

Kelly Thompson

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Biographical Information

November 2019

Born 1961 California, USA
Dual Citizen – USA & New Zealand
Canada - Permanent Resident

Curated Projects and Exhibitions

- 2018 The Material Turn Project, curated exhibition of 13 artists, FoFA Gallery, and Symposium at Milieux Institute, Concordia University, Montreal www.materialturnproject.com/
<http://www.concordia.ca/cuevents/finearts/fofa/2018/03/05/material-turn.html>
- 2011 Cut on the Bias: Textiles, Collaboration and Pedagogy, SSHRC funded workshop
cutonthebiasworkshop.wordpress.com/
- 2011 Storied Sites //Histoires in situ. Community weaving event, in association with Kathleen Vaughan and Griffintown: Developing Culture 2011 Nuit Blanche event
- 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 – BA Textile Degree student shows, Goldsmiths, London, UK
- 2000 Managing Curator –**RISK - Transformative** for The Suter Art Gallery, Nelson. Feb-March. Also at Dunedin Public Art Gallery – mid-June to August, 2000. (Catalogue)
- 1998 Co-curated **Tiare Taina o te Kuki Airani-TIVAEVAE from Cook Island Women of Dunedin** at Dunedin Public Art Gallery (Catalogue)
- 1996 Initiated, co-curated and edited catalogue for "**TENTH - Graduate Works from Ten Years of Craft Design at Otago Polytechnic**" August - October 1996.
Shown Dunedin and Christchurch. Organized panel discussion "Drowning or Waving - Writing, collecting and making craft"

Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 **Climate Data Labyrinth**, Textile Installation, Black Box, Concordia University (March)
- 2016 **Fluid Data, (Digital Version)** Bath Spa University Media Wall exhibition, December-January 2015-16
- 2001 **Kelly Thompson: Locus Operandi** at Dunedin Public Art Gallery, New Zealand (catalogue). Also toured to Hawkes Bay Cultural Trust, and included in Hi Tech/Hi Temp, at Canberra School of Art Gallery, Australian National University.
- 1997 **Mori Gallery**, Sydney, Australia
- 1996 - 98 **Passages and Postcards** Suter Art Gallery, Nelson. Touring exhibition to Art Space Festival Center, Adelaide, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt, Fisher Gallery, Auckland, Hawke's Bay Art Gallery and Museum, Napier, Govette-Brewster Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand (catalogue)
- 1995 **Parallel Crossings** - Photospace Gallery, Canberra, Australia
Consisted of narrative, autobiographical ikat and double-weave pick-up works.
- 1994 **IN TRANSIT** Master of Arts (Visual Arts) Exhibition (catalogue)
Canberra School of Art Gallery, ANU, Canberra, Australia and at FLUXUS Gallery, Dunedin, NZ
YOU ARE HERE Solo Exhibition of computer aided drawings - Photospace Gallery, Canberra

Group Exhibitions

- 2020 **The Capacity of Cloth**, Winooski Mill Museum, Vermont, USA (with Joanna Berzowska, Rythâ Kesselring, Barbara Layne, Skawennati, Kathleen Vaughan, in association with Milieux's Textiles and Materiality Research Cluster)
- 2019 **IMPACT** –Bilskúrs Gallery, Icelandic Textile Centre, Blönduós, Iceland
- 2017 **The Rubies** -40th Anniversary exhibition by ANU School of Art & Design alumni. Canberra School of Art Gallery, Australia (invited).
- 2016 **World of Threads Festival 2016**, Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre. Oakville, 1

- Ontario, Canada
- Glorious matter: The exhibition.** Artists in the 'Textiles and Materiality' cluster of Concordia's Milieux Research Centre for Art, Culture, Technology, exhibit and panel presentation as part of the Conference of the International Visual Literacy October 5-10, 2016
- Fiberworks 2016** Idea/ Exchange, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
- Open all Ports**, Hygienic Art Gallery, New London, Connecticut, USA (invited)
- 'Un paradis sans pommiers' :Le jardin des Soeurs Grises* Installation event June 3
- 2014 **Parallax: Landscape in Translation** (with Cynthia Hammond & Kathleen Vaughan) FoFA Gallery, Montreal. September
- 2013 **Inter-sensorial Threads** Creative Arts Faculty Gallery, University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia.
- 2012 **Fiberworks 2012**, (juried) Cambridge Galleries, Cambridge, Ontario
- Fanciful:Small Media Moments** at the Media Gallery in Department of Communication Studies, Loyola Campus, Concordia University (exhibition curated by Dr Kim Sawchuck and Prof. Rae Staseson)
- In Stitches** Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences, New Jersey (Curated)
- 2011 **Vanish/Survive** Vilnius, Lithuania. The 7th International Biennial of Textile Miniatures, satellite exhibition to Kaunas Biennial TEXTILE'11
- VI Bienal Internacional de Arte Textil Contemporáneo – Aire**
(Vi International World Textile Art Biennial Of Contemporary Textile Art –Aire) - participated in two juried exhibitions:
- Salón Arte Textil Pequeño Formato**, Galería de Ramon Alva de la Canal, Xalapa
- Salón Arte Textil Gran Formato, Museo** Diego Rivera Anahuacalli, Mexico City
- New City Gas Building, Nuit Blanche group exhibition.
- Fiberart International 2010** Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester
- 2010 **Fibreworks 2010** (biennial juried exhibition of Canadian fibre art) Cambridge Galleries, Ontario.
- Portable connection/conexión**, Casa de la Cultura-Municipal, Holguin, Cuba
- Fiberart International 2010** Pittsburg, PA (juried)
- 2008 **tattered cultures:mended histories**, curated international exhibition of contemporary fiber art, at the Academy Art Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.
- 2007 **Global Intrigue – Tradition and Innovation**, 3rd European Triennial Textile and Fibre Art, Riga, Latvia. Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Juried with Colour Catalogue
- Fiberart International 2007** Pittsburg, PA (juried, awarded top prize)
- 2006 **About Jacquard**. Montreal Centre for Contemporary Textiles, international artists. (CD Catalogue).
- 2004 **Norsewear Awards 2004** Hawke's Bay Exhibition Centre, Hastings, New Zealand
Merit Award - Applied Arts (selected show, with catalogue)
- 2003 **Interchange** Ol Gallery. Jeonju, South Korea (Staff exchange exhibition)
- Interchange** Woosuk University Gallery, Samnye, South Korea
- Handy crafts – at home with Textiles** Curated by Rose Griffin , in association with Objectspace and te tuhi the mark, Pakuranga, Manukau City, New Zealand (catalogue)
- 2002 **Unfolding Territories** Faculty of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia held in conjunction with conference "Fabric(ation)s of the Postcolonial" (curated, small catalogue)
- Hi Tech/Hi Temp** CSA Gallery, ANU Canberra
- Norsewear Art Award** Hawkes Bay Exhibition Center (selected), New Zealand
- Botanica – Gus Fisher Gallery – Auckland**, New Zealand. (curated, catalogue ISBN 0-9582167-3-8)
- 2001 **Botanica** Adam Art Gallery, Victoria University of Wellington. (curated, catalogue) New Zealand
- Language of Memory** New Bedford Art Museum, Massachusetts, USA
- 2000 **Objects with Meaning** Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch, New Zealand (catalogue)
- 1999 **HeadHandsHeart –Center of Contemporary Art**, Christchurch, New Zealand
- Vision Art - Port Chalmers**, Dunedin, New Zealand
- Norsewear Art Award**, Waipukurau, Hawkes Bay NZ (Merit award)
- 1998 **Southern Lights** curated by Michael Findlay, Otago Settlers Museum for City Art Centre, Edinburgh, Scotland and Dunedin Public Art Gallery. (curated, catalogue)
- Pasifika** curated by Melissa Chiu (w/ Jacqueline Fraser, Yuk King Tan & Ani O'Neil) at Canberra

- Contemporary Art Space and
4A Gallery (Australian Asian Artists Association), Sydney (catalogue)
- 1997 **Vernacular**, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, NZ
Cleveland Art Awards, Dunedin, NZ
Applied Arts Lane Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Showcases Christchurch Arts Festival, Christchurch, NZ
- 1996 **Women Hold Up Half the Sky - The Orientation of Art in the Post-war Pacific** Monash
University Gallery, Melbourne. (curated, catalogue)
A Matter of Making' Invited Alumni - Canberra School of Art Gallery
- 1995 **Dunedin Dialogues** Milford Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand
Around About 125 presented by the School of Art, Otago Polytechnic. Gallery No. 5, Dunedin.
N. Z. Craft in the 90's - NZ Academy of Fine Arts, Wellington
- 1994 **Little Jewels** - 1994 International Festival of the Arts Miniatures Exhibition - James Cook
Centra Hotel, Wellington, NZ
The Port Chalmers Exhibition of Excellence, Garrison Hall, Port Chalmers, NZ
Back to Back- Otago Polytechnic School of Art, Lecturers' Exhibition, Carnegie Gallery,
Dunedin, New Zealand
- 1993 **The Innocent Pixel** - exhibition of computer assisted drawings from Canberra School of Art
staff and students, Photospace Gallery, Canberra.
- 1992 **Fibre Interface - Nga Kaupapa Here Aho.** Te Taumata Art Gallery, Auckland. Invited
Maori/Pakeha textile artists
- 1991 **Art in Wool.** Wool Board , Crafts Council and NZSSW- Waikato Museum of Art and
History, Hamilton, & Crafts Council Gallery, Wellington
Creative Dyeing III Selected Exhibition Craft Dyers Guild Waikato Museum of Art and
History, Hamilton ,NZ
Craft for the Executive Space, Crafts Council Gallery, Wellington
Otaru, Japan. Otaru/Dunedin Sister City Exhibition
- 1986 **Suter Craft Awards.** Invitational. Nelson Art Gallery, NZ
- 1985 **Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition.** Fiberworks Gallery, Berkeley, California, USA

Exhibition Awards

- 2007 **Fiberart International 2010** Pittsburg, PA, Juried - Best of Show
- 2004 Norseweart Award 2004 – Merit Award, Applied Arts
- 1999 Norsewear Art Award - Merit: Wool and Fibre
- 1997 Cleveland Art Awards - Premier Textile Award

Publications (Single authored and/or co-authored/-edited)

- 2018 Kelly Thompson *Material Codes: Ephemeral Traces* (monograph), with essays by Borowska, S.,
Lemieux-Bérubé, L., Vaughan, K. Miliuex Institute, Montreal, QC, Canada ISBN: 978-1-7752732-0-2
- 2018 Kelly Thompson & WhiteFeather Hunter, *The Material Turn* exhibition catalog, with essay by Sophia
Borowska. FoFA Gallery, Montreal, QC, Canada. ISBN: 978-1-927629-20-8
- 2017 "Material Codes: Ephemeral Traces" (with Janis Jefferies) in *Textiles: Journal of Cloth and Culture*.
DOI: 10.1080/14759756.2017.1298327 Taylor and Francis, UK (peer reviewed)
- 2015 "Weaving Practice & Pedagogy" Chapter in *Sloppy Craft: Post-Disciplinarity and Craft* edited by Elaine
Cheasley Patterson & Susan Surret, published by Bloomsbury Academic, UK
- 2006 *Dialogue: Exploring Opportunities in Textiles* in *Object* magazine, (Sydney, Australia) co-authored Liz
Williamson and Kelly Thompson, Issue No. 50. p30
- 2003 *The New Zealand Costume and Textile Section News Letter*, "Report: Fabri(cation)s of the
Postcolonial conference" Issue 03, March 2003
- 2001 *International Tapestry Journal* December 2001 "Kelly Thompson: A Weaver's Locus
Operandi" p2-5
Craft Magazine of Craft Victoria Vol 32 No 241 1/2001 " Locus operandi – a Weaver's
View" p17-18

- 2000 *A Sense of Place and Identity in Aotearoa New Zealand* in Approaching Textiles, Varying Viewpoints, Proceedings of the Seventh Biennial Symposium of the Textile Society of America, Santa Fe, New Mexico (p179-184)
Craft- A Journey catalogue essay for *Objects with Meaning – New Directions in South Island Craft* Centre of Contemporary Art, Christchurch, June/July 2000
RISK- Transformative Practices catalogue. Contributed essay and oversaw compiling, editing and design.
- 1998 *Tiare Taina o te Kuki Airani* Tivaevae from Cook Island Women of Dunedin (co-curator and editor). Published in conjunction with the Dunedin Public Art Gallery exhibition same name.
- 1996 *Passages and Postcards* Catalogue for show organised and toured by Suter Art Gallery, Nelson NZ.
TENTH- Graduate Works' from Ten Years of Craft Design at Otago Polytechnic. Edited by Kelly Thompson and Clive Humphreys Published by Otago Polytechnic School of Art.
- 1994 *IN TRANSIT* - MA Show, CSA ANU Catalogue written and designed by self.
- 1990 'Real Craft in Dunedin' NZ Crafts Autumn

Peer-reviewed conference /symposia presentations

- 2018 Textile Society of American Conference (September) Accepted paper: *Weaving a Turn: translating data, material and space*.
- 2016 Glorious matter, engaging the senses: A panel presentation by artist-researchers in "Textiles & Materiality." Vaughan, K., Daines, M.J., Hunter, F., Legault, D., Moisan, G., & Thompson, K., Panel at the Conference of the International Visual Literacy Association. Montreal, QC, October
2016. *Artist at Sea: Codes and Cargo* Paper presented at Textile Society of American Symposium, Savannah, Georgia, USA
Fluid Data: Codes and Cargo paper and artwork presented at Open All Ports, 15th Biennial Symposium for Arts and Technology, Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology at Connecticut College (Feb)
- 2015 Presented ongoing research project. European Textile Network Conference, Leiden, The Netherlands. (May)
- 2013 Inter-Sensorial Threads, University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia
- 2011 **Cut on the Bias: Textiles, Collaboration and Pedagogy** (Organizer and participant in SHRC funded research workshop with international peers) <http://cutonthebiasworkshop.wordpress.com/>
- 2010 **Traversing Location/Navigating Borders** paper, Textile Society of America – 12 Biennial Symposium – Lincoln, Nebraska, USA [www. http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tsaconf:52:](http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tsaconf:52)
- 2006 **Digital Perceptions**, University of Strathclyde, Collins Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2004 **A conversation: virtual and actual spaces – textile practices in an era of new technologies** Collaborative paper with Margo Barton, delivered at *the space between* conference April, Perth, Western Australia
- 2003 **Narratives of Identity and Place** Paper delivered at the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Art Educators Conference 'Nga Waka 2003', April, Auckland, NZ
 Attended 12th European Textile Network conference titled 'New Technologies and Materials', September in Prato, Italy. Presented slide lecture on current New Zealand Textile art practices.
 Visiting Artist Talk at Concordia University, on Contemporary NZ textile art practices.
- 2002 **Locus:narratives of identity** Paper for *Fabric(ation)s of the Postcolonial* conference, December, University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia
- 2001 Invited Speaker: 'Woven Dreams of the Rainforest Forum' held at the Flinders University Art Museum. Organised by CraftSouth, Centre for Contemporary Craft and Design, Adelaide, in collaboration with Society Atelier Sarawak.
- 2000 Textile Society of America Symposium 2000 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Paper titled **A sense of place and identity in Aotearoa New Zealand**
 Panellist – *Connexions Symposium*, Christchurch Polytechnic,

- 1998 Delivered collaborative paper with Bridie Lonie titled **Articulating Process** at *The Persuasive Object, Korero a te Whatu* conference, UNITEC, Auckland, NZ

Publicity

<http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/main/stories/2018/03/08/tangible-data-material-turn-fofa-milieux-black-box.html>

Residencies

- 2018 Icelandic Textile Centre, September
- 2017 TextielLab, Tilburg, Netherlands (2 weeks testing and production on Industrial loom-July)
- 2017 *Salon des refuses, Giardino dell'Eden* is an ongoing multidisciplinary artistic collaboration by Cynthia Hammond, Kelly Thompson and Kathleen Vaughan that uses sensory engagement, digital images in projection, textile installations and imagination to explore the meanings and metaphoric potential of Venice's lost 'Garden of Eden'. (Public art intervention 15-22 May) Sponsored by Studio XX & Concordia's Centre for Sensory Studies
- 2015 Fondazione Arte della Seta LISIO, Florence (2 weeks production)
TextielLab, Tilburg, Netherlands (4 days production)
Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand – Artist-in-Residence (Feb-Apr 2015)
Spirit of Singapore. Container ship from Charleston, SC to Auckland, NZ www.artistatsea.com
- 2014 Fondazione Arte della Seta Lisio, Firenze, Italy (workshop and independent study)
- 2004 Sanskriti Foundation, Delhi, India. Funded by Creative New Zealand Te Waka Toi Arts Council and Asia 2000 Foundation for three-month residency. Artist research.
- 2003 Montreal Center of Contemporary Textiles – 3 weeks residency using digital jacquard loom to produce new work. August- September
- 2000 Montreal Center of Contemporary Textiles – working residencies in September and December, to produce new work.

Visiting Artist or Professional Activities

- 2017 *Exploring Venice's 'Garden of Eden': an ongoing feminist, sensory and collaborative art project.* Talk for Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture, Concordia University, (November 17). With Cynthia Hammond and Kathleen Vaughan . <https://giardinodelleden.wordpress.com/>
- 2016 Sensing Risk: A Symposium on Risk in the Sensor Society, Concordia University – presented paper *Weaving Data, Material Codes and Ephemeral Traces*
- 2015 *Material Orientations: Locating narratives*, Public Artist Lecture aligned with Master of Design exhibition, College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand. April
Artist talk to crew of MV Spirit of Singapore – at sea on the Pacific Ocean
- 2014 Invited participant Sow to Sew Symposium, NSCAD, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- 2013 University of Wollongong, School of Creative Arts, Wollongong, Australia.
- 2012 Artist Lecture. Textile Museum of Oaxaca, Mexico
- 2005 – 2009 External Examiner for BA (Hons) Textile Design
University of Central England, Birmingham Institute of Art and Design.
- 2005-2008 Goldsmiths' Health and Safety Committee, Academic Staff Representative
- 2005 Panel Member – UHI Millennium Institute External Validation of Contemporary Textiles BA programme, in Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Shetland College, Scotland.
- 2002 Visiting Artist – Textiles Workshop, School of Art, National Institute of the Arts, Australian National University, Canberra. May-June
- 2002 Juror for The Mason Charitable Trust Scholarship in Design. For Creative Fibre - New Zealand Society of Spinners, Weavers and Woolcrafts Organisation.
- 2000 Juror for National Exhibition *Creative Fiber 2000* NZSWW Society, Christchurch
- 1999-98 Member NZQA Accreditation Panel for Nelson Bachelor of Visual Arts degree and External moderator of Assessment Procedures
- 1999-98 Creative New Zealand Art Form Assessment Committee Member

- 1999-97 Member- Otago Polytechnic Research and Development Committee
 Member- National Steering Committee for *Persuasive Object* Conference, funded by Creative New Zealand
- 1996 Juror - National Embroiders' Guild Exhibition – Christchurch, NZ
 Juror - Professional Weavers Network Exhibition. Southland Museum and Art Gallery, Invercargill, NZ.
- 1994 Juror *Fibre and Fleece* Opotiki, Bay of Plenty, NZ
 Judge for Otago Embroiders' Guild Annual Exhibitile

Funding for University Research Projects:

- 2018 **The Material Turn Project – Exhibition and Symposium**
- 2017 **Stories from Studio Arts: Charting the histories and impacts of art teaching at Concordia University.**
- 2014 **Codes matériels: fils éphémères (Material Codes: Ephemeral Threads)** Fonds de recherche Société et culture (FRQSC)
- 2013 **Material Codes: Inter-sensorial Threads** Faculty of Fine Concordia University, Seed Funding

Commissioned artwork or other acquisitions by peer-recognized collectors

Public collections:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Jakarta Office, Indonesia
 Otago University – Dunedin, New Zealand
 Nelson Polytechnic – Nelson, New Zealand
 Powerhouse Museum of Applied Arts and Science – Sydney, Australia
 Cruthers Collection - Perth and Sydney, Australia
 The National Gallery of Australia - Canberra
 Whangarei City Council
 Otago Polytechnic and Business for Change, Dunedin
 Kevin Tonks Landscape Architects, Auckland

Private Collections - New Zealand, Australia, California, Norway, England, India, USA

Memberships

Concordia University Research Centres:

- Milieux: Institute for Art, Culture and Technology. Textiles and Materiality Research Cluster (Co-Director, 2016-19)
- Associate Member - Centre for Sensory Studies

Research Member - Hexagram: International Network for Research-Creation in Media Arts, Design, Technology and Digital Culture

Textile Society of America

Surface Design Association

Employment History

- June 2016 – to present **Graduate Program Director**, Studio Arts, Concordia University
- Jan 2009 - to present **Associate Professor**, Studio Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. (tenured from June 2012)
- Sept 2004 to Sept 2008 **Head of BA (Hons) Textiles**, Goldsmiths College, Department of Visual Arts, University of London, UK
- 1994 to August 2004 **Senior Lecturer**, School of Art Otago Polytechnic, Dunedin, New Zealand
 Head of Textiles - Diploma and Degree programmes.
- 1988 -92 **Lecturer**, School of Art Otago Polytechnic. Appointed Course Supervisor 1989.
 Study Leave 1992 to March 1994
- 1986 -87 Tutor and Technician, Craft Design Certificate, Northland Polytechnic, Whangarei, New Zealand

Academic Background

1992- 94 **Master of Arts (Visual Arts) Degree.**

Canberra School of Art, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

1980 - 85 **Bachelor of Fine Arts (Textiles) with Distinction**

California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, USA

1979 Certificate in Weaving, Nelson Polytechnic, Nelson, New Zealand