

Agnieszka Mlicka



VISUAL FACILITATOR, EDUCATOR AND TEAM BUILDER

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PROFILE

Innovative, motivated and well-organized visual facilitator and teacher of art and creative thinking in relation to personal development and contemporary global issues such as sustainability, climate change and the pandemic. I have a background in fine art and academic research within the field of visual art and architecture. A strong interest in creative pedagogical approaches, and with teacher training in student centred learning methods. Competent in developing and executing teaching materials, aimed at creating an environment in which students can develop their creative and critical thinking skills. Excellent writing skills, with 4 research publications in peer-reviewed journals and a book chapter, as well as experience of social media content writing. An effective communicator, with 11 presentations at international conferences, and an inspiring public speaker having done numerous artist talks. Extensive experience of website design, newsletter design and photo editing, as well as designing various types of visual materials.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder and Visual Facilitator at Visual Agency (more information at visualagency.org)

2016-

Designed and facilitated workshops and courses using the self developed *collaborative visual thinking* method aimed at stimulating curiosity, creativity and collaboration. For the creative courses, I developed relevant learning processes for the specific target group with the aim to initiate a transformative learning process. Among others: workshops on mass tourism, sustainability and the pandemic in collaboration with think.dk (Center for Acceleration of Sustainable Change); workshops on cultural differences and similarities for Kulturhuset Islands Brygge; a two-day workshop for a research team at the University of Copenhagen; visual collaboration workshops for young people (Climate Youth Ambassadors training) and children (UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals) at respectively the NGO Crossing Borders and primary school Endrup Skole; courses for personal development and training of creative thinking; and networking events for the Copenhagen Professional Networking Group at InterNations and a diversity of community groups.

Guest Lecturer & Visiting Tutor in art and architecture departments at the University of Westminster, London, and in Italy at the University of Florence, the New York University in Florence, and the Syracuse University in Florence

2011-2014

- ✓ Designed and delivered workshops for groups of students,
- ✓ provided individual tutorials,
- ✓ engaged students in critical discussions and facilitated group feedback sessions,
- ✓ gave lectures followed by seminars,
- ✓ organised guided field trips with group discussions.

Co-Director of Polish deConstruction, a non-profit organisation for the creative Polish community in London to create a positive image of Poles in the UK (voluntary position)

2008-2010

Responsible for the strategy and running of the organisation in close collaboration with a core team of two co-founders and a group of 13 volunteers. Under my direction and in collaboration with a great team, the organisation achieved a positive image of the Polish community in London through the successful realisation of more than 17 art and culture events which brought together creative practitioners, cultural institutions and the media.

- ✓ Participated in 3 group exhibitions and presented my own work at 2 solo exhibitions.

Senior Gallery Assistant, Gilden's Arts Gallery, London

2008-2010

Specialised in original prints by Modern Masters. Responsible for: sales, shipment of artworks, graphic design of all marketing materials and photography of artworks, website management, assisting in all aspects of auction sales and general administration, and training of new employees. Enhanced the image of the gallery by designing a professional newsletter, redesigning the catalogue, consulting on a new website, and taking the initiative to improve the gallery space. Increased work efficiency by reorganising administration. Worked at the leading London art fairs (e.g. the London Art Fair and Original Print Fair).

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London, UK

2010-2016

Conducted interdisciplinary practice-led research with the thesis: *Visual Agency: Participatory Painting as a Method for Spatial Negotiation*.

Supervisors: Professor Jeremy Till, Bernice Donszelmann

- ✓ Visiting Researcher at the Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (2015-2016).
- ✓ MPhil Candidate at the School of Architecture, University of Westminster, with a research focus on architectural theory and architectural representation (2010-2012).
- ✓ Published three peer reviewed articles and a book chapter.
- ✓ Presented at 11 international conferences.
- ✓ Displayed my artworks at 5 exhibitions, amongst others as Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts (RSA Fellow).
- ✓ Followed online course on Designing Cities by the University of Pennsylvania on Coursera.

Postgraduate Certificate of Special Study in Supporting Learning, University of Westminster, London, UK

October 2011 - March 2012

Awarded with Distinction. Particular focus on student centred learning and reflective practice, and encompassing inclusivity, lesson planning, assessment, evaluation and feedback.

- ✓ Associate Fellow of The Higher Education Academy (May 2012).
- ✓ Two-Day Seminar 'Learning, Teaching and Assessment in Higher Education', University of Westminster, London (October 2010).

MA Painting, Wimbledon College of Art, University of the Arts London, UK.

2006-2007

Awarded with Merit.

Dissertation: *Drawing the City: Motives and Methods*.

Supervisors: Dr Amanda Beech, Geraint Evans.

- ✓ Realised three solo exhibitions and participated in three group exhibitions.

BFA Fine Art, The Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford, UK. Awarded: 2:1

Awarded scholarship in recognition of the excellent standard of work, St Edmund Hall (two consecutive years).

2003-2006

Received Distinction for Preliminary Examination in Fine Art (2004).

Dissertation: *The Psychology of the Interior*.

Supervisors: Dr Marcus Verhagen, Maria Chevaska

- ✓ Presented work at 5 solo exhibitions and exhibited at 14 group shows.
- ✓ Representative for the Visual Arts, Oxford Contemporary Arts Society. Collaborated with a team in the organisation of creative workshops and talks by prominent artists and curators. Co-curated three exhibitions. (2004-2006)
- ✓ Exchange with École Nationale Supérieure D'Arts Paris-Cergy (March 2005).

Foundation Course Fine Art, Atelier, Warsaw, Poland

2002-2003

VWO Gymnasium, St. Bonifatius College, Utrecht, the Netherlands

1996-2002

Secondary school, pre-university education. Profile: Culture and Society.

PUBLICATIONS

Selection, only peer reviewed:

Mlicka, A., 2020. 'Visual agency: participatory painting as a method for spatial negotiation', in 'Visual Research Methods in Architecture', eds. Igea Troiani and Suzanne Ewing. Bristol: Intellect Books. pp. 300-316.

Mlicka, A., 2017. Facilitating Spatial Negotiation: A Pragmatic Approach to Understanding Public Space. The Journal of Public Space, 2 (2), pp. 27-36.

Mlicka, A., 2016. Imagining a 'Relational' Painting. Journal of Contemporary Painting, 2 (2), pp. 322-326.

Mlicka, A., 2014. Painting Architecture: Towards a Practice-Led Research Methodology. Studies in Material Thinking, 10, pp. 1-19.

PERSONAL SKILLS

- ✓ Creative and with great enthusiasm to innovate.
- ✓ Strong facilitation and leadership skills.
- ✓ Good at team and community building, and improving collaboration.
- ✓ Analytical, with an eye for detail as well as the larger perspective
- ✓ Resourceful and with a strong problem-solving attitude.
- ✓ Curious and quick in learning new skills.
- ✓ International and multicultural awareness.

LANGUAGES

- ✓ Danish ●●●○○ (completed module 5)
- ✓ English ●●●●●
- ✓ Polish ●●●●●
- ✓ Dutch ●●●●●
- ✓ Italian ●●○○○

ICT SKILLS

- ✓ Experienced photo editor, website and newsletter designer, using Photoshop, Dreamweaver (CSS and HTML), FTP programmes, MailChimp.
- ✓ Effective user of a diversity of software and online tools to efficiently manage projects: Prezi, Captivate, Zotero, SurveyMonkey, Typeform, Doodle and ScheduleOnce.
- ✓ Experienced in social media content writing, photography and image production.
- ✓ Proficient in all Microsoft Office Applications.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

I have been living in Copenhagen with my husband and daughter since 2015. I have a multicultural background, having lived previously in Italy, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Poland, and an interest in cultural and social issues, as well as the importance of diversity. I read widely on topics such as sustainability, pedagogy, sociology and dystopian literature, which reflects my interest in the potential for human and societal development. I am also very enthusiastic about the circular economy, and in my spare time I do various projects related to the concept of reduce, reuse and repurpose. I believe in the importance of communities, so I am a pro-active community builder and engaged in various local communities. Dancing is my passion and I do it outdoors as a sport, but also to inspire others to use public space in alternative ways and to make dancing a part of everyday life. I have travelled extensively and love to undertake outdoor activities such as hiking, diving, snowboarding and mountain biking.