

Kelly Rappleye

Contemporary Art Curator, Researcher, Producer

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Glasgow, United Kingdom

Glasgow-based contemporary arts curator and researcher specialising in contemporary artists' moving image practice, at the intersections of urban spatial politics, social histories and memory work. Actively engaged in contemporary arts production, research and writing, with a commitment to fostering equity in the sector.

Education

AHRC-DTP Awarded PhD Studentship, Glasgow School of Art/ University of Glasgow, Glasgow (Oct 2022 – March 2026)

Dissertation Title: *Unsettling Spaces: Building Curatorial Knowledges of Contested Urban Spaces with Contemporary Scottish Artists' Moving Image*

Supervisors: Primary Prof. Sarah Smith (Head of Research, GSA) Secondary; Dr. Karen DiFranco (Course Convenor, Mlitt Curatorial Practice), Dr. Deborah Jackson (Department Head, Fine Art Critical Studies, GSA)

MA Contemporary Art Theory, Goldsmiths College, University of London, London, UK (MA Awarded 2021)

Bachelor of Arts, Humanities Major, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA (BA Degree Received May 2015)

Curatorial

Curator, LUX and Glasgow School of Art, 'Precarious Memory'

February 2025

Curated Screening and PhD SGSAH Researcher Training Event, 'Precarious Memory: Archival Resonances in Moving images'

Curator, 'Journeys of Belonging' Film Programme – Celebrating 2024 Turner Prize at Tate Britain

January 2025

Curated a film programme at Tate Britain responding to 2024 Turner Prize nominee Delaine Le Bas exploring themes of nomadism, exile, and cultural resistance, as part of History Reverberates series.

2024 Venice Biennale Fellow, British Council

January 2024 – August 2024

Represented the UK as exhibition ambassador at the 2024 Venice Biennale British Pavilion supporting John Akomfrah's "Listening All Night to the Rain" exhibition and developed independent curatorial research on sonic watery topographies, migration and place in moving image practice. Venice Fellows 2024

Curator 16 Nicholson Street Gallery CIC, Glasgow

November 2021 – Present

16 Collective CIC is a non-profit contemporary art gallery and feminist curatorial collective, based in Glasgow. We are committed to power redistribution, with particular attention to female-identifying, LGBTQ+ and class-marginalised artists. We aim to challenge the sector-wide gender and class disparities in contemporary art discourses, labour conditions, professional opportunities, and cultural narratives. We foster ambitious, experimental, and critical artistic practice by combining curating publications, design, socially engaged workshops, art projects, and high-quality installations. Notable exhibitions I have curated include artists such as Shae Myles, Alberta Whittle, Maud Sulter Estate, Claire Barclay, and Hannan Jones among others. Find details of our past and upcoming exhibitions [on our website](#).

Research Conferences & Events

Presented paper on curatorial practice research methods, 'Making the Familiar Strange Practice Research Symposium', Queen Margaret University	April 2024
Turning the Tide Conference, EU Consortium Project; present research on artists' role in reimagining urban spaces	April 2024
2022-23 Doctoral Student Rep. School of Fine Art GSA	October 2022 – August 2023
Organiser, Symposium Moderator & Respondent, 'Research Objects & Methods' cross-departmental Glasgow School of Art doctoral symposium	December 2022
Awarded Cohort Development Fund grant to co-organise, "Ethical Engagements in Built Environment Research", SGSAH PhD Researcher Training Event Series	May 2023 – November 2024
Developed and delivered SGSAH PhD researcher training event 'Practicising Ethics' for Community-Engaged Research event with Dr. Jane Rendell, Dr. David Roberts and Dr. Yael Padan (Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL)	
Presented video essay, AT LAND AND SEA: TOPOGRAPHICAL IMAGINATION AND THE MOVING IMAGE, May 2023, Istanbul Bilgi University Film & TV Dept	May 2023
Presented 'Research Objects & Methods' Symposium, Glasgow School of Art, School of Fine Art	December 2022
Presented ' <i>The Digital Image as Collective Practice</i> ' paper with Theresa Kneppers (LSBU) at 12 th International Conference on the Image by The Image Research Network, Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon	August 2021
Journal Reviewer, Networking Knowledge: Journal of the MeCCSA-PGN	November 2021 – Present
Co-Founder of 'Contakt Collective' post-graduate arts research at Goldsmiths, University of London	February 2020 – February 2022

Residencies & Awards

Research Residency: Infrastructures Humanities Group, 'Hydrocolonial Infrastructures of the River Clyde'	August 2024
Collaborative Research Award: Emerging Curators Group 24, British Art Network (Tate, Paul Mellon Centre for British Art)	May 2024
Emerging Curators Group 2024, British Art Network (Tate, Paul Mellon Centre for British Art), Research Bursary	May 2024
SGSAH Collaborative Doctoral Fund	May 2023 – November 2024
Awarded Paul Mellon Centre Research Support Grant Archival research LUX moving image collection	July 2023
AHRC-SGSAH Doctoral Training Partner Studentship Award	Sept 2022-March 2026
Residency: 'Curating Data: Care, Commons and Networks', Digital Methods Initiative, University of Amsterdam	July 2020

Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA), MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art), 2024-25, Course Convenors: Dr. Karen DiFranco, GSA & Dr. Alexandra Ross, UofG	August 2024 – August 2025
Lecturer, 'Co-Lab 1 and 2', Glasgow School of Art, BA Cross-Departmental	March 2023
GTA, Fine Art Critical Studies Department (FACS), School of Fine Art BA "Narrating Art: Key Terms", Y1, Course Leader: Margaret Salmon "Exploring the Discipline: Ideas, Materials and Forms", Y2, Course Leader: Elizabeth Hodson "Exploring the Discipline: Painting and its Effects", Y2, Course Leader: Neil Clements	September 2023 – September 2024

Prev. Professional Experience

Director of Development & Digital Engagement - ARTILLERY (contemporary art magazine)	Nov 2020 – Nov 2021
Youth Education & Employment Specialist - Felton Early Psychosis Programs (Outpatient)	Sept 2016 – May 2019

References (upon request)

Professor Sarah Smith Role: Head of Research, Glasgow School of Art Contact: sa.smith@gsa.ac.uk	Relationship: Supervisor
Nell Cardozo Role: Co-Director of 16 Nicholson Street Gallery https://16nicholsonstreet.org/about/ Contact: nell.ruth92@gmail.com	Relationship: Director