

**CHRISTOPHER JANKE**  
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## EDUCATION

- 2018 **Master of Fine Arts, Studio Art; *University of Massachusetts***, Amherst MA  
*Sculptural poetics, experimental text-based film, performance, pedagogical & conceptual art*  
Thesis Committee: Young Min Moon, Susan Jahoda, Robin Mandel
- 2001 **Master of Fine Arts, Poetry; *University of Massachusetts***, Amherst, MA  
Thesis Committee: Dara Wier, James Tate, Tomáš Šalamun
- 1992 **Bachelor of Arts; *Eastern Nazarene College***, Quincy, MA  
Major: Communications; Minor: Mathematics

## VISUAL EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 **The Thing Itself, solo video and dynamic sculpture exhibition & lecture**, Hampden Gallery, Amherst MA
- 2021 **Giving Shape to Time**, participatory performance of wheat paste and sun, Hampden Gallery, Amherst MA
- 2020 **Dark Times, solo time-and-place-specific installation**, A.P.E./Northampton Arts Trust 33Hawley  
Northampton, MA
- 2020 **Episode: 2, solo video installation**, LAVA Center, Greenfield, MA
- 2018 **transit, solo installation**, Goodwin Public Library, Hadley MA
- 2017 **Two Takes, UMass Student Gallery Fall Show, solo show** curated by Brendan McCauley, UMass Amherst  
**The Syllabus, solo installation**, UMass Amherst MFA in Studio Art  
**Que Desagradable!** group show curated by Sarah Fritchey, NYPOP Gallery, Chelsea NYC
- 2016 **The Everlasting Gobstopper, solo sculpture and performance**, UMass Amherst MFA in Studio Art  
**The Watching Club** (collaboration), group live art curated by Amanda Herman, Live Art 4,  
Northampton MA  
**Turners Falls Lost + Found Fashion Show**, co-curator/coordinator, partner, Turners Falls MA  
**Contact**, group show curated by Rachel Steinberg, NYPOP Gallery, Chelsea NYC
- 2015 **a shelter at a border, solo installation**, campus bus shelter, UMass Amherst  
**presence & absence**, group show, Herter Gallery, UMass Amherst  
**Equinox Tracing**, public installation, fall equinox, Turners Falls MA
- 2014 **"using a net to catch the air: On Poetry and Ineffability,"** lecture/performance, exhibition, and  
poetry performance, *Drake University & The Comparison Project*, Des Moines IA  
**Suzee's Lost + Found Fashion Show**, host and co-producer, Turners Falls MA

## VISUAL EXHIBITIONS (CONTINUED)

- 2013 ***How the world wears its words***, large-scale time-and-site-specific **solo installation**, Greenfield MA  
**Atelier 6000**, juried group show, Bend OR  
**Homemade/Handmade**, juried group show, *Pace University*, Westchester NY  
**Suzee's Lost + Found Fashion Show**, host and co-producer, Turners Falls MA
- 2012 **hero of 1000 faces**, invitational group commission, *Flying Object*, Hadley MA  
**transparent/opaque 2**, invitational juried exhibition, *Abecedarian Gallery*, Denver CO  
**in, of, or on paper**, juried exhibition, *Paper Circle Arts*, Nelsonville OH  
**WORD=object**, group show & reading, *LOOT found+made*, Turners Falls MA  
**Suzee's Lost + Found Fashion Show**, host and co-producer, Turners Falls MA
- 2011 **How do you do?** group show & poetry reading, *The Rendezvous*, Turners Falls MA  
**Suzee's Lost + Found Fashion Show**, host and co-producer, Turners Falls MA
- 2004-2010 **Suzee's Lost + Found Fashion Show**, host and co-producer, Turners Falls MA

#### FILM & NEW MEDIA FICTION AND STORYTELLING

- 2017-2020 **episode: 2** – *Multi-screen automated media installation*, writer and director  
 UMass Amherst, NYPOP, LAVA
- 2016 **episode: 1** – *Film without visuals*, writer and performer, UMass Amherst MFA
- 2000 ***The Maypole of Merrymount*** – Scriptwriter & Director's Assistant  
 South Shore Independent Film Series  
*Recipient of Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant*

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### Books of Poetry

- 2016 ***blepharism / psalterium*** **H\_NGM\_N Books**  
 double volume of poetry, approx. 130 pages
- 2007 ***Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain***, approx. 80 pages **Fence Books**  
 "a must-read to appreciate the possibilities of the genre" – *The Bloomsbury Review*  
 "a driving and driven ... breakneck vision" – *Publisher's Weekly*

##### Published Poems

- |      |                               |  |
|------|-------------------------------|--|
| 2021 | <i>Jubilat</i>                | posthumous love poem 23                |
| 2018 | <i>American Poetry Review</i> | posthumous love poem 5 & "translation" |
| 2014 | <i>Boston Review</i>          | sweeping psalm                         |

#### PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

**Published Poems (CONTINUED)**

2013	<i>Tuesday: An Art Project</i>	of the of of the of #7 (w drawings)
2013	<i>Make Magazine</i>	of the of of the of #1 (w photos of handmade art book)
2012	<i>Typo</i>	posthumous love poems 10 & 11 & "translations"
2011	<i>Diagram</i>	posthumous love poem 6
2011	<i>Tarpaulin Sky</i>	[1] from <i>blepharism</i>
2011	<i>Zoland Poetry</i>	bluets and buttercups or how I learned to garden
2010	<i>Bateau</i>	[3] from <i>blepharism</i>
2010	<i>Typo</i>	birds before dawn
2010	<i>Black Warrior Review</i>	amusement announcement
2010	<i>all small caps</i>	[8] from <i>blepharism</i>
2009	<i>A Public Space</i>	Psalm Made of Silk
2008	<i>Conduit</i>	[11] & [19] from <i>blepharism</i>
2007	<i>Fence</i>	Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 2
		Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 9
2007	<i>The Montague Reporter</i>	Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 7
2007	<i>Greenfield Recorder</i>	Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 8
2007	<i>Forklift, Ohio</i>	[4], [5], [6], [9.2], [9.4] from <i>blepharism</i>
2006	<i>The Montague Reporter</i>	laundry psalm
2005	<i>American Poetry Review</i>	god and body psalm
		cow psalm
		boring psalm
		Death Psalm
		Psalm of wine & wind
2005	<i>Field</i>	closer psalm
		unwritten psalm
2005	<i>Octopus</i>	postcard psalm
		parrot psalm
2005	<i>The Montague Reporter</i>	psalm of hollow extremities
2004	<i>Typo</i>	psalms to oceans & science, a sperm & you, yes you
		this psalm was a young wolf in a net hung from a sapling
2004	<i>New American Writing</i>	psalm of the presbyter
2003	<i>blazevox</i>	psalm of the other temple
		The Madder the Poplar
		psalm of breath
		Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 5
		Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 3
2003	<i>Marlboro Review</i>	Children, Jasper TX
2003	<i>Goodfoot</i>	Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain 10
2003	<i>Harper's</i>	Prayer to the Aardwolf (reprinted from <i>Verse</i> )
2003	<i>Verse</i>	Prayer to the Aardwolf
2003	<i>Pleiades</i>	Garland, Weddings, & Holes in the Ground
2003	<i>Ploughshares</i>	Thought to be Derived from Entobronchium
2003	<i>Fence</i>	My Hand As An Acquired Taste
2002	<i>New Orleans Review</i>	Me and God, Of The No
2002	<i>Phoebe</i>	Nines

**PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)****Published Poems (CONTINUED)**

2002	<i>Lit</i>	Poetic Apostrophe for Man-made Things Acute Sticks of Pine the cutting hour
2002	<i>Parakeet</i>	Mechanically Separated Chicken 1
2002	<i>Green Mountains Review</i>	Insurance Man
2002	<i>Nimrod</i>	Tunneling
2002	<i>Poetry International</i>	Anniversary
2002	<i>Hayden's Ferry Review</i>	Accidents
2001	<i>Spinning Jenny</i>	Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain, the hour with a bird in its teeth
2001	<i>la petite zine</i>	This Poet is A Machine, the unwrapping hour, stunt, The World
2002	<i>Spoon River Poetry Review</i>	the hour between slipping and landing
2001	<i>Mid-American Review</i>	into the hour of my broken arms, the hour on its back in a field
2001	<i>Green Mountains Review</i>	Elegy 4
2001	<i>No Exit</i>	Matter
2001	<i>Third Coast</i>	Nocturne
2000	<i>Cutbank</i>	Elegy 2
2000	<i>Conduit</i>	Nap
2000	<i>Sonora Review</i>	Sidereal
2000	<i>River City</i>	The Mouth You Find In Your Head
1999	<i>Oxford Magazine</i>	What the Harpy Said
1997	<i>The Boston Poet</i>	From Dark to Light
1997	<i>The Boston Poet</i>	As Common As Anything

### Poems in Anthologies

2013	<i>Overplay/Underdone: An anthology of poetry in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension</i> Medusa's Laugh Press, "of the of of the of #'s 1-9" (poems & drawings)
2012	<i>Hero with 1000 Faces</i> group chapbook, commissioned poetry/sculpture
2012	<i>I have a song to tell you</i> group chapbook, commissioned poetry & drawing
2010	<i>In Their Cups</i> , ed. AJ Rathburn, Harvard Common Press, "psalm of wine & wind"
2004	<i>Verse Anthology</i> , ed. Brian Henry "Prayer to the Aardwolf"

### Creative Non-Fiction

2011	[17] & [18] from <i>blepharism</i> (10p fractured narrative) in <i>shadowbox magazine</i>
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### Scholarly Publications

2017	<i>using a net to catch the air: poetry, ineffability, and small stones in the shoe</i> (Peer-reviewed chapter) <i>Ineffability: An Exercise in Comparative Philosophy of Religion</i> , Springer Press
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### PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

### Other Publications as Author

- 2006 **A Turners Falls Perspective:** Column in Franklin County's paper of record, *The Recorder*  
3 columns on local politics and community issues, Fall 2006
- 2003 "Kicked in the Heart by History," A Review of *Heartwall* by Richard Jackson  
*Verse Magazine* (Vol. 19, No. 3/Vol. 20, No. 1) & *Jacket Magazine* (online)
- 2002 "... the way angels, he once told me, address each other," *An Interview with Paul Mariani*  
*Quarterly West* (25th Anniversary Edition, reprinted from #53 Fall/Winter 2001/2002)

## WRITING AWARDS

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| 2007 | <b>Fence Modern Poets Series Prize</b> | <i>Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain</i> (book of poems) |
| 2000 | <b>Sonora Review Poetry Prize</b>      | "Sidereal" (poem)   |

## MUSIC

- 2006 **the wherewithal** – electronic musician, writer  
CD: *sailing naked* (EP), independent release
- 2002 **scuttlefish** – DJ, author, singer  
poetry and music in performance/ 45-minute pop opera  
CD: *you've got blue on in the picture*, independent release  
live full opera performance: 7/02 at AS220 in Providence, RI & 1/02 at TT's in Cambridge, MA
- 2000 **bob.** – singer, author, trumpet-player – CD: *In Celebration of Our Imminent Decay*, independent
- 1995 **bob.** – singer, author, trumpet-player – CD: *Tales of the House of the Wholly Bobble*  
Fingerprint Records  
live: *Approximately 75 gigs performed in/around Boston from 5/92 - 6/99*

## GRANTS

- |      |                                      |                                   |
|------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2018 | Que Desagradable! (group show)       | UMass Arts Council                |
| 2011 | Turners Falls RIVERCULTURE (partner) | Mass Cultural Council Adams Grant |
| 1999 | Maypole of Merrymount (participant)  | Quincy Cultural Council           |

## INVITED TALKS

- |      |  |                                   |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2021 | <b>The Thing Itself</b> , performance & talk               | Aesthetics & Contemporary Art     |
| 2017 | <b>Workshop Discussion</b> , UMass MFA for Poets & Writers | Politics of Poetry                |
| 2016 | <b>TheArtSalon</b> , Turners Falls MA                      | Recent Work PechaKucha            |
| 2015 | <b>Writer's Work</b> : UMass MFA for Poets & Writers       | Writing and Arts Entrepreneurship |
| 2014 | <b>Drake University</b> / The Comparison Project           | Poetry & Ineffability             |

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2020 Anita Fritz, "'Episode: 2' – Video Art," *Greenfield Recorder*, October 22, 2020.  
<https://www.recorder.com/Chris-Janke-at-LAVA-Center-36883047>

- 2018 Gina Beavers, "Transit: A Marriage of Words and Solar Motion," *Valley Advocate*, March 30, 2018.  
<https://valleyadvocate.com/2018/03/30/transit-a-marriage-of-words-and-solar-motion/>
- 2013 Crystal Curry, "The House of the Rising Poem," *Coldfront Magazine*, July 16, 2013.  
<http://coldfrontmag.com/the-house-of-the-rising-poem/>
- 2013 Trish Crapo, "Words Carry Weight," *The Greenfield Recorder*, August 29, 2013.  
<http://www.recorder.com/home/8222985-95/words-carry>
- 2008 Cyan James, "Structure of the Embryonic Rat Brain" (review), *New Pages*, August 4, 2008.  
<http://www.newpages.com/book-reviews/book-review-archive/2014-09-01/item/3138-structure-of-the-embryonic-rat-brain>
- 2012 Melissa Starker, "Exhibit: Paper Circle: Juried Works on the Cutting Edge," *Columbus Dispatch*, June 10, 2012.
- 2008 "Panorama of Prose Poetry," *Bloomsbury Review*, March/April 2008.
- 2007 "Poetry Notes: September Publications" *Publisher's Weekly* (online), September 1, 2007.
- 2007 Andrew Varnon, "The Poems That Bind," *The Greenfield Recorder*, March 1, 2007.

#### TEACHING AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2015-2020	UMass Amherst Arts Extension Service	Lecturer in Arts Management
2019-2020	UMass Amherst Film Studies	Lecturer in Film
2019, 2020	Springfield College	Lecturer in Contemporary Art
2017	UMass Amherst College of Humanities and Fine Arts	Seminar Leader in Aesthetics
2015-2018	UMass Amherst Department of Studio Art	Lecturer in Studio Art
2010	Chester College of New England	Visiting Writer in Residence
2006, 2007	University of Hartford	Lecturer in Creative Writing
1998-2003	UMass Amherst Isenberg School of Management	Junior Year Writing Instructor
2001-2003	UMass Amherst Isenberg School of Management	Writing Center Coordinator

#### SELECTED COURSES

<b>University of Massachusetts, Arts Extension Service</b>	<i>Amherst MA</i>
Financial Management in the Arts (Graduate Level)	Falls 2015-2020
Non-Profit Arts Marketing	Spring 2019
<b>Springfield College, Visual and Performing Arts Department</b>	<i>Springfield MA</i>
Contemporary Art	Fall 2019, Fall 2020

#### SELECTED COURSES (CONTINUED)

<b>University of Massachusetts, Film Studies</b>	<i>Mt. Ida Campus, Newton MA</i>
My Creative Future	Spring 2020

<b>University of Massachusetts, College of Humanities &amp; Fine Arts</b> First-Year Seminar: Beauty, Fairness, & Other Living Things	<i>Amherst MA</i> Fall 2017
<b>University of Massachusetts, Department of Studio Art</b> Art Foundations 3D Art Foundations 2D Art Foundations 2D (Teaching Assistant)	<i>Amherst MA</i> Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018 Fall 2016, Fall 2017 Fall 2015
<b>University of Massachusetts, Department of English</b> MFA Defense Committee Member Creative Writing PostModern Novel 1945-Present	<i>Amherst MA</i> Spring 2012, Spring 2014, Spring 2015 Fall 1999, Fall 2001 Summer 2001
<b>University of Hartford, Department of English</b> Introduction to Creative Writing	<i>Hartford CT</i> Fall 2006, Spring 2007
<b>Greenfield Community College, Department of English</b> Composition II: Lit and CW Composition II: Exploring literature Composition I: Writing and Thinking	<i>Greenfield MA</i> Spring 2002 Fall 2001 Fall 2001
<b>University of Massachusetts, Division of Resource Economics</b> Professional Communications	<i>Amherst MA</i> Fall 2001

## TEACHING INTERESTS

**Words At/And/Around The Visual Field:** on words that frame visual experience in art, concept, and life  
**Experimental/Experiential Aesthetics:** to practice challenging our exchanges between equity and beauty  
**Maker and Citizen:** seminars in ethics, aesthetics, arts & politics, and making a life  
**Arts Entrepreneurship:** examining intersections between art and markets and an artist's passions

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2002 – present      Intern Supervisor      UMass MFA for Poets & Writers and Slope Editions

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL, MANAGEMENT, & PARTNERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – 2022**      *Franklin County Community Development Corporation*, Greenfield, MA  
**Business Development Coordinator**
- Consult with small business owners to help them strategize about growth and next steps.
  - Develop growth strategies for entrepreneurs in the creative economy.
  - Work with entrepreneurs as they navigate the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Develop and implement Federal reporting methods for COVID-19 grant forgiveness.
- Analyze business operations for micro businesses to assist in pandemic survival.
- Strategize about growth and pivot methods for micro enterprises.
- Prepare small businesses for loan acquisition and growth.

2002 – present ***Slope Editions / Slope Publishing, Inc.***, Greenfield, MA

**Co-Founder, Vice President, and Senior Editor**

- Oversee all operations of a 501c3 publishing company.
- Supervise all staff and train and oversee upper-level managers of an all-volunteer press.
- Manage team in selecting, editing, printing, promoting, distributing, and selling books of poetry.
- Oversee awarding of annual poetry prize, attend annual AWP Conference to host readings and sell books, & hosted monthly reading series from 2008 – 2010.
- Select and edit books for publication.
- Established book division of slope.org and incorporated entity as Slope Publishing, Inc.
- Procured pro-bono representation to assist with 501c3 application, approval, and other incorporation matters.
- Assisted in fundraising of \$15,000 through various grants to publish *The Other Side of Landscape*, Slope Editions' Younger Nordic Poets Anthology.

2006 – present ***The Rendezvous***, Turners Falls, MA

**Managing Partner**

- Lead and manage 90-seat 20-employee sit-down restaurant through COVID-19 crises and recovery.
- Assist in oversight of management and guidance of executive decisions.
- Manage budgets, staff, human and other resources for pub and music venue.
- Purchased and redeveloped historic building to successfully open a pub.
- Created business plan; gathered partners; raised \$.5m from investors, SBA, and local banks.
- Supervised and assisted in construction plans and implementation.
- More than 15 "Best of" Readers' Poll Awards from *The Valley Advocate*.

2004 – 2012 ***Turners Falls RiverCulture***, Turners Falls, MA

**Partner**

*Turners Falls RiverCulture is a Massachusetts Cultural Council Adams' Grant program aimed at boosting local economics through cultural and artistic activity.*

- Collaborated with diverse cross-section of businesspeople, artists, town officials, and others to develop and drive organizational mission involved on a variety of committees.
- Served as Chair of the "Producers Series," a panel of artists who curate adventurous public art for the town.
- Team partner in 2011, when won the MCC's **Commonwealth Award**