

kitty f. davies

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EDUCATION

- MFA: Studio Art & Painting, 2025. Illinois State University. Normal, IL, USA.
- Concept Art, & Illustration, 2016–2018. Concept Design Academy. Pasadena, CA, USA.
- BA: Film & Telecommunications, *Cum Laude*, 2015. California State University, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
- Associate of Arts, 2011. Butte Community College. Oroville, CA, USA.

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2026

- *Desertification After Bouguereau*, solo exhibition, McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, IL, USA.

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

2026

- *Sucking Face*, t'ART, London, UK (forthcoming).
- *PROM*, Hell's Basement, New York City, NY, USA.
- *Giant Runt*, Giant Runt, Fort Worth, TX, USA.

2025

- *12X12*, Tempus Projects, Tampa, FL, USA.
- *Panorama of Space-Time*, Incheon National University, Incheon, South Korea.
- *98th Annual McLean County Area 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*, 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.
- *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: Selina 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.

RESIDENCIES

2024

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

GRANTS & AWARDS

2025

- Selected to represent Illinois State University in the regional Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Competition, sponsored by the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools, USA.
- James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Competition (University-Level): Runner-Up, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Competition (College-Level): Winner, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- 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.

EVENT ORGANIZATION

2026

- *606-312-2004*, curator and preparator, organized by Lease Agreement in collaboration with Cooper

Gibson, Tampa, FL, USA.

2025

- *blue and, white, red*, preparator, organized by Lease Agreement in collaboration with Dakota Joan Parkinson and Malic Amalya, Tampa, FL, USA.
- *Loadstone*, preparator, organized by Lease Agreement in collaboration with Dakota Joan Parkinson, Tampa, FL, USA.

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

2026

- Event Co-Host and -Mediator. *Labor-Based Grading Summer Workshop*. Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) Regional Event (forthcoming).
- Event Co-Host and -Mediator. *Labor-Based Grading Roundtable*. Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) Regional Event.

2025

- Panel Co-Chair. *Labor-Based Grading Contracts: Four Approaches from Art & Design Classrooms*. SECAC 2025. Cincinnati, OH, USA.
- Co-Presenter with Ruth K. Burke. *Considering Power: Building Trust in the Classroom through Labor-Based Grading Practices*. SECAC 2025. Cincinnati, OH, USA.
- 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, 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, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.
- Critic in the Studio BFA Crit event, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA.

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

2026

- Created Asynchronous Online Digital Drawing course curriculum, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

PERFORMANCE

2023

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

PUBLICATIONS

2026

- *Filthydirty // Pleasure*, painting published in *Sucking Face: An Anthology of Queer and Trans Kisses*, t'ART Press, digital and physical format (forthcoming).

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

2025

- *Domestic Rewilding - A Living Land Acknowledgment (IL)*, production assistant and cameraperson. Earthwork by Ruth K. Burke, Illinois State University Horticulture Center, Normal, IL, USA.

2023

- *Sunset on the Longest Day*, cameraperson and editor. Performance and documentation video, dir. by Shannon Epplett, PhD, 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

2026

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

- Adjunct Professor, Beginning Drawing, Intermediate Drawing, Illustration, Digital Drawing.

2025

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, USA.

- Adjunct Professor, Beginning Drawing and Intermediate Drawing.

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 remote graphic designer for Figueroa Mountain Brewing Co. Includes illustration, packaging, ad, branding, and social media design at all scales. Santa Barbara, CA, USA.

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, Sex Beyond Binaries, and Redwood Equity & Praxis.

2025

Cover art for Steven Halle's poetry collection *Cow Stomach and Mother Fat*, published by Veliz Books.

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.

2017

Cover art for Davey Davis's debut novel *the earthquake room*, published by TigerBee Press.

PRESS & MEDIA

2024

- *Biggest Heist Ever*, interviewee. Netflix documentary, dir. by Chris Smith.

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

Moya Bailey, Ela Przybylo, Susan Sontag

POWER / FUTURITY

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

PERVERSION

Lewis Hyde, Jennifer Doyle, Leigh Cowart, Gayle Rubin, Georges Bataille

QUEER THEORY

Avgi Saketopoulou, Huw Lemmy, Judith Butler, C. Riley Snorton

MASS MEDIA / FILM THEORY

Sherry Turkle, Sonia Livingstone, Marshall McLuhan, George Gerbner

REFERENCES

Ruth K. Burke - rkburke@ilstu.edu

Jason Dunda - jfdunda@ilstu.edu

Neil Bender - nb2@usf.edu