

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Education / Training

Otis Art Institute of Parsons School of Design, Fine Arts Program, 1988–1990  
Cornish College of the Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance, Cum Laude, 1996  
South Seattle Community College, Welding and Metal Fabrication, 2009

### Exhibitions

**American Dream House, a Dowry:** Commissioned by the Museum of Capitalism and The Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University

Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, Boston, MA

August 29 - October 25, 2018

<http://www.museumofcapitalism.org/>

#### **OUT OF SIGHT SEATTLE 2017**

Evidence Cake from The Sugar Project

August 3 – 23, 2017

<http://www.outofsight.space/>

#### **MUSEUM OF CAPITALISM**

The immersive Succession collage travels to Oakland and on tour.

June – Sept, 2017: [Museum of Capitalism, Oakland, CA](#)

<http://www.museumofcapitalism.org/>

#### **THE SUGAR PROJECT INSTALLATION**

A two-gallery multidisciplinary social engagement installation about women and commodification.

Community engagement with Seattle University, The Organization for Prostitution Survivors, Union Gospel Mission's Hope Place Shelter, Bellwether Exhibition and Art Walk, Seattle's Amistad School, Horn of Africa Youth Services and ArtXchange.

April 6 – May 14, 2017: [Bridge Productions and Oxbow Installation Space in Georgetown Seattle, WA](#)

#### **US THEM WE Solo Public Screenings**

"In the Cold" Kick off for the Seattle Homeless Count, hosted by Seattle Civic Poet Claudia Castro

Luna January 25, 2017 Seattle City Hall

Equinox Studios Industrial Art Complex Annual Opening, December 9, 2017

#### **Small Ground, from SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project Installation**

Oct 1 – Oct 29 2016: [Artist Trust 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday Exhibition](#)

#### **Small Ground, Tent Installation from SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project**

Sept 10 - 17 2016: [Home is Where the Heart Is, Oxbow Gallery Seattle, WA](#)

#### **SUGAR PROJECT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT, BELLEVUE ART WALK AND BELLWETHER EXHIBITION:**

Community engaged time based temporary outdoor installation and installation of the piece in the Bellevue City Hall Pavilion through the Bellwether exhibition

August 5 – October 9, 2016: [Bellwether: Bellevue Downtown Park and Bellevue City Hall Pavilion.](#)

#### **Small Ground, Tent Installation from SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project**

April – July 2016: [The Incredible Intensity of Just Being Human Exhibit, Issaquah, WA](#)

#### **From One to Another, Steel Sculpture from SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project**

March 15 2016 semi permanent installation, [Center on Contemporary Art at Equinox, Seattle, WA](#)

#### **US THEM WE, Video from SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project Installation**

February 2016: [Soil Gallery Invitational Exhibition, Seattle, WA](#)

#### **SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project**

January 7 2016–January 28 2016: Solo Installation and community engagement project,

[Gallery 4Culture, Seattle, WA](#)

Residency Dates: December 1, 2015 – Jan 6, 2016

***Hispanic Heritage Exhibit:*** Starbucks Headquarters Gallery, Seattle WA

Sept 28 – Oct 1, 2015

***Art From the Streets Sculptural Storytelling:*** Installation of artwork created in collaboration with residents and guests at Seattle's Union Gospel Mission. (Community Engagement workshop for

SUCCESSION: The Exchange Project)

Spanish Chapel: Seattle Union Gospel Mission, Sept 3, 2015

***Feat 2015: Artist Trust Fellows Exhibition***

July 30 – Aug 2, 2015: Galvanize, Seattle, WA

<http://www.feat2015.com/>

***Heaven and Earth 7: Propagation***

Plexus Installation Net Sculptures

July-October 2015

Outdoor Public Sculpture Exhibition at Carkeek Park, Seattle WA

***Plexus***

Visual and Sound Installation in collaboration with composer Jovino Santos Neto

November 2014–January 2015: Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA) Gallery, Seattle, WA

Artist in Residence: October 1, 2014 – Nov 20, 2014

***Going Home, God Land***

January–April 2014: University of Washington School of Social Work, Seattle, WA

***Two-person show with designer Nathan Christopher***

September–October 2013: Island Gallery, Bainbridge Island, WA

***Grist***

2013 Permanent Installation: Seattle Film Institute

***Johnson Solids, Filiform***

March 2013–present: Island Gallery, Bainbridge Island, WA

***Grist: Crash of Days***

Steel set piece for choreographer Deborah Wolf's contemporary dance piece, *Crash of Days*

October 2012: "Men in Dance" Concert, Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle WA

***God Land***

April 2012: Pierce College Gallery, Lakewood, WA

February–March 2012: Women's Caucus for Art Momentum Exhibit, Los Angeles Art Association, Gallery 825, CA

August–September 2011: 2011 Annual Juried Exhibition, Sylvia White Gallery, Ventura, CA

***Labyrinth and Cells***

August–October 2011: "Drawing Resurfaced" National Contemporary Drawing Exhibit, Purdue University Stewart Center Gallery, West Lafayette, IN

***Johnson Solid Steel Sculptures***

July 2011–July 2012: City of Seattle Municipal Tower, City of Seattle Affinity Groups

***Filiform***

August 2011: "Byproduct" Exhibit, Fictilis Gallery, Seattle, WA

***Dream House***

July 2011: "Not for Sale" Exhibit, Fictilis Gallery, Seattle WA

***Sky Wire***

July–August 2011: Kent Summer Art Exhibit, Kent City Hall, WA

April–May 2011: "ReArt" Juried Show, Blowing Sands Gallery, Seattle, WA

***Everybody Loves a Good Story***

September–November 2010: "Unwrapped" Juried Show, Columbia City Gallery, Seattle, WA

***Labyrinth, Cells***

June–August 2010: Kent Summer Art Exhibit, Kent City Hall, WA

***God Land***

August–September 2010: "Xanadu" Group Exhibit, Soil Gallery, Seattle, WA

**Dream House**

June–October 2010: “Bellwether” Biennial Sculpture Exhibit, Bellevue City Hall, WA  
March 2010: Installation and Workshop, The Vet Art Project, Freehold Theater, Seattle, WA  
September–November 2009: “Border Crossing” Juried Exhibit, Villa Victoria, Boston, MA  
September–November 2009: Monarch Contemporary Gallery, Seattle, WA (with selected works)  
July–August 2009: “Home” Juried Exhibit, Attleboro Arts Museum, Attleboro, MA

**Labyrinth and Cells**

April–May 2009: Re-Art Juried Exhibit, Blowing Sands Gallery, Seattle, WA

**Selected Work**

September–November 2008: “Zero” Juried Exhibit, Columbia City Gallery, Seattle, WA

**Mechanically Sensitive Channels**

May 2008: Solo Exhibit, All City Coffee Pioneer Square, Seattle, WA

**Giant Figures and New Works**

July 2007: Solo Exhibit, Ballard Art Walk, Seattle, WA

**Awards**

*City Arts Magazine 2017 Artist of the Year*, December 2017 Issue  
*Artist in Residence at Institute of Emergent Technology + Intermedia (iET+I) at Cornish, The Sugar Project*, 2016 – 2017  
*City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund Grant, The Sugar Project 2016-2017*  
*City of Seattle smART Ventures Grant 2016*  
*Artist Trust Fellowship*, 2015-2016  
*Gallery 4Culture Solo Exhibition and Artist Residency*, Jan-Feb 2016  
*Isabel Padro y Valiente Fellowship, Millay Colony*, 2015  
*Millay Colony for the Arts Residency*, October 2015  
*4Culture Individual Artist Project Grant*, 2015–2016  
*Artist in Residence at CoCA Gallery*, October 2014–January 2015  
*4Culture Individual Artist Project Grant*, 2014–2015  
*Seattle Department of Neighborhoods*, 2014  
*Seattle Foundation*, 2014  
*Puffin Foundation Artist Project Grant*, 2010/2011  
*4Culture Individual Artist Project Grant*, 2010/2011  
*Attleboro Arts Museum*, Juror’s Award, *Dream House*, 2009  
*Alas De la Danza*, First Place in Dance Performance, Quito, Ecuador, 2000  
*Artist Trust Grants for Artist Projects*, 1999

**Media Appearances / Publications**

**Crosscut**, August 2018 **Beyond Meinert: Can Seattle disrupt its culture of sexual misconduct? Women influencers in the local restaurant, music and arts community discuss solutions.**

Part 1 <https://crosscut.com/2018/08/beyond-meinert-can-seattle-disrupt-its-culture-sexual-misconduct>

Part 2 <https://crosscut.com/2018/08/beyond-metoo-how-turn-movement-real-change-seattle>

**WBUR: The ARTery, Museum of Capitalism, August 2018**

<http://www.wbur.org/artery/2018/08/28/museum-of-capitalism-boston>

**City Arts Magazine 2017 Artist of the Year, Sugar Project** <http://www.cityartsmagazine.com/2017-artists-of-the-year/>

**City Arts Magazine: Out of Sight 2017. Evidence Cake from The Sugar Project in featured photos.** <http://www.cityartsonline.com/articles/out-sight-big-beautiful-and-bright>

**City Arts Magazine: Saccharine and Sexism, Sugar Project Critical Review, Margo Vansynghel** <http://www.cityartsonline.com/articles/saccharine-and-sexism>

**City Arts Magazine: Title page feature for The Sugar Project**

<http://www.cityartsonline.com/articles/her-sweet-words>

**The Stranger: How Seattle Artists Are Responding to the Endless Nightmare That Is This Election Season, Jen Graves highlights The Sugar Project:** <http://www.thestranger.com/visual-art/2016/10/26/24648513/how-seattle-artists-are-responding-to-the-endless-nightmare-that-is-this-election-season>

**Joy and Sadness - Michelle de la Vega's SUCCESSION:** The Exchange Project, Gayle Tice for Artist Trust: [http://artisttrust.org/index.php/news/blogpost/michelle\\_de\\_la\\_vega\\_the\\_exchange\\_project](http://artisttrust.org/index.php/news/blogpost/michelle_de_la_vega_the_exchange_project)

**Jen Graves for the Stranger:** <http://www.thestranger.com/things-to-do/things-to-do/2016/01/13/23439872/the-46-best-things-to-do-this-week>

**King 5 News New Day Northwest: Nancy Guppy's Weekend Picks for Art Lovers:**

<http://www.king5.com/story/entertainment/television/programs/new-day-northwest/2016/01/14/nancy-guppys-weekend-picks-art-lovers/78788776/>

**These Artists Podcast:** Interviewed by Jeff Bettger about art practice and projects.

<https://soundcloud.com/theseartists/michelle-de-la-vega-mixdown>

**King County 4Culture Guest Post:** Integrating Pioneer Square's Communities with Michelle de la Vega: Sept. 2015 <http://www.4culture.org/2015/08/guest-post-integrating-pioneer-squares-communities-with-michelle-de-la-vega/>

CoCA Artist Profile: Center on Contemporary Art profiles Michelle de la Vega

May 2015 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17BtA6Hizfo>

**FYI Channel: "Tini House Nation," A Tour of Minimalist Living,** segment on the Mini House, August–September 2014. [youtube.com/watch?v=uj8pbtcsNns](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uj8pbtcsNns)

**HGTV: "Home Strange Home,"** segment on the Mini House, October 2013

Joanne Palmisano, *Salvage Secrets*, 2014: Book featuring three interior design projects.

**Terrance Conran, *How to Live in Small Spaces*, 2012:** Home design book featuring the Mini House.

**Houzz Tour: "Industrial Mini House in Seattle,"** 2012, [houzz.com/ideabooks/2041762/list/houzz-tour-industrial-minihouse-in-seattle](http://houzz.com/ideabooks/2041762/list/houzz-tour-industrial-minihouse-in-seattle)

**Inhabitat: "Michelle Makes Tiny Living Available to Everyone,"** 2012

[inhabitat.com/michelle-de-la-vega-makes-tiny-living-accessible-to-everyone](http://inhabitat.com/michelle-de-la-vega-makes-tiny-living-accessible-to-everyone)

**Scoop Homes and Art Magazine.** Australia, "Vroom to Move": Feature article on the Mini House.

**Dominique Browning, *MORE Magazine*, October 2010, "Living Your Dream":** Article on the Mini House.

**New York Times, April 22, 2010: "Driveway Appeal":** Three-page cover article of Home and Garden section about the Mini House and *Dream House* installation.

[nytimes.com/2010/04/22/garden/22garage.html?ref=garden&r=0](http://nytimes.com/2010/04/22/garden/22garage.html?ref=garden&r=0)

**Education / Outreach / Community Service**

*Curator and Host of John Boylan's The Conversation: Power, Privilege and Me Too*, September 18, 2018

*King County Public Art Advisory Committee:* March 2018 – current.

*Organization for Prostitution Survivors King County Jail Art Program:* Women's art program at King County Jail. Program November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

*Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation:* Community engagement art activity for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Women Hold Up Half the Sky exhibition.

*The Sugar Project:* Community engagement workshops and public events held over the course of 18 months with Seattle University, The Organization for Prostitution Survivors, Union Gospel Mission's Hope Place Shelter, Bellwether Exhibition and Art Walk, Seattle's Amistad School, Horn of Africa Youth Services and ArtXchange  
2016-2017

*Path With Art Teaching Artist:* Art classes for people in recovery from trauma, homelessness and addiction, 2015 – current.

Cornish College of the Arts: Community Arts and Social Practice Guest Lecturer, February 2, 2017

Seattle University Arts Leadership Conference: Selected Presenter, January 28, 2017

Artist Advisor or Artist Up: Making arts funding available to underserved artists of color. 2013 – ongoing,  
Artist Trust: Art Business Night School: Writing Your Artist Statement. Seattle, October 26, 2016

OPS (Organization for Prostitution Survivors): Art workshops focused on the themes of self-care and trust. Feb – Nov. 2016. The work from this workshop will be part of an installation about the commoditization of women. The work from this workshop will be part of The Sugar Project about the women as commodities. Sales will benefit OPS.

Public Art Boot Camp: Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs: Guest speaker: “More Thank Visual”: Speaking about the SUCCESSION project, social engagement, and public art that incorporates diverse elements.

The Incredible Intensity of Just Being Human: Artist in residence, Issaquah School District for high and Jr. high classes on the theme of de-stigmatizing mental illness in youth. Teacher training, classes and exhibition planning. Feb – May 2016

Community Engagement Through Art Forum: Hosted by Michelle de la Vega and the City of Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs. 4 community engagement artists talk about motivations, processes and goals integrating community for social change through arts projects. Fall 2016.

The Incredible Intensity of Just Being Human: Program Guest Artist. Work with Issaquah, WA High and Jr. High schools in the art class to talk about social practice art and work with the teachers to design and implement a curriculum and project about awareness of youth mental illness. April 2016

Seattle Girls School All School Community Meeting: Guest Speaker: Community Engagement and Art. Nov 16, 2015

Sawhorse Revolution: Guest Speaker for high school girls design and build class: Community Engagement and Art. Nov 8, 2015

Artist Talk at Artists of Color Salon: On Community Engagement Through Art. Frye Art Museum, Seattle WA. Aug 16, 2015

Seattle Union Gospel Mission: Art workshop on mixed-media storytelling using mixed media, for SUCCESSION installation. Also showing at UGM Art Gallery September 3. Workshop dates: August 2015

Recovery Cafe: Art workshop on mixed-media storytelling using mixed media, for SUCCESSION installation. Also shown at Recovery Café Open Mic May 2015. Workshop dates: April 2015

Chief Sealth High School, Seattle, WA: Visual art workshop, part of Plex.us, September 2014

UW School of Social Work, Seattle, WA: Talk on creative process and Community Engagement through art, April 15, 2014

The Vet Art Project, Seattle, WA: Dream House installation and workshop, April 2010

Keeping the Faith, Prison Project: Visual art teacher, 2009

Youth Arts Program, WA Middle School, Visual art workshop, Part of Pat Graney Company's *House of Mind*, 2008

Keeping the Faith, Transitions Program, Seattle University Visual art workshop, Pat Graney Company, 2008

Keeping the Faith, Prison Project, Movement Arts Intern, Pat Graney Company, 1999

## Performance Art

Nov. 2015 - Performance collaboration with Dutch installation artist and artist in residence at Microsoft Research Studio99 Aduen Darriba.

1997–1999, 2008–Present: Dancer/performer, Pat Graney Company

2002–2004: Dancer/performer, Mary Sheldon Scott/Jarred Powell Performance

1997–2001: Dancer/performer, Business Manager, KT Niehoff's Lingo Dance Theater

1999: Choreographer, Row, Seattle Fringe Festival; Seattle Arts Edge Festival; On the Boards' 12 Min. Max

1997–1999: Founding Member, Glassbones Collective

Additional Performing: Wade Madsen, Deborah Wolf, Rob Kitsos, Pablo Cornejo, Allison VanDyke, Corrie Befort, Beth Huerta, Mary Dineen.