



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

- **BA (Hons) Fine Art**
University of Lincoln
2008 - 1st Class Honours

EXPERTISE

- Artistic Direction
- Strategic Oversight/Governance
- Curating: Visual Art
- Curating: Performance Art
- Critical Research & Writing
- Exhibition Design & Installation
- Grant Writing
- Financial Oversight & Fundraising
- Project & Programme Management
- Budget Creation & Management

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Extensive knowledge of contemporary art
- Specialist knowledge of time-based art
- Far reaching professional networks
- Excellent organisation skills
- Database creation & management
- Open and clear communication
- Confident public speaker
- Accurate copy writing & editing
- Natural collaborator
- Partner development and management
- Line management
- Artist liaisons
- Graphic design and online content creation
- Exceptional time management
- Loan negotiation and administration

C.V: BENJAMIN SEBASTIAN

CURATOR & COMPANY DIRECTOR

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Independent Artist-Curator, Chief Curator & Co-founding Director of [\]performance space\[](#) and Curator & Co-founding Co-director of [VSSL Studio](#) with 12+ yrs directing & curating experience; specialising in contemporary time-based media - foregrounding performance, live & installation art from LGBTQIA* artists.

EXPERIENCE

CURATOR & CO-FOUNDING CO-DIRECTOR

VSSL Studio (2020-Now)

Responsible for strategic oversight of the organisation & development, planning and delivery of VSSL's annual programmes (exhibitions, performances, screenings et al). Including grant writing/fundraising, partner development, artist liaisons, audience development & engagement (talks, workshops, seminars etc), copywriting, works-on-loan management, financial management, governance & company spokesperson duties.

Exhibitions & Programmes

- 2022 - [Hollie Miller & Craig Scott](#)
- 2021 - [Working with Entities // Setting Intent](#)
- 2021 - [WARNING! The final boss is coming!!](#)
- 2021 - [Joseph Morgan Schofield: These Teeming Forms](#)
- 2021 - [Alicia Radage: QUAKE](#)
- 2020/21 - [Gathering a Time of Plague](#)

CHIEF CURATOR& CO-FOUNDING DIRECTOR

]performance space [(2012-Now)

Responsible for strategic oversight of the organisation & development, planning & delivery of]ps[annual programmes (exhibitions, performances, screenings, talks & workshops). Including: grant writing/fundraising, partner development, artist liaisons, audience development & engagement (talks, workshops, seminars etc), copywriting, works-on-loan management, financial management, governance & company spokesperson duties.

Exhibitions & Programmes

- 2023 - [INTERSECT \(Jamilia Johnson-Small + Daniella Valz Gen\)](#)
- 2023 - [INTERSECT \(Kelvin Atmadibrata & selina bonelli\)](#)
- 2022 - [Rocio Boliver: Decrypting Performance Art](#)
- 2022 - [Tiding](#)
- 2021 - [PSX: A Decade of Performance Art in the UK](#)
- 2019 - [Salvage](#)
- 2018/19 - [Pause & Affect](#)
- 2017 - [Wake](#)
- 2016 - [Drawn](#)
- 2014/15 - [Performance Art Faction](#)
- 2013 - [Performance Economies](#)

CURATOR

Independent (2012-Now)

Independent artist-curator developing, planning and delivering independent exhibition programmes (exhibitions, performances, screenings, talks & workshops). Including grant writing, fundraising, partner development, artist liaisons, audience development & engagement (talks, workshops & seminars), copywriting, works-on-loan management, financial management.

Exhibitions & Programmes

- 2023 - [Luca Bosani - C0041: Time's Up](#)
- 2019 - [New Queers on the Block Lecture Series & workshops](#)
- 2018 - [New Queers on the Block Lecture Series & workshops](#)
- 2018 - [Visible Pride](#)
- 2017 - [Becoming Constellation](#)
- 2012 - [Aliens in New York](#)



APPOINTMENTS

- **Live Art UK**

Member (2013-Now)

- **Royal Society of the Arts**

Fellow (2018-Now)

TEACHING

- **Royal Central School of Speech & Drama**

Module Leader - Curating Performance
BA Performance Arts

2017 (12 weeks)

- **Royal Central School of Speech & Drama**

Module Leader - Curating Performance
BA Performance Arts

2016 (12 weeks)

LANGUAGES

- English - Fluent
- Japanese - Basic
- Spanish - Basic

AWARDS / GRANTS

VSSL STUDIO Affiliated

- 2020 - Arts Council England (ACE) - £15,000

]PERFORMANCE S P A C E [Affiliated

- 2022 - Kent County Council (KCC) / Creative Folkestone (CF) / Roger De Haan Charitable Trust (RDHCT) / Kent Wild Life Trust - £13,000
- 2021 - ACE - £67,800
- 2020 - ACE - £33,800
- 2019 - ACE / KCC / CF / RDHCT / Live Art UK (LAUK) - £17,500
- 2018 - ACE / KCC / CF / RDHCT / LAUK - £59,100
- 2017 - ACE / KCC / CF / RDHCT / LAUK - £98,400
- 2016 - ACE / KCC / CF / RDHCT - £21,900
- 2015 - ACE - £15,000
- 2014 - ACE / The Legacy List (TLL) - £74,600
- 2013 - ACE / TLL - £33,000

INDENPENDANT

- 2020 - ACE - £15,000
- 2018 - CF / RDHCT - £5,000
- 2016 - ACE - £15,000
- 2015 - The Arts Foundation - £1,000
- 2013 - ARTQUEST Work Week Prize - Shortlisted
- 2012 - ACE / British Council - £5,000

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

- 2023 - Working With Entities/Setting Intent - Published: VSSL Studio
- 2023 - PSX - Published:]performance s p a c e [
- 2023 - PAUSE & AFFECT - Published:]performance s p a c e [
- 2023 - Salvage - Published:]performance s p a c e [

Previous

- 2020 - Impossible Performances - Published: Helen Davison
- 2019 - Lines Cut Through Us All - Published: Centre for Live Art Yorkshire
- 2019 - (re)collecting.(f)ears - Published:]performance s p a c e [
- 2018 - (States of) Wake - Published:]performance s p a c e [
- 2018 - FUTURE RITUAL - Published: Future Ritual
- 2015 - Performance Art Faction - Published:]performance s p a c e [

TALKS

- 2023 - LGBTQ Contemporary Art: Then & Now - London City Hall
- 2022 - Art, Memory & Place - Turner Contemporary
- 2021 - Curating Living Archives - University of Dundee
- 2021 - PSX: A Decade of Performance Art in the U.K. Podcast
- 2019 - Visiting Lecturer (BA Fine Art) - School of Art Institute Chicago
- 2015 - Visiting Lecturer (BA Fine Art) - Chelsea School of Art
- 2014 - Visiting Lecturer (BA DRAMA) - Queen Mary University
- 2014 - Artist Run Spaces & Performance Art - Live Art Development Agency
- 2012 - Performance Matters: Trashing Performance - ArtsAdmin