

AMBEREEN SIDDIQUI

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EDUCATION

- 2011 Master of Fine Arts in Photography (with Honours)
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 2007 Bachelor of Education, Junior/ Intermediate Division (Arts integration)
York University, Toronto, Ontario.
- 2005 Honours Bachelor of Arts, Art and Art History (Specialist)/ Math (Minor)
University of Toronto, Mississauga, Ontario.
- 2005 Ontario College Advanced Diploma, Art and Art History
Sheridan College, Oakville, Ontario.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - **Grant Writer**
Present Karachi Biennale Trust, Karachi.
Liaising with granting bodies for the Karachi Biennale Trust, as well as writing and editing grants for their education, discursive and public programming.

- 2017- **Visiting Professor**
present Masters of Visual Arts Department, National College of Art, Lahore.
Revamped the curriculum for 'Research Methodology', a course that spans three semesters, with a focus on students adhering to the requirements of an academic written thesis, while drawing connections within their research to their studio practice. The course focuses on finding authentic sources, correct citations, ethical data gathering.

- 2019 - **Visiting Professor**
2020 Fine Art Department, Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore.
Taught final year undergraduate students 'Research Methodology' and 'Report Writing' to introduce them to basic data collection tools, the APA style guide and ways to use library and online resources to help them formulate reasons and evidence for their practice based research.

- 2015 - **Independent Curator**
2016 Robert Mc Laughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario.
Applied for and received funding from the Ontario Arts Council to curate 'Beyond Measure: Domesticating Distance'.
Curated works by Tazeen Qayyum, Syed Abdullah, Asma Sultana, Surendra Lowati and Meera Margaret and contributed the curatorial essay for the exhibition catalogue. The curatorial essay won the **OAG (Ontario Association of Arts Galleries) Award for Short Text** in 2016.

- 2011- **Executive Director**
2012 SAVAC (South Asian Visual Arts Center), Toronto, Ontario.
Conceived and developed ideas for collaborative exhibition, education and outreach programs.
Managed the annual operational and programming budgets and maintaining fiscal accountability.
Applied for municipal, provincial and national grants for operating and programming funding, as well as raising fund for the organization through private and corporate donations.

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WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2011-
2012 **Instructor of Record**
Photography Department, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island.
Taught *Photography II for Non-Majors* with a focus on advanced and experimental darkroom techniques. Introduced and broadened discourse of both historical and contemporary practices in photography, including alternative processes.
- 2009 **Gallery Coordinator**
–2010 Red Eye Gallery, RISD, Providence, Rhode Island.
Coordinating with faculty and students to curate, hang and de-install exhibitions. Performed administrative duties, including scheduling, managing social media and editing all written material, including artist statements, curatorial statements and extended captions.
- 2008 **Education and Outreach Coordinator**
–2009 SAVAC (South Asian Visual Arts Centre), Toronto, Ontario.
Created and conducted visual arts workshops with South Asian artists in the GTA, while collaborating with artist-run centres and post-secondary schools. Shared administrative and organizational responsibilities, including budgeting, writing press releases, contributing to grant writing.

EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *New Toronto Works*, Pleasure Dome, Toronto.
2012 *Front by Front*. Museum London, London, Ontario.
2011 *Monitor 7: New South Asian Short Film and Video*, Niagara Arts Centre, St. Catherines.
2011 *2011 PRC Student Exhibition*. The Photographic Resource Center, Boston.
2011 *Rubato: Found Time*, Flat Gallery, Providence.
2011 *SPE National Conference*, Sheraton Hotel, Atlanta.
2011 *Monitor 7: New South Asian Short Film and Video*. Innis Town Hall, Toronto.
2010 *Blue and White and Red All Over*. Flat Gallery, Providence.
2010 *Five by Seven: Photography Biennial*. Sol Koffler Gallery, Providence
2009 *Cut and Paste*, Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography, Toronto.
2009 *Digital.Event.09*, Hotshot Gallery, Toronto.
2008 *Regeneration: SAVAC's Juried Members Exhibition*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto.
2007 *Big Stories, Little India*. SAVAC at Gerrard Street, Toronto
2005 *Art and Art History Graduating Student Exhibition*. Blackwood Gallery, Mississauga.
2005 *Annual Juried Show*, Justina Barnicke Gallery, Toronto.

FUNDRAISERS

- 2013 *Board Member Initiative*, Fuse Magazine, Toronto.
2012 *Silver: 9th Annual Art Auction*, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga
2012 *15th Annual Art Auction*, Centre A, Vancouver.
2010 *Whodunit*, Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto
2010 *HeArts for Pakistan* (flood relief), Gladstone Hotel, Toronto

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AWARDS

- 2016 Curatorial Art Writing: Short Text, OAAG (Ontario Association of Art Galleries).
- 2014 Chalmers Arts Fellowship, Ontario Arts Council.
- 2013 Cultural Equity Grant, SAW Video.
- 2012 Emerging Media Arts Grant, Ontario Arts Council.
- 2011 Graduate Student Award, Society for Photographic Education.
- 2010 Graduate Studies Award, RISD. (Juried by Susan Cross, Curator, MASS MoCA).
- 2005 Oakville Galleries Award, Oakville Galleries and Sheridan College.
- 2005 Excellence in Photography, Sheridan College.
- 2005 Michael and Grace La Patriello Art History Award, Woodsworth College.
- 2004 Mary Bursey Award, Women's Art Association of Canada.
- 2004 Margaret Laidlaw Memorial Scholarship, University of Toronto.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2017 **Advisory Board Member**
- 2019 The Regent Park Film Festival, Toronto, Ontario.
Facilitating the conceptualization and execution of the archiving of and the creation of new works from home video footage that will be preserved and digitized for "Home Made Visible"
- 2012 **Board Member**
- 2014 Fuse Magazine, Toronto, Ontario.
Facilitate operating and fundraising efforts in a period of transition, while ensuring an engagement with social and political contemporary art practice and criticism.
- 2013 **Committee Member**
- 2014 Arts, Culture, Heritage & Recreation Advisory Committee, City of Ottawa, Ontario.
Responsible for providing advice to Ottawa City Council on issues pertaining to policy, programs and services for artists in the community.