

## HAPTOTROPE ARTIST SERVICES

SARAH DAVITT, PRINCIPAL

SARAH@HAPTOTROPE.COM

HAPTOTROPE.COM



### CREATIVE PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

The artist believes in the cultural and personal metaphor of retro-reflective material. The material, typically used for visibility, shines only for those who bring light to it. And just like the world, communities or a story is completed with the receiver and all of their own points of engagement – perspective and biases. She takes a thoughtful and participatory approach to storytelling via environments and accessories that remind others of the light they bring and of their contributions, as well as just create a place where reality bends towards joy.

### ART EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS

**SafTea** – small interactive café, constructed out of retro reflective material and traffic themes. Burning Man 2019.

**Luster Cluster Artist** – Participated in a collective sculpture garden, at the Burning Man Festival, 2017 and 2018 – Variable Stars Project was created to manifest the stories of the queer community as constellations in a yet undiscovered universe.

**Ingress Navarro Team Lead/ Creative concepts** – designed and lead a team to build a participatory art environment in 2017 and 2018 that interacted with the Niantic Inc. game technology to create a feedback loop between Augmented Reality and reality. The Project continued in 2019, with a sculptural variation.

**Firefly Arts Collective Grant** for several site-specific installations in natural setting for participatory community environments, including, large diaphanous paintings in the forest, and retro-reflective chandeliers, meditation pods, and electric trees.

**Volunteer Room and Board Grant** to build cultural relations and advocate for art preservation in Nek Chand's Rock Garden in India.

**Artist in Residency 2013** – Pieces selected by Dhiraj Choudhury – Organized by the Lalit Kala Akademi – Regional Center, Kolkata, Residency at the Govt. College of Art and Craft Kolkata, Exhibition at Aban Gallery, Book published by Lalit Kala Akademi

• *Kolkata, West Bengal, India – Nov-Dec '13*

**Haus of Hapto**, multi-annual event creating art and fashion on demand

• *Somerville, MA, USA – July '07, '09, '10, '12*

**Muralist in Residency**, 'World Learning'

Painted a mural depicting the global experience of the organization's work • *Brattleboro, VT*

• *Brattleboro, VT, USA – Summer '11*

**Somerville Open Studios**, Annual City Wide Artistic Exhibition

• *Somerville, MA, USA – May '00 - May 2007*

**Bizarre Bazaar**, Annual show cum sale

• *Boston, MA, USA – Dec '04, '05*

**Prints and Pieces**, Small group show, Cambridge Universalist Church Gallery • *Cambridge, MA, USA – Feb '01*

**Above Instinct**, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design Thesis Show • *Milwaukee, WI, USA - May '99*

## SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

**Accepted to Institutional Collection** – World Learning of Brattleboro, VT accepted 3 paintings into their permanent collection - 2010

**Firefly Arts Collective Grant** for several site-specific installations in a woodland setting for participatory community environments – 2007-2009

**Recommended to India for Fulbright Grant** to conduct research relating to the cultural causes of graffiti at the intersection of identity and globalization – 2007

**Volunteer Room and Board Grant** to build cultural relations and contribute to and advocate for art preservation in Nek Chand's Rock Garden in India – 2005, 2007-2011

**Iron Cog Award** – For exemplary service to SCUL, an art and altered bicycle club – 2006

**Purchase Award** – Painting Purchased and accepted into the collections of Marquette University – 1998

## EDUCATION

**SIT Graduate Institute**, Brattleboro, VT

Masters, 2014 – Program in Management, concentration in Service, Leadership and Management, coursework in experiential training design, project management, social justice, research methodology, organization development, strategic planning.

**Harvard University Extension School**, Cambridge, MA

Classes for credit in Hindi language, multicultural communication, negotiation, nonprofit management

**Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design**, Milwaukee, WI

BFA, 1999 – Awarded for coursework in fine arts, art history, costume history, cultural and organizational anthropology. Awarded Ann and Roger Martin Merit Scholarship for academic and artistic excellence.

**University of Minnesota** – Duluth, Duluth, MN

Coursework in fine arts, applied arts, art history, and cultural studies, humanities.

## TEACHING AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

**Milwaukee Makerspace**

Engaged Member - Volunteer, Former At-Large Board Member, Area Co-Champion of the Laser Labs - incharge of training, maintenance, side projects include community engagement, social and traditional media, Women led sculpture collective • *Milwaukee, WI – Dec 2018 to Present*

**Milwaukee Makerfaire Volunteer**, 'Milwaukee Maker Faire'

Conceived and operated a booth about collaborative quilting and fiber arts for all ages, shared art projects about light and technology • *Milwaukee, WI – Sept/ Oct '19, '21, '22*

**Rock Garden Volunteer**, 'Nek Chand Foundation'

Assisted in conference planning, curatorial, artistic and preservation duties, managed volunteer acclimatization and coordination, acted as a liaison between Nek Chand Foundation, volunteers, and local youth and staff • *Chandigarh, India – Dec - Jan '05, '07, '08 -13*

**Firefly Arts Grant Committee**, 'Firefly Arts Collective'

Writing and editing grant application and fulfillment documents, allocating grant monies, monitoring project completion • *Boston, MA – Apr '06, 10, '11*

**Independent Arts Coordinator**

Lead the grounds planning, artistic project implementation and installation, volunteer management, special event planning and management, coalition building, publicity • *USA – '03, '06 - '09*

**Citizen Teacher**, 'Citizen Schools'

Designed and executed an arts curriculum as part of an after-school educational program. The volunteer- led apprenticeship stressed adult-quality work from middle school students. Class topic: bookmaking from recycled materials • *Boston, MA – Sept - Dec.'03*

**Instructor**, College of the Menominee Nation

Facilitated activities, curricula, evaluations, discussions, and presented lectures for course titled 'Design Fundamentals 101' • *Keshena, WI – Jan '99*