 1998 +7 Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grants in Visual Arts

Curating (Selected)

- 2001** *Valley 2000, A Photographic Record of Life in the Okanagan*, Curated exhibitions at the Kelowna Art Gallery and the Alternator Gallery, Part of The Government of Canada's Millennium Bureau's Partnership Program Grant, see Award listing on Pg 2 of this CV
- 1996** *Heritage, Language and Symbol, Daniel Lui, Abdul Hadi Shala and Boyd Harris*, The Cross Cultural Arts Dialogue Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1994** *Furniture by Artists*, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario
- 1992** *Bengawan Solo, Sekali Sekal*, sponsored by Pusat Seni (Art Center of *Universiti Sains Malaysia*) artists from Penang, Malaysia. Organized, curated and participated in exhibition, which was exhibited at the Menara Maybank Gallery, Kula Lumpur and at *Universiti Kebungsaan*, Malaysia.
- 1988** *Beyond the Document*, a major Ontario wide juried exhibition of nontraditional photography, Sheila Ayearst, April Hiscock, Vid Inglevic, Micah Lexier, Peter Sramek, Patrick Traer, Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario, 1988

Publications (selected)

- 2018** *A Visual Essay to Aid Emergency Responders and ESS Workers in Understanding Victims' Perspectives on the Meaning of Home* by Dr Mary Ann Murphy, Fern Helfand, Dr Penny Cash, and Dr David Scott Image also chosen for the cover of HazNet Vol.1 No 2 Fall 2018 p12- 17
- 2017** *Families for Children A trip to India and an Experience of Caring and Creativity, Sage-ing* The Journal of Creative Aging, Number 23, Spring 2017 pg 5 – 9
- 2012** *About Looking*, illustrated essay, The Goose, Association for Literature, Environment and Culture in Canada , Volume 10, Web publication, Winter 2012, pg 1 – 11
- 2011** *About Looking*, Exhibition catalogue with essays by Lubos Culen, Rachel Poliquin, Fern Helfand, Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon BC, 2011
- From Forested Hills to Paved Plateaus* BC Studies The British Columbian Quarterly, #169, Spring 2011, pg 9-20
- 2009** *A Drive Down Memory Lane*, The Leader, Alumni Magazine of Univerisiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia, article & photographs, Vol 4, No 4, Dec 2009. pg 38-41
- 2004** *Interface , Disaster! dANDelion Magazine* University of Calgary Issue 30.1, 2004, cover image and p 81-82
- 2001** *Valley 2000*, A Photographic Record of Life in the Okanagan, Introduction by Fern Helfand with essays by Jannette Armstrong, Robert McKenzie and Duane Thomson. published by the Kelowna Art Gallery under the Government of Canada's Millennium Fund. 2001 Essay pg 5-6, reproduction of artwork pg 18 -19 (See Awards Pg 1 of CV)
- 1981** *Camera Canada*, Featured Photographer, National Association for Photographic Art Toronto, Ontario pg 16 -27, 34

Bibliography (selected)

A Driving Force, Women of the London, Ontario, Visual Arts Community 1867-2017 Website created by the McIntosh Gallery, Western University, London, Ontario

<https://mcintoshdrivingforce.ca/biography/fern-helfand/> **2018**

Oaks, Julie *Fire and Brimstone* Vie des Arts [n° 248](#), automne 2017

Mowatt, Gail, Fern Helfand, One hour interview on [The Muse CKVS 93.7 FM](#), stored on the Cloud at <https://soundcloud.com/the-muse-ckvs-93-7-fm/sc-the-muse-helfand-fullshow> 2014

Ainsley, Patricia, *Okanagan Artists in Their Studios*, Frontenac House, Calgary, 2013, pgs 186-199

Hyndman, Donald, *Natural Hazards and Disasters*, Nelson Education, Toronto, Ontario, 2009, pg 377

Turnball, Glenna, *Crowd Control* Cover Image for Pulse Section of Capitol News, Kelowna, April 4, 2007 story pg C3

Priegert, Portia, Review of *Piazza San Marco* exhibition, Event Magazine, April 4 2007

OKBC TV interview on “Piazza San Marco” exhibition, Kelowna Art Gallery
<http://www.fern Helfand.okbc.tv/main.html> March 2007

CBC Radio 1, 88.9 fm, Kelowna, Interview on my exhibition at the Kelowna Art Gallery Friday March 16th

CBC Artspots A series of three, thirty second videos on me and my work made by Drewery, Dale for broadcast on the CBC, 2001. Ran for a number of years on CBC TV stations across Canada

Belton, Robert, *Sites of Resistance, Approaches to Canadian Visual Culture*, University of Calgary Press, 2001, pgs 306-7

Elliot-Shaw, Catherine, *Fabricated Communities, Jon Baturin and Fern Helfand* McIntosh Gallery, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, 2000

Coulson, Sandra, *Artist Challenges Disney Reality*, London Free Press, Ontario, Jan. 7, 1999

Flanigan, Avril, *Sisters and White Bread* (exhibition catalogue) Forest City Gallery, London, Ontario, 1998 pg 3, 9

Joy, Stephen, *View Finder* Video profile,(part of a series on London Artists) directed by Stephen Joy, produced by Rogers Cable, London Ontario, May 1996

North American Women Artists of the 20th Century, Editors Hiller & Hiller, Listing Essay by Dr. Robert Belton, Garland Press, New York, 1995

One O’Clock Live, Beyond the Document interview, produced by CFPL TV , 1995

Geh, Lida, *Off-beat works by USM lecturers*, The Star, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Aug.28, 1992

Chuen, Ooi Kok, *Showcase of USM Creativity*, New Straits Times (National Malaysian English Newspaper) Aug 25, 1992

Hall, Gary (Introduction) Public Exposures, *One Decade of Contemporary Canadian Photography*, Toronto Photographers Workshop, Toronto, Ont. 1990, Pg 6, 40,43.

Gilchrist, Rodney, *The Transcendental Tourist*, Photo Life, Camar Publications, Markham Ont. Vol 14, No 6, July 1989, pg 18 – 21

Dewdney, Christopher, *casa de las Americas*, Translated into Spanish by Marie Arismendi funding Canadian Sept of External Affairs, Design, Jamelie Hassan, 1988, pg 10 -12, 22-23.

Academic Presentations (Selected)

- 2008 *Urban Imagery, From Forested hills to Paved Plateaus*, Pacific Sociology Association Annual meeting, Portland Oregon
- 2007 *Venice: Photography, Tourism and the Fabricated Experience (Gazing, Glancing, Glimpsing: Tourists in a Visual; World,)* 6th International Symposium on Aspects of Tourism, University of Brighton, Eastbourne, UK
Photography, Tourism and the Fabricated Experience Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC, March, 2007
- 2006 *From Forested Hills to Paved Plateaus (The City Exhibited: between theory, Methodology and Art)* International Visual Sociology Association Annual Conference, University of Urbino, Urbino, Italy
The Meaning of Home and the Okanagan Fires 2003 (Using Innovative Visual Methods: New Approaches for Research) Collaborative project with Mary Ann Murphy Department of Social Work, International Visual Sociology Association Annual Conference, University of Urbino, Urbino, Italy
- 2005 *Firestorms: The Museum as a Community Healing Space in the Face of Disaster: The Meaning of Home and the Okanagan Fires: 2003* Collaborative presentation with Dr.Mary Ann Murphy, Western Museums Association Conference, Pasadena, Cal
Conflict between Aesthetics and Content in the work of Edward Burtynsky; A Return to the Sublime in Photography Vernon Art Gallery, Vernon BC
- 2000 *Fabricating Communities*, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 1996 *Deciphering Postmodernism*. London Regional Art and Historical Museums. London, Ontario
- 1992 *Photography as Art, Non traditional Approaches*, National Gallery of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1991 *Aesthetics in Photography*, Artville, Penang, Malaysia
A Brief History of Photography, Equator Academy of Art, Penang, Malaysia
- 1990 *America Appropriates the World; The EPCOT Center, Disney World*, The Third Annual Conference of the International Association of Art for the Future, Toyabunga Art Centre, Bali, Indonesia