

## **RACHEL GRAY - ARTIST CV**

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### **EDUCATION**

- 2017 BFA, University of Ottawa  
concentration in photography, summa cum laude
- 2013 BA, University of King's College and Dalhousie University  
major in English Literature, first class honours

### **PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**

- 2021-present Ghost Rooster Collective, Co-Founder, Ottawa
- 2023-present Island of Listeners, Co-Founder, Ottawa
- 2021-2022 BEING Studio, Executive Director, Ottawa
- 2020-2021 BEING Studio, Artistic Director, Ottawa
- 2020-2022 SPEAK podcast, Producer, Ottawa
- 2018-2020 BEING Studio, Coordinator: Special Projects and Communications, Ottawa
- 2018-2020 Common Ground Collective, Co-Founder, Ottawa
- 2017 H'ART of Ottawa, Director, Ottawa

### **AWARDS**

- 2025 Cinema Touching Disability, First Place, non-documentary Category
- 2025 Scottish Mental Health Festival, Community Award
- 2025 96 Hour Opera Festival, Second Place, Atlanta Opera
- 2025 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Theatre Recommender, Ontario Arts Council
- 2025 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Research and Creation, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2025 (Island of Listeners) Research and Creation, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2025 (Island of Listeners) Public Outreach, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2024 (Island of Listeners) Deaf and Disability Arts Project, Ontario Arts Council
- 2024 (Island of Listeners) Concept to Realization, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2024 Media Arts Creation Projects, Ontario Arts Council
- 2024 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Circulation and Touring, Ontario Arts Council
- 2024 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Arts Production Fund, City of Ottawa
- 2024 Creation and Production Fund for Professional Artists, City of Ottawa
- 2024 Concept to Realization, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2024 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Public Outreach, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2023 Notable Project Winner, Awards for Digital Excellence, Opera America
- 2023 Media Arts Production Fund, Digital Arts Resource Center
- 2023 (Ghost Rooster Collective) Diversity in the Arts, City of Ottawa
- 2023 Pitch Program Prize, Association for Opera in Canada
- 2023 (Ghost Rooster Collective), Concept to Realization, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2023 Research and Creation, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2022 Research and Creation, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2022 Mécénat Musica Prix 3 Femmes
- 2021 Research and Creation, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2019 Visual Artists Creation Project, Ontario Arts Council

2018 Exhibition Assistance, Ontario Arts Council  
 2018 Jumpstart Mentorship Program, SAW Video  
 2018 Artist Studio Program, City of Ottawa  
 2016 City of Ottawa Youth in Culture Pilot Program grant  
 2016 Paradigm Purchase Prize, University of Ottawa

## VIDEO WORKS AND ANIMATION

2026 Director, *Stone Skin* (upcoming)  
 2026 Director, *Island of Listeners* (upcoming)  
 2026 Co-Director, *Stories of Access*, Creative Connector (upcoming)  
 2025 Videographer, *Refuge of Meaning*, Deifembunker: Canada's Cold War Museum, Ottawa  
 2025 Director, *Dreamscapes*, Ghost Rooster Collective  
 2023 Illustrator, *The Pavillion*, Directed by Pixie Cram  
 2022 Director, *Into the Light: An interpretation of two research papers*, video commissioned by ReVision: The Center for Art and Social Justice, University of Guelph  
 2021 Art Director, Animator and Illustrator, *Witch Woman*, Directed by Pixie Cram  
 2021 Producer, Animator and Script Writer, *Artist Connect Report*, BEING Studio  
 2020 Director, *Interchange*, 9min, HD Video  
 2019 Director, *BUCKO*, 6min, HD Video

## SOLO AND DUO EXHIBITIONS

2027 *Rabbit Hole*, Carleton University Art Gallery (upcoming)  
 2025 *Rabbit Hole*, Bruyere Hospital, Ottawa  
 2024 *Island of Listeners*, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa  
 2020 *Connections and Alliances*, AIRIE Nest Gallery, The Everglades, USA  
 2019 *Imprint*, Blackhouse, Montréal  
 2019 *I Came Back and Things Were Different*, City Hall Art Gallery, Ottawa  
 2018 *Alidade*, General Assembly, Ottawa

## SCREENINGS

2026 *Dreamscapes*, Haptic Horizons Conference, Vibrafusion Lab and Centre 3, Hamilton  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, In celebration of International Day of Persons with Disability, Ottawa Civic Hospital, Ottawa  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Digi 60, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, "Dreams of the Future", National Access Arts Centre, Calgary  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, FORM, Vancouver  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Scottish Mental Health Festival, Glasgow, UK  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Mental Filmness, Chicago, USA  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Cinema Touching Disability, Austin, USA  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Mirror Mountain, Ottawa  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Screening and Artist Talk, Tangled Art + Disability, Toronto  
 2025 *Dreamscapes*, Screening and Artist Talk, Connected Canadians Conference,

- Kingston
- 2024 *Into the Light: an Interpretation of two Research Papers*, Resolutions, DARC, Ottawa
- 2021 *Interchange*, “The Ground We Grow On”, 2 Rivers Film Festival, Toronto
- 2020 *Interchange*, “PostScript”, Tangled Art + Disability online exhibition and screening, Toronto
- 2019 *Bucko*, “Output” Saw Video Screening, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa

## PERFORMANCES

- 2025 *Pandora’s Briefcase*, Fresh Meat Theatre Festival, Ottawa (writer, performer)
- 2025 *Briefs*, Tapestry Opera, Toronto (librettist)
- 2025 *Project Ink*, co-presented resented by Debaser and the Ottawa Dance Directive (set designer, performer)
- 2024 *Raccoon Opera*, Salle Bourgie, Musée Des Beaux-Arts Montréal, Montréal (librettist, set and costume designer)
- 2016 *Love, Dear Love*, House of Common, Ottawa (set designer)

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Contours of the Everglades*, AIRIE Nest Gallery, The Everglades, USA
- 2024 *The Marks We Make*, Gallery Annexe, Ottawa
- 2023 *New Directions*, Lee Matasi Gallery, Ottawa
- 2022 *Holding Pattern*, City Hall Art Gallery, Ottawa
- 2017 *Object/Project*, Possible Worlds, Ottawa,
- 2016 *Voix Jeunes Talents*, Voix Visuelle, Ottawa
- 2016 *Ode*, University of Ottawa, Ottawa

## COLLABORATIONS

- 2024 *Navigating Tides*, Set designer, National Arts Centre, Ottawa
- 2022-2024 *Raccoon Opera*, Libretto and Scenography Rachel Gray, composer Rebecca Gray, commissioned by Musique 3 Femmes
- 2022 *Imago*, Costume Designer, performance by Kim Farris-Manning, Chamberfest
- 2022 *What Connects Us*, Co-Creator, Research and Creation project directed by Jessie Huggett, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2022 *MONAHAN*, Community Outreach and Content Collaborator, City of Ottawa
- 2022 *Jess*, for voice and violin, text and artwork Rachel Gray, composition Rebecca Gray, Opera Victoria
- 2019 *For Jessie*, for voice, piano and projection, text and projection Rachel Gray, composition Kim Farris-Manning
- 2019 *TODAY!*, for puppets, soprano, clarinet, bass clarinet, cello, piano, libretto Rachel and Rebecca Gray, puppets Rachel Gray, composition Rebecca Gray
- 2016 *Love, Dear Love*, for soprano, mezzo-soprano, string quartet, projection, and large scale drawings. Text by William Shakespeare, adapted by Rachel and Rebecca Gray. Pojection: Mathieu Hallé, large scale drawings: Rachel Gray

## **PUBLISHED WORKS**

- 2022 *Interchange*, Access Aesthetics, PUBLIC 66, edited by Mary Bunch, Julia Chan and Sean Lee
- 2020 *Jess*, Graphic Novel, excerpts available online

## **ARTIST RESIDENCIES**

- 2025 *96-Hour Opera Project*, The Atlanta Opera, Atlanta, USA
- 2025 *LibLab*, Tapestry Opera, Toronto
- 2025 *Island of Listeners Performance Creation*, Artengine, Ottawa
- 2023 *KIAC* (Klondike Institute of Art and Culture), Dawson City, Yukon
- 2018-2021 Artist in Residence, Ottawa School of Art, Ottawa
- 2020 *AIRIE* (Artist in Residence in the Everglades), Everglades National Park, Florida
- 2019 *LMCLM* (Montréal Contemporary Music Lab), Montréal

## **ARTIST TALKS, PANELS AND WORKSHOPS**

- 2025 Dreams of the Future, Artist Talk and Workshop, National Access Arts Centre, Calgary
- 2025 Island of Listeners, Artist Talk and Workshop, Grief Matters, Calgary
- 2025 Island of Listeners, Artist Talk, Palliative Care McGill
- 2024 Island of Listeners, Artist Talk, Ottawa Art Gallery
- 2024 Storytelling in Palliative Care, Invited Speaker, HeART Symposium, Ottawa
- 2024 Storytelling in Palliative Care, Invited Speaker, McGill International Palliative Care Congress, Montreal
- 2024 Draw like you are 100 years old, workshop, Creative Space, Ottawa Art Gallery
- 2024 Raccoon Opera, Artist Talk, Chants Libres Oper'Actuel, Montreal
- 2024 Raccoon Opera, Artist Talk, University of Ottawa Music Department, Ottawa
- 2024 Local Disturbances, Artist talk, 'Insect Worlds', UKAI projects, Toronto, Ontario
- 2023 *KIAC* (Klondike Institute of Art and Culture), Artist Talk, 'Insect Worlds', Dawson City, Yukon
- 2022 Canada Council for the Arts, presenter, 'Deaf and Disability Arts Gathering', online
- 2021 Bodies in Translation, Moderator, 'Practicing the Social', online
- 2021 Propeller Dance, Workshop, 'Writing Identity', ECP Program, online
- 2021 Partners in Art, Artist Talk, 'Postscript', Online
- 2021 University of Ottawa, Artist Talk, Fine Arts Program: Professional Practice (prof. Andrew Wright), online
- 2020 University of Ottawa, Artist Talk, Fine Arts Program: Expressive Drawing (prof. Jennifer Macklam), online
- 2020 Tangled Art + Disability and Public Access, Artist Talk, online
- 2020 *AIRIE* Nest Gallery, Artist Talk, The Everglades, Florida
- 2020 Arts Network Ottawa, Panelist, 'Engaging Communities Remotely', Ottawa
- 2019 City Hall Gallery, Artist Talk, 'I Came Back and Things Were Different', Ottawa
- 2019 Arts Network Ottawa, Panelist, 'Community Arts Gathering: Breaking Barriers to Arts in the Community', Ottawa
- 2019 Ottawa Art Gallery, Panelist, 'Community and Connection: Social Responsibility in the Heritage Sector', Ottawa

- 2019 Heritage Canada, Presenter, 'BEING Studio: (Dis)ability Education and Awareness Campaign', Ottawa
- 2018 Ottawa Art Gallery, Workshop, 'Large Scale Drawing', Ottawa

## **PRESS**

- 2025 What are always-mares? This short film explores the dreamlike reality of an Ottawa-based dance artists, CBC arts, Hilary LaBlanc
- 2023 A Bug's Life, Dave White, CBC radio, Aug 25
- 2022 Ottawa sisters win major prize for opera creators, Ottawa Citizen, Lynn Saxberg
- 2021 Rachel Gray: Empathy, Honesty and Visual Storytelling, Nosy Mag, by Atticus Gordon (online publication)
- 2021 The problem and possibility of language in Rachel Gray's Interchange, Off Center, by Adrienne Scott (online publication)
- 2020 Common Ground Collective: Growing the Arts in Ottawa, Glue Ottawa (online publication)
- 2019 I Came Back and Things were Different, Exhibition Catalogue with interpretive text by Rose Ekins
- 2019 I Came Back and Things were Different, Exhibition feature on Apt613 by Livia Belcea (online publication)
- 2018 Alidade, Exhibition feature on Apt 613 by Dexter McMillan (online publication)