

Alex Leitch

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Education

2014 OCADu, Toronto - M.Des, Digital Futures. President's Award scholar. 3.8 GPA

2006 Université de Montréal – Explore! French language certification

2006 McMaster University, B.A.hon. in Fine Art | Cultural Studies Critical Theory

Selected Teaching

2019-2020 - University of Maryland College Park

- INST377 - Undergraduate - Dynamic Web Applications
- INST711 - Interaction Design
- INST639c - Practical Skills In HCI - Makerspaces

2019 - OCADu - Compelling Experience Design - Advanced Undergraduate

2019 - OCADu - Atelier 3, Public Digital/Interactive Art - Advanced Undergraduate

2016-2017 - OCADu - Game Design 1 - Freshman

Academic Service

2019-2021 UMD College Park

- College of Information Studies - HCIM program committee
- College of Information Studies - Space Committee
- Makerspace Initiative representative

Workshops & Presentations

2020 NYU ITP Camp - *Casting Small Plastics In Non-Industrial Environments*

2019 NYU ITP Camp - *Compressed Air Effects*

2019 DMG.to - *Freelance Negotiation for Artists and Contractors*

2018 The Hand Eye Society - *Phaser.JS ProcGen Workshop*

2018 NYU ITP Camp - *Servo Part #1: Controlling Servos Through Capacitive Touch*

2017 NYU ITP Camp - *O No Robots: Kinetic Sculpture 101*

2016 NYU ITP Camp - *Glitch as Game Mechanic with Phaser.js*

2016 NYU ITP Camp - *What Is A Scripting Language? ★ Intro to JavaScript ES6 ★*

2016 NYU ITP Camp - *CAD/CAM Software for OSX - Fresh Beginner to Intermediate*

2017 Make Change Conference - *Make A Game In Fifteen Minutes*

2013 Dames Making Games - *Makey Makey with Pearl Chen*

2012 NYU ITP Camp – *Making and Making It Happen*

Awards & Grants

2020 Teaching Innovation Grant - \$12,635 - *Innovation in code education via automated testing*

2019 Toronto Arts in the Park - \$15,000 - *as part of Make Friends Community Collective*

2018 Ontario Place Winterlights Festival - \$7,500 - *with Sagan Yee and Len Predko*

2018 Different Games Ambassador to GDC - \$2,500

2018 OMDC/CMF Grant - \$343, 373 for *Little Robot Friends Land of Logic*

2017 Toronto Arts Council Media Arts Personal Grant, \$5000 - *Hothouse*

2016 Banff School - Full Lougheed Scholarship for Leadership in Creative Ecologies

2014 OCADu Special Award for Entrepreneurship Presentation - \$1000

2012 OCAD-U President's Award – \$17,500 - Graduate school scholarship

2012 Firefly Art Grant - \$250 – *The Rainbow Gun*

2012 Awesome Foundation Grant - \$1000 - *The Rainbow Gun* (Flamin' Rainbows)

2010 Black Rock LLC Art Support Grant to The Heart Machine – team award

Exhibited Artworks

2018-2019 *Aqualith* - Winterlights Festival - Ontario Place, Toronto, ON

2017-2018 *Nebula Space Derby* - Zeenoks Space Bar And Grill, Toronto, ON

2017 *Procedural Autobio Roguelike* - Hand Eye Society, Toronto, ON

2017 *Hothouse* - Come Up To My Room, Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON

2014 *Mechanism* - OCADu GradEx 2014, Toronto, ON

2013 *PsXXYborg* - Sight and Sound Festival, Montreal QC, Interaction Lead

2012 *Psychlepath* - TIFF Nexus, Toronto, ON

2012 *The Rainbow Gun* - Firefly Festival, VT

2011 *Cloud Cover* - BurnTO Decompression, Toronto, ON

2010 *The Heart Machine* - Production Team - Black Rock City, NV

2009 *Don't Touch My Hair* - Rated R Exhibition, Toronto, ON

Selected Leadership Roles

2019 Long Exposure Festival - Leadership Team

2018 Technical Director, Stitch Media, Toronto, Canada

2014-2018 Artifact.Systems - Lead consultant/senior JS developer

2016-2018 Make Friends Creative Community Collaborative, Board Member

2013-2014 Research Assistant game:play Lab, OCADu

2012-2014 Dames Making Games, Co-Founding Board Member

2010-2014 Site 3 coLaboratory, Co-Founder and Executive Director

Selected Exhibitions

- 2018 *Aqualith* - Winterlights Festival - Ontario Place, Toronto
- 2017 Come Up To My Room - *Hothouse*
- 2014 Nov, Toronto Mini MakerFaire - Toronto - *the Rainbow Gun*
- 2014 June, LIGHT - M.Des Graduate Exhibition - Toronto - *Mechanism*
- 2014 May, Sight and Sound Festival - Montreal - *psXXYborg*
- 2013 Sept, DiGRA - Atlanta GA - *psXXYborg*
- 2013 July, Queer Arcade at VideoFAG - Toronto - *psXXYborg*
- 2013 Summer, Luminato Festival - Toronto - *Marina Abramović Institute – Prototype*
- 2013 June, Feminists in Games Conference - Vancouver – *psXXYborg*
- 2012 Sept, Toronto International Film Festival – *Psychlepath*
- 2012 Aug, Burning Man Festival – NV – *Super Street Fire (graphic design)*
- 2012 July, Firefly Arts Festival – VT – *The Rainbow Gun*
- 2012 June, Feminists in Games Conference – *Psychlepath*
- 2011 Nov, Difference Engine Initiative, TIFF Bell Lightbox – *Psychlepath*

Conference Presentations

- 2018 Different Games at GDC - Procedural Generation In Javascript-Based Games
- 2017 GaymerX East - *Subversive Games Panel*
- 2017 GaymerX East - *Subversive Games*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3bCyEX56gk>
- 2017 Colloquialisms in JavaScript - Hello, Con!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wM1g_ota8-0
- 2016 Different Games Conference - *Glitch, Breakage, and Texture in Interactive Art*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIjxHmzGqz4>
- 2016 Different Games Conference - *The Non-Compliance of Glitch: A Reflection on PsXXYborg*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzUeZfc6nJc>
- 2015 MakeChange Maker Conference - *Guest - Accelerated Development Practice*
- 2015 CHI SpecFic Colloquim - *Guest - Retrofuturism And Fetish In Science Fiction*
- 2014 FITC-WMM- *Technical Community Building*
- 2014 3 Minute Thesis OCADu - *Private Public Art Portals (Viewer's Choice)*
- 2013 MakerFaire - *the Rainbow Gun: How To Learn Through Prototypes*
- 2013 Feminists in Games conference – *psXXYborg|screenPerfect*
- 2013 Arts & Letters Club – *Contemporary Sculpture and 3D Printing*

- 2013 TedxOCADu – *Curiosity and Social Dis-Ease*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPKYPz1u9LA>
- 2012 Dual Screen Coding Landscape for Indie Devs
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wa1kXSIYGC4>
- 2012 PechaKucha Toronto – *Rapid Prototyping*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imKl4ApGo5I>
- 2012 Function Keys Festival – *Laser Based Collaborative Space*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZaUye4zl9Y4>
- 2012 Girl Geeks Toronto – *Why We Prototype*
- 2012 TIFF DigiKid’s Playspace – *Presenter with Site 3 coLaboratory*
- 2012 Border Down Design Jam – *Presenter, Credentials and Permission to Speech*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6319ki9WcB4>
- 2012 TIFF Nexus: Introduction to Emerging Creative Forms
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJKmM8ZRwq8>
- 2011 WIFT-T Toronto – *DIY Fabrication. Panel: The Difference Engine.*
- 2011 SoOnCon Art and Technology conference – *Keynote, Co-Optimism*
- 2011 Mini MakerFaire Toronto – *Organizer, Lightning Talks*
- 2011 Notacon – Cleveland, OH – *Lasers Are Not Just For Your Remaining Eye*

Selected Residencies and Workshops

- 2017 The Hand Eye Society Toronto - Oakwood Library Residency - *Paris Night Train*
- 2016 Banff School - New Fundamentals: Leadership in Creative Ecologies
- 2016 SteamLABS Toronto - Maker In Residence, Jan-March
- 2012 ITP-Camp NYU: Making and Making It Happen - How To Build A Makerspace
- 2011-2014 Art Gallery of Ontario, Web/Sharepoint Developer

Publications

Leitch, A. Truth, Post-Truth, and Subscriptions: Consensus, Truth, and Social Norms in Algorithmic Media. In C.G. Prado (Ed), *America’s Post-Truth Phenomenon: When Feelings and Opinions Trump Facts and Evidence*. Santa Barbara: CA: Praeger.

Leitch, A. Exclusive Spaces. In Prado, C.G. (Ed.). (2016). *Social Media and Your Brain: Web-Based Communication is Changing How We Think*. 89-104. Santa Barbera, California.

Westecott, Emma and Epstein, Hannah and Leitch, Alex (2013) Feminist art game praxis. In:

DiGRA 2013: DeFragging Game Studies, August 26-29, 2013, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. (Unpublished)
Available at <http://openresearch.ocadu.ca/id/eprint/375/>