

Lecture Series Biographies

1.10PM - Sanchayan Ghosh, Studio-L and Vera Sacchetti

Sanchayan Ghosh – Visual Artist and Pedagogue



(b. 1970) Born in Kolkata. Lives and works in Santiniketan and Kolkata, West Bengal, India. He is currently an Associate Professor, Department of Painting, Kala Bhavan, Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan.

Sanchayan Ghosh has been practising site-specific art as a workshop based collective community dialogue leading to numerous forms of public engagements over the last twenty years. His interest in process-based collaborative making and sharing of art lead him to interact also with different performance forms from all over India. Moreover, through his regular engagement in pedagogy, he has explored art practice as a critical engagement of individual and collective conversation where he has collaborated and participated in different interdisciplinary encounters exploring institutional space as an interface of the private and the public. He has also worked in different self-organised initiatives in different parts of the world and explored transforming relationships of land, location, labour and practice. He has been awarded Charles Wallace Fellowship, UK in 2003-04 and worked on “Merge Down and Resist” with 3 generations of Asian migrants on framing of identities in Bristol. He has also

participated in Kochi Muziris Biennale and explored a community sound project, “Incomplete Circles, Invisible Voices” in 2012. He participated in Dacca Biennale in 2016 with a collective performative project Reading from the Gendered land with women students of Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati and Charukala Anushad Dhaka Vishwa Vidyalaya. He has participated in the an education project Under The Mango Tree in Documenta14 and conducted a Circle Walk in 2017. He has been also associated with different pedagogy projects in Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, National School of Drama(NSD), FICA(New Delhi) and Five Million Incidents of Max Mueller Bhavana, Kolkata. He also co-curated the second session of Under The Mango Tree in Santiniketan in 2020. Kochi- Muziris Students’ Biennale, Kochi 2018.

Ghosh’s collaborative sound project (work of art) ‘Short Wave’s Transit Tales’ is commissioned by Documenta14 (the German international exhibition project, under its Radio project and was transmitted in 8 countries of 4 continents). This piece has been shown in three exhibitions in Basel, Switzerland and Berlin and Weimar, Germany.

His selected solo exhibitions include Reversed Perspective:3 Conjectures, 2014 and Sisyphus Effect, together with Experimenter, Kolkata, 2010.

Studio-L

Noriko Deno – Community Designer



Noriko Deno is a community designer and joined Studio-L in 2011. Noriko has managed projects ranging from social welfare, social and adult education, town management, park management and revitalising town centers. She was also a university lecturer at the Tohoku University of Art and Design, teaching Community Design from 2014 till 2018. Noriko's most recent projects have been working with Akita City Council to help find the best way to support young and old people from a mixed community. She has also been working with the Ministry of Health and Labour to change the perception of care workers in the nursing industry by helping to raise their profile and social status.

Vera Sacchetti – Design Critic and Curator



Credit: Diana Pfammatter

Vera Sacchetti (Lisbon, 1983) is a Basel-based design critic and curator. She serves in a variety of curatorial, research and editorial roles, most recently as program coordinator for the multidisciplinary research initiative *Driving the Human* (2020-2023) and curator of the initial edition of the architecture festival *Archipelago: Architectures for the Multiverse* (2021). She is co-curator of TEOK Basel and one half of the curatorial initiative Foreign Legion. Sacchetti was associate curator of the 4th Istanbul Design Biennial, A School of Schools, curatorial advisor for the BIO 50 Biennial of Design in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and, as part of editorial consultancy Superscript, headed the “Towards a New Avant-Garde” event series at the 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale. She has recently edited *Design as a Tool for Transition: The Atelier Luma Approach*; and *Design As Learning: A School of Schools Reader*. Her writing has appeared in *Disegno*, *Metropolis*, and *The Avery Review*, among others. Sacchetti teaches at

ETH Zurich and HEAD Geneva, and in 2020 joined the Federal Design Commission of Switzerland.

2:10 PM - Worldmapper

Benjamin Hennig – Founding Director and Geographer



Benjamin Hennig is a geographer interested in social and spatial inequalities, humanity's impact on Earth, global sustainability and the development of concepts for analysing, visualising and mapping these issues through the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing and Cartographic methods. He was educated at the Universities of Cologne and Bonn, completed his PhD at the University of Sheffield. He now works as a Professor of Geography at the University of Iceland and is an honorary research associate at the University of Oxford. He is also involved in the Worldmapper Project and the Riff Reporter journalism portal.

2.30 PM - Native Land Digital

Christine Luckasavitch (McRae) – Executive Director



Christine Luckasavitch is an Omàmìwininì Madaoueskarini Anishinaabekwe (a woman of the Madawaska River Algonquin people), belonging to the Crane Clan and mixed settler heritage. Christine continues to live in her ancestral territory, much of which is now known as Algonquin Park, Ontario.

Christine is the Owner/Executive Consultant of Waaseyaa Consulting and Waaseyaa Cultural Tours (<https://waaseyaaconsulting.ca>), two small businesses dedicated to reviving and celebrating Indigenous ancestral knowledge and culture-based practices through educational opportunities. In addition, she is the co-owner of Algonquin Motors, a motorcycle clothing company based in unceded Algonquin territory.

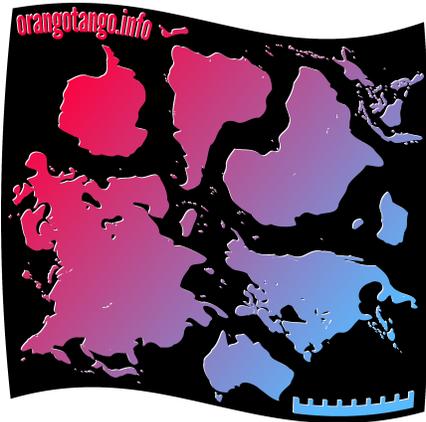
In addition to her own companies, Christine is the Executive Director of Native Land Digital (<https://native-land.ca>), an Indigenous-led not-for-profit dedicated to providing education about Indigenous peoples, territories, and knowledge systems across the world. She is currently studying for her Master of Arts in Indigenous Studies at Trent University.

Native Land Digital

Native Land Digital is the Indigenous-led Canadian not-for-profit organisation behind Native-Land.ca, an open-source digital platform depicting a colourful tapestry of Indigenous lands, languages, and treaty boundaries around the world. Native Land Digital encourages users to engage more critically with cartographies

by increasing awareness and knowledge about Indigenous cultures and territories around the world. Native Land Digital is taking steps to increase Indigenous community sovereignty over Indigenous data and offer space for an Indigenous nation and tribal representation on their own terms.

4.00PM - kollektiv orangotango, Public Lab, Simon Weckert and Aspen Pflughoeft
kollektiv orangotango



kollektiv orangotango has been developing since the 2000s as a network of friends, critical geographers, artists and activists. Besides co-conducting collective mapping processes, collaborative art-interventions in public space and emancipatory educational processes, we create Not-an-Atlas (notanatlas.org), a global platform of critical cartography.

Public Lab

Hagit Keysar – Researcher and Activist



Hagit Keysar is a researcher and activist, working and teaching in the fields of science and technology studies, critical geography and urbanism. Hagit's research and creative work focuses on the political potentials of community-driven technoscientific tools and methods for articulating rights in situations of conflict and colonisation. Her PhD thesis focused on experimenting with Public Lab's balloon and kite aerial photography toolkit in Israel/Palestine, and she has been a member of Public Lab's community since 2011. In the past two years, she has been a postdoc fellow of the Minerva Stiftung in Berlin's Natural History Museum, working with a group of researchers on investigating the social and political consequences of collections' mass digitisation.

<https://cargocollective.com/hagitkeysar>

Simon Weckert – Artist



Simon Weckert likes to share knowledge on a wide range of fields from generative design to physical computing. His focus is the digital world – including everything related to code and electronics under the reflection on current social aspects, ranging from technology-oriented examinations to the discussion of current social issues.