

# LAUREN IACOPONI

[lauren.iacoponi@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.iacoponi@gmail.com) | 708.278.2002 | 3901 W School St., Apt. #1, 60618

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## SUMMARY

Lauren Iacoponi has over six years of experience working as a fine arts professional. Iacoponi is adept in independent curation, exhibition coordination, and fine art promotion. Iacoponi is keenly interested in the development of living artists, and actively promotes the work of emerging, mid-career, and under-represented artists. For more information, visit: [www.laurenike.com](http://www.laurenike.com)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **2020 Content Curator, Community Builder**, APOTH Creative, Chicagoland IL

August 2020 - present

- Author of APOTH blog
- Conducts research and interviews to develop marketing campaigns
- Consults on written media for APOTH clientele
- Writes copy for newsletters and online promotion

### **Curatorial Assistant**, Johalla Projects, Chicago, IL

January 2020 - present

- Curate art collections on a local and national level
- Source artwork for corporate, private, and public art collections
- Develop proposals and project briefs
- Liaison between artists and client
- Assist with event programming

### **Art Sourcing Services**, Freelance, Television and Video

- Sourced artwork for the set design of *Single Drunk Female*, Fox Television Series (2021)

### **2019 Chicago Representative**, Boccara Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2019 - present

- Boccara is an International Art Dealing Agency with a global network of galleries and exhibition spaces
- Boccara Fine Art specializes in Modern and Contemporary Art from the 20th and 21st Century
- Boccara exhibits in over fifteen International Art Exhibitions a year, from New York and Miami to Hong Kong and Shanghai
- Responsible for consulting on corporate, private, and public art collections
- Responsible for signing and representing new artists
- Developing proposals and project briefs
- International art sales

### **2017 Exhibition Coordinator, Co-Curator**, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

2017 - 2019

- Curate exhibitions
- Hang Shows

- Responsible for creating and managing the website
- Creating and curating shareable content
- Building and managing social media profiles and presence
- Writing and distributing Rubberneck newsletter

**Studio Director**, Darryll Schiff Fine Art, Chicago, IL

October 2014 – 2019

- Operate and manage the studio
- Coordinate communications for the studio
- Handle promotions, marketing and social media
- Write press releases
- Conduct research
- In-studio design work
- Project planning
- Developing project briefs
- Exhibition planning
- Studio sales

**Assistant Director**, En Foco Gallery, Chicago IL

August 2014 - 2018

- Coordinate communications for the gallery
- Handle promotions, marketing and social media
- Exhibition planning
- International art sales
- Coordinate international art fairs
- Co-curate exhibitions
- Manage gallery Artsy

**2016 Instructor**, 3D Design, School of Art and Design, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

2016 - 2018

- Curriculum Writing
- Lesson plans
- Lecture presentations
- Demonstrations
- Lead group discussions
- Statement writing
- Lead critique

**2015 Graduate Research Assistant**, Fiber Program, School of Art and

Design, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

2015 - 2018

- Graduate Assist Fiber Installation, Paper Making and Surface classes
- Supplement lesson plans through readings, demonstrations and presentations
- Manage and write a blog for Recycled / Re-seen special topics fiber course
- Conduct Research
- Lead group discussions

- Train on Hollander Beater
- Classroom preps

**2014 Gallery Sales Associate**, Hoypoloi Gallery, Chicago, IL

2014 - 2015

- Responsible for sales and acquisitions
- Managed inventory, balanced register, and keyholder for gallery

**2014 Gallery Assistant**, Art Alliance: The Provocateurs

- Gallery assistant for pop up exhibition curated by Shepard Fairey

**2013 Co-Curator**, Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL

January 2013 - September 2013

Aided in decision making for Exhibiting Artists:

- Ojero: A Character of Culture, Sam Kirk, January 2013
- Urban Penumbra, Ray Ferrer, February 2013
- Memories, Missy Dahl, April 2013
- Breaking the Line, Keelan McMorrow, April 2013
- Alter Egos, Joseph "Sentrock" Perez May 2013
- Coltan, Rahmaan Statik, June 2013
- Just a Moment, Lewis Taylor, August 2013
- Multicultural America, Sam Kirk, September 2013

**2013 Administrative Gallery Programing**, Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL

2013 - 2014

- Organized public workshops, artist talks, pop-up shows, etc.

**2013 Artist Assistant** to Chicago Artists Tatjana Jovancevic, Sam Kirk and Rahmaan Statik

2013 - 2014

- Manage file organization and online documentation
- Handle promotions, marketing and social media
- Write press releases
- Conduct research
- In-studio prep work
- Exhibition planning

## **VOLUNTEER + COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVES**

**2021 Board Member**, Dispatch Gallery, Online counterpart to Unpacked Mobile Gallery

January 2021 - present

- Co-curate and organize *CONNECTION* - video, sound art, and performance art virtual exhibition
- Conduct interviews
- Host panel discussions
- [www.dispatchgallery.org](http://www.dispatchgallery.org)

**2020 Founder**, Purple Window, Public Art Initiative “Hello Neighbor”, Chicago IL

March 2020 - present

- *Hello Neighbor* by Purple Window is a series of satellite exhibitions held in domestic and storefront windows to showcase artwork to the outside world during shelter in place.
- Documentation images, artist statements, and personal narratives regarding this project can be found on our blog: [www.purplewindowgallery.com](http://www.purplewindowgallery.com)
- *Hello Neighbor* exhibitions will take place across the United States in Illinois, Washington, West Virginia, Indiana, Iowa, California, Arizona, North Carolina, Ohio, Massachusetts and New York. Exhibitions will take place outside of the US in England, France, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, and Australia.
- Long-term plans include an exhibition in our Chicago gallery space incorporating installations, photography, and documentation footage of this project in its many forms.
- Purple Window, Community Mail Art Initiative “Hello USPS”, Chicago IL
- *Hello USPS* is documented and shared on Purple Window’s Instagram account [@purplewindowgallery](https://www.instagram.com/purplewindowgallery)

**2019 ACRE Artist in Residence Staff**, Chicago, IL and Stueben, WI

Seasonal / Summers 2019 - present

- Duties include maintaining facilities for resident artists
- Liaison to visiting/professional artists

**2019 Creator**, Opening Night Chicago | [@openingnightchi](https://www.instagram.com/openingnightchi), Chicago, IL

2019 - present

- Manage Instagram and Twitter for [@openingnightchi](https://www.instagram.com/openingnightchi)
- Promote art exhibitions in Chicago and outside the city limits
- Post 3-5 images from the openings I attend each week
- Post 5-10 openings each week in Instagram stories and on Twitter, listing: Exhibition title, exhibiting artists, curators, gallery location, and time of opening
- Created in March 2019, the account has promoted over 130 exhibitions, with over 1,400 followers, acting as a resource to discover exhibitions happening in the Chicagoland area. The account is a visual tool to experience all of the art Chicago has to offer.

**2018 Guest Speaker**, Northern Illinois University's Second Annual Arts Convocation, DeKalb, IL

- Unpacked Mobile Gallery - A dynamic communication network directed at multiple audiences

**2017 Director, Co-Founder**, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, DeKalb & Chicago, IL

Seasonal / Summers 2017 - Present

Mobile Gallery Community Initiative - exhibit public art in a moving truck - travels to Chicago neighborhoods

- Curate exhibitions
- Install shows
- Responsible for funding and grant writing
- Collaborate with Chicago galleries and public spaces
- Responsible for creating and managing “Unpacked: Mobile Gallery” website
- Website promotes the collaborative work, Unpacked and its moving location
- Responsible for platforms such as Facebook and Instagram
- Creating and curating shareable content

- Building and managing social media profiles and presence
- Writing and distributing Unpacked: Mobile Gallery newsletter
- <https://www.unpacked-mobile-gallery.com/>

**2015 Wabash Arts Corridor Operations Manager**, Darryll Schiff Fine Art

2015 - 2016

- Initiated successful Kickstarter Campaign funding a 24' x 56' photo mural for the Wabash Arts Corridor located at 710 S. Wabash Chicago, IL

**2016 Web Developer**, Recycled, Re-Seen Class, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

- Responsible for creating and managing "Recycled, Re-Seen" blog for Northern Illinois University's collaboration with visiting artist Barbara Hashimoto:  
<http://recycledreseen.blogspot.com/>
- Blog promoted the collaborative work, "Inclusions", shown at NIU Art Museum

**2016 Volunteer Fabrication**, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL

- Assist in building Sabina Ott's *who cares for the sky?*
- An 8,000-cubic-foot mountain made out of polystyrene, canvas, cardboard, wood

## INTERNSHIPS

**2018 Art Consultant Intern**, DeGroot Fine Art, Chicago, IL

- Manage and write Aesthetics blog
- Responsible for managing web analytics
- Assist with exhibition design and management
- Handle promotions, marketing and social media
- Creating and curating shareable content
- Conduct research
- In-studio design work
- Studio visits

**2013 Gallery Intern**, Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL

2013 - 2014

- Manage the gallery
- Coordinate communications for the gallery

## FREELANCE WRITING

**2020 Contributing Writer**, Sixty Inches from the Center, Chicago IL

- Freelance writer for Visual Arts in Chicago
- <https://sixtyinchesfromcenter.org>

**Contributing Writer**, Chicago Artist Writers, Chicago, IL

- Freelance writer for Visual Arts in Chicago
- <https://chicagoartistwriters.com>

**Content Creator**, Odyssey, Chicago IL

2017 - 2019

- Freelance writer for Chicago's Art and Culture
- Responsible for platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- Creating and curating shareable content
- <https://www.theodysseyonline.com/>

**2016 Contributing Writer**, Third Coast Review, Chicago IL

- Freelance writer for Visual Arts in Chicago
- <https://thirdcoastreview.com>

**2014 Contributing Writer**, DEFINEART, Chicago IL

2014 - 2016

- Co-author the blog "DEFINEART"
- <http://schiffphotography.blogspot.com>

**2013 Contributing Writer**, Discovering Art in Chicago, Chicago IL

2013 - 2014

- Co-author the blog "Discovering Art in Chicago"
- <http://discoveringartinchicago.blogspot.com/>

## EDUCATION

**2018 MFA**, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

Certificate in Art History

**2014 BFA**, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

Minor in Art History

## HONORS / AWARDS

**2017 The Chicago Academy for the Arts Alumni Grant**, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL

**John X. Koznarek Memorial Scholarship**, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

**2016 Recipient of Northern Illinois University Fellowship**, School of Art & Design Division

One of six competitive University Fellowships given includes stipend and tuition waiver

**Jonathan Ryan Lee Studio Art Scholarship**, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

**2015 Graduate Tuition Waiver**, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

Graduate Research Assistantship, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

**2014 Academic Scholarship**, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

**Albert P. Weisman Scholarship**, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

**Dean's List Student, Columbia College**, Chicago, IL

**2010 National Honor Society**, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

**2020 *Purple Window Gallery: A Quarantine Initiative Brings Public Art to Our Windows*** [Sixty Inches from the Center](#)

**2019 *The Insider's Guide to the Gallery Scene You Don't Know About***, Chicago Magazine

**2018 *Art & Life Lauren Iacoponi***, [Voyage Chicago Thought Provokers Series](#)

**2017 *Mobile Museums and Galleries***, Ph.D. Thesis, San Francisco Art Institute, Bertha Rodriguez

**2014 *Columbia College BFA Show Catalog Essay***, Corey Postiglione

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Purple Window Co-Op Board

Unpacked Collective

College Art Association (CAA)

Wabash Arts Corridor Committee

Graduate Arts Association, Northern Illinois University

## SELECTED JURYING EXPERIENCE

**Upcoming 2021** Side Street Studio's 8th Annual Juried Competition: You Are Not the Boss of My Art

The Morton Arboretum's Sixth Annual Wine & Art Walk Juried Art Competition

## EXHIBITIONS CURATED

**2021 *CONNECTION***, (Co-curated with Board Members) Dispatch Gallery, Virtual Exhibition

**2020 *Relic, Ritual, and Remedy***, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Darryll Schiff: Confluence***, Solo Exhibition at Koehnline Museum of Art, Des Plaines, IL

***Chicago Spring***, Purple Window Gallery: Window Art Installation, Chicago IL

**2018 *Mental***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Equal Parts***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***I Live In The Ocean***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Maktub***, Co-Curator, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Decaturade***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Southern Drawl***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Impromptu***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***In The Near Distance***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Milk Spilt***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Come As You Are***, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, DeKalb, IL

**2017 *Unpacked***, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, DeKalb, IL

***Unpacked***, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Discontent***, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, Comfort Station, Chicago, IL

***Putt-Putt in the City***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

***Do You Love Me Now?***, Rubberneck Gallery, Chicago, IL

## **EXHIBITIONS**

**2020** *Sleepover* at Ground Level Platform, Chicago, IL

**2019** *12 x 12: 10 Year Anniversary Show*, Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL

**2018** *Nitty-Gritty*, MFA Thesis Group Exhibition, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL

*To The Highest Bidder*, Backspace Gallery, DeKalb, IL

**2017** *L'Exposition a Critiques*, Gallery 215, DeKalb, IL

*MFA Preview Exhibit*, NIU Chicago Center, Chicago, IL *Chicago Unpacked*, Group Exhibition, Unpacked: Mobile Gallery, Chicago, IL *Last Call*, Gallery 215, DeKalb, IL

**2016** *The Opposite of SATT*, Gallery UNO Berlin, Berlin, Germany  
*Why Are You Here?*, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago, IL

**2015** *Confluence*, First Year MFA Show, Gallery 215, DeKalb, IL.  
*Junk Mail (Inclusions)*, Northern Illinois University Art Museum, DeKalb, IL  
*Modern Individuality*, High Cross Art Studio, Urbana, IL  
*Achromatic Vibrancy*, Elephant Room Gallery Chicago, IL

**2014** *Who's Afraid of Red*, Curated Group Exhibition, Studio Oh!, Chicago, IL  
*Portfolio Center Sponsored Industry Night*, Columbia College, Chicago, IL  
*Open Studios Critique*, Columbia College, Chicago, IL  
*Manifest Urban Arts Festival*, Hokin Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*BFA Show*, Curated Group Exhibition, A+D Gallery, Chicago, IL

**2013** *Fine Art Thesis Exhibition Mini Show*, C33 Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Less Than a Foot Show*, C33 Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Street Team Curated Exhibition*, Elephant Room Gallery, Chicago, IL

**2010** *Studio Art Fall Show*, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL  
*Studio Art Spring Show*, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL

**2009** *Studio Art Fall Show*, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL  
*Studio Art Spring Show*, Chicago Academy for the Arts, Chicago, IL

## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

**2018** *Serial Time*, Solo Exhibition, University Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
*Everyone Wants a South Facing Window*, Solo Thesis Exhibition, Unpacked:



Mobile Gallery, Jack Arends Art Building & Gallery 215, DeKalb, IL

## JURIED EXHIBITIONS

**2014** *38th Annual Art Exhibition*, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL

Jurors: Edra Soto, Alberto Aguilar

## PUBLICATIONS

### March 2021

*The Edge of Equilibrium: Chicago Art Community 2017-2021* - Manchester University Press

### February 2021

*Threadless: A Profile on Chicago Artist Naomi Elson* - [APOTH Blog](#)

*Chicago Gallery Highlights: February 2021* - [APOTH Blog](#)

### December 2020

*Freelance Writing: Where to Start?* - [APOTH Blog](#)

### November 2020

*Torrential Hag: Mel Cook and Kelly Reaves at Cleaner Gallery + Projects* - [Sixty Inches from the Center](#)

### October 2020

*Introducing Lauren* - [APOTH Blog](#)

*October Visual Art Picks by Lauren Iacoponi* - [Chicago Reader](#)

*Fruitless: Paintings by Christian Campos* - [Chicago Artist Writers](#)

### September 2020

*Roland Santana: the gum beneath your shoe at Baby Blue Gallery* - [Sixty Inches from the Center](#)

### May 2018

*Unpacked Brings 'Everyone Wants a South Facing Window' to NIU Campus* - [Odyssey](#)

### March 2018

*Nitty-Gritty Coming to ARC Gallery* - [Odyssey](#)

*Artist Talk* - [Odyssey](#)

### February 2018

*The Impressionist Photo* - [Odyssey](#)

### January 2018

*Milk Spilt Opening at Rubberneck Gallery* - [Odyssey](#)

*Unpacked Mobile Gallery Comes to Northern Illinois University's Convocation* - [Odyssey](#)

*Exciting Art That Deserves Your Attention in 2018* - [Odyssey](#)

*Four Chicago Art Events That You Need to Check Out, Stat* - [Odyssey](#)

**December 2017**

*Best Chicago Museums - [Odyssey](#)*

*Exclusive Studio Visit With Artist Claire Burke Dain - [Odyssey](#)*

**November 2017**

*13 Videos About Visionary Female Artists That Will Inspire You - [Odyssey](#)*

*Rubberneck Now Open On Chicago Ave - [Odyssey](#)*

**October 2017**

*An Artist's Work Inspired By Mental Health - [Odyssey](#)*

**September 2017**

*Chicago's Only Mobile Gallery In A Truck Is Back - [Odyssey](#)*

**August 2017**

*Seven Great Texts To Launch Your Art Career - [Odyssey](#)*

*Chicago's First Floating Museum - [Odyssey](#)*

*Public Art Chicago - [Odyssey](#)*

**July 2017**

*The Importance Of Repetition In Art - [Odyssey](#)*

*The Hottest New Block On The Chicago Art Scene - [Odyssey](#)*

*All The Must-See Art Openings In Chicago This Summer - [Odyssey](#)*

*The Best Festival In Someone Else's Backyard - [Odyssey](#)*

**June 2017**

*How To Grow Your Professional Art Career - [Odyssey](#)*

*Descending To Heaven: One Of Chicago's Most Up And Coming Artists - [Odyssey](#)*

*Allen Moore: Building Community Through Art - [Odyssey](#)*

*Why You Should Take That Unpaid Internship - [Odyssey](#)*

**May 2017**

*Chicago's Mobile Gallery 'Unpacked' Continues To Provide New Space For Artists - [Odyssey](#)*

*Unpacked: Our Gallery In A Truck - [Odyssey](#)*

**February 2016**

*Descending to Heaven (and Into the Wabash Arts Corridor) - [DEFINEART](#)*

**October 2015**

*Help Descending to Heaven Rise - South Loop Chronicles*

**September 2015**

*Darryll Schiff to Join The Wabash Arts Corridor - [DEFINEART](#)*

**July 2015**

*A Reflection on The Selfie - [DEFINEART](#)*

**June 2015**

*Chicago Art: Hometown Heroes* - [DEFINEART](#)

**May 2015**

*Halation, Light, Art* - [DEFINEART](#)

*Traipse* - Halation International Photography Magazine

**April 2015**

*Action, Abstraction, Transition* - [DEFINEART](#)

**February 2015**

*Color Composition* - [DEFINEART](#)

**January 2015**

*Art and Sensation* - [DEFINEART](#)

*Fine Art and the Passage of Time* - [DEFINEART](#)

**December 2014**

*One Family: Three Incredible Artists of the 21st Century* - [DEFINEART](#)

**November 2014**

*McArthur Binion* - Kavi Gupta Press

*Momentum* - [DEFINEART](#)

*Introduction* - [DEFINEART](#)

**October 2014**

*Confluence* - [DEFINEART](#)

**February 2013**

*Tony Fitzpatrick* - [Discovering Art in Chicago](#)

**January 2013**

*Gallery 27* - [Discovering Art in Chicago](#)