

kitty f. davies

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Portfolio: kittyfdaviesart.com | Student Work: kittyfdaviesart.com/student-portfolio

EDUCATION

MFA: STUDIO ART & PAINTING, 2022–2025
Illinois State University. Normal, IL, USA.

CONCEPT ART & DRAFTING, 2016–2018
Concept Design Academy. Pasadena, CA, USA.

BA: FILM & TELECOMMUNICATIONS, *Cum Laude*, 2015
California State University, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, CA, USA.

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2025

- *Telling the Future Through a Portal*, solo exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA.
- *THE BODY IS ON*, solo exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA.

2023

- *a cut ting, inci sion*, two-person exhibition with Madelyn Turner-Havens, Julian Gallery, Normal, IL, USA.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

- *Dirty Drawings*, Lease Agreement, Tampa, FL, USA (forthcoming).
- *Trade*, Incheon National University, Incheon, South Korea (forthcoming).
- *98th Annual McLean County Amateur Art Exhibition*, McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, IL, USA.
- *Vertical Hold*, Punch and Gallery One, Thorp, WA, USA.

2024

- *phone, wallet, KEYS*, COCO HUNDAY, Tampa, FL, USA.
- *JOINT CUSTODY*, Julian Gallery, Normal, IL, USA.
- *Utopian Megapraxis: (UU)ater*, group exhibition and printed zine, Brenda Tuxford Gallery, Eureka, CA, USA.

2023

- *Tit for Tat*, Public Space One, Iowa City, IA, USA.

2022

- *Incoming MFA Exhibition*, Transpace, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2019

- *Female Gaze*, ArtShare, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

2014

- *HAUS PARTY*, The CuBe, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

2011

- *Jesus Show*, RayRay Gallery, Chico, CA, USA.

2010

- *The Real Erotic*, RayRay Gallery, Chico, CA, USA.

JURIED EXHIBITIONS

2025

- *University Galleries Student Annual 2025*, group exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA. Studio juror: [Selena Trepp](#).
- *2025 Image of Research Competition*, group exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA.

2024

- *University Galleries Student Annual 2024*, group exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA. Studio juror: [Deb Sokolow](#).
- *2024 Image of Research Competition*, group exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA.

2023

- *University Galleries Student Annual 2023*, group exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, USA. Studio juror: [Erin Washington](#).

AWARDS

2025

- Marshall Dulaney Pitcher Award, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Irving S. and Joan Tick Award in Drawing, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Robert Small Award for Writing in Art History, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- *2025 Image of Research Competition*, Graduate Student Second Place, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2024

- Irving S. and Joan Tick Award in Drawing, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- The Karen Deske Scholarship in Art, The Wonsook Kim School of Art, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2023

- Irving S. and Joan Tick Award in Drawing, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- The Bird Feeder Grant, The Wonsook Kim School of Art, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

RESIDENCIES

2024

- [Poor Farm](#) (The David Graeber Institute). Little Wolf, WI, USA.

EVENT ORGANIZATION

2023

- *Ruby Que with Yea Big's Dissociated Ensemble*, preparator, organized by Lease Agreement in collaboration with cometogetherspace, Bloomington, IL, USA.
- *Tit for Tat*, preparator, Public Space One, Iowa City, IA, USA.

SYMPOSIA, ARTIST TALKS, WORKSHOPS, LECTURES

2025

- Panel Co-Chair. Labor-Based Grading Contracts: Four Approaches from Art & Design Classrooms. SECAC 2025. Cincinnati, OH (forthcoming).

- Lecture/Q&A on conceptualizing/documenting performance art for Video I class, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Presenter. Considering Power: Building Trust in the Classroom through Labor-Based Grading Practices. *Teaching in Turbulent Times: Creating Community with Care and Empathy*. Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2024

- Lecture/Q&A on conceptualizing/documenting performance art for Video I class, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Lecture/Q&A for the Bachelor of Fine Arts Seminar class at the City University of New York, College of Staten Island, Staten Island, NY, USA.
- Lecture/Q&A for Bachelor of Fine Arts Seminar class, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Curated and presented screening of historical experimental video art for Video II class, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Visiting critic in the Studio BFA Crit event, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

PERFORMANCE

2023

- *GAY ALPHABET*, performance, Douglas Studios, Bloomington, IL, USA.
- *Thawbird*, group performance exhibition, Julian Gallery, Normal, IL, USA.

PUBLICATIONS

2024

- “Monstrous, Formless, and Righteous,” essay published in “Issue 03: Defiant” of [White Noise Zine](#), digital and physical format.
- *All Living Things All in the Water*, painting published in [Utopian Megapraxis: \(UU\)ater](#), digital and physical format.

VIDEO & PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE

2023

- *Sunset on the Longest Day*, cameraperson and editor. Performance and documentation video, dir. by Shannon Epplett, Illinois State University Horticulture Center, Normal, IL, USA.
- *Domestic Rewilding (IL)*, production assistant. Earthwork by Ruth K. Burke, Illinois State University Horticulture Center, Normal, IL, USA.

TEACHING

2025

Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

- Co-Instructor with Assistant Professor Jason Dunda, 2D Fundamentals.

2024

Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

- Instructor of Record, 2D Fundamentals.
- Instructor of Record, Drawing Fundamentals.
- Instructor of Record, 2D Fundamentals.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Video II with Assistant Professor Ruth K. Burke.

2023

Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

- Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2D Fundamentals with Assistant Professor Jason Dunda.

- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Video I with Assistant Professor Ruth K. Burke.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Drawing Fundamentals with Professor Michael Wille.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Video II with Assistant Professor Ruth K. Burke.

2022

Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Figure Drawing with Associate Professor Andreas Fischer.

DESIGN

2022–Current

In-house graphic designer for [Figueria Mountain Brewing](#).

2012–Current

Freelance graphic and web design. Clients include [Pouring With Heart](#), [California Institute of the Arts](#), [Houseplant Cannabis](#), [Butte Humane Society](#), [Wintrust Community Banks](#), [Northeastern University](#), and [Sex Beyond Binaries](#).

2023

- Cover art for the Winter 2023 issue of the [Spoon River Poetry Review](#).

2018–2020

Creative Brand Manager for Artisanal Brewers Collective. Included creative direction, project management, and technical/digital maintenance. Los Angeles, CA, USA.

2019

- Album art for Neon Exdeath's debut LP *Escape*, distributed by Hodgepodge Records.

2017

- Cover art for Davey Davis's debut novel [the earthquake room](#), published by [TigerBee Press](#).

CERTIFICATIONS & WORKSHOPS (ATTENDED)

2025

- Thesis Writing Practices workshop. Led by John Hawkins, PhD, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2024

- *Difficult Conversation*, "Hot Moments," and *Disruptive Behaviors*, workshop on conflict in the classroom. Led by Mayuko Nakamura, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

2017

- Full-stack software engineering, six month program, Flatiron School, New York City, NY, USA.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

DISABILITY THEORY

Tobin Siebers, Moya Bailey, Ela Przybylo, Susan Sontag

POWER / FUTURITY

Byung-Chul Han, Michel Foucault, adrienne maree brown, Gilles Deleuze

PERVERSION

Lewis Hyde, Jennifer Doyle, Leigh Cowart, Gayle Rubin

QUEER THEORY

Huw Lemmy, Judith Butler, C. Riley Snorton

MASS MEDIA / FILM THEORY

Marshall McLuhan, George Gerbner