

TESSA DAVIDSON

CURRICULUM VITAE

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ABOUT

Name: Tessa Davidson
Date of Birth: Jan. 16, 1985
Relationship: Married

ART MEDIA

Painting (primary)
Drawing
Video
Performance
Installation art

LANGUAGES

English (native)
French (proficient)

EDUCATION

MASTER OF FINE ARTS <i>Visual Art</i> (2018)	New Hampshire Institute of Art Manchester, NH
MASTER OF ART <i>Art History</i> (2014)	University of Arkansas in Little Rock Little Rock, AR
MASTER OF EDUCATION <i>Secondary Art</i> (2008)	Harding University Searcy, AR
BACHELOR OF ART <i>Art Education</i> (2006)	Harding University Searcy, AR

WORK EXPERIENCES

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART (2019 – present)	Harding University (Art Dept.) Searcy, AR <i>Art Appreciation</i> <i>Art Appreciation Online</i> <i>The Big Questions (Honors)</i> <i>Visual Aesthetics</i> <i>Fine Arts Profession</i> <i>Ancient-Medieval Art History</i> <i>Renaissance through Modern Art History</i> <i>Contemporary Art History</i> <i>Design Foundations I</i> <i>Advanced Painting</i> <i>Advanced Drawing</i> <i>Teaching Art (Secondary)</i> <i>Teaching Art (P-8)</i> <i>Supervised Teaching</i>
FACULTY FELLOW (2024-)	Honors College, Harding University, Searcy, AR

WORK EXPERIENCES (continued)

ADJUNCT ART PROFESSOR (2011 – 2019)	Harding University, Art & Design Department, Searcy, AR <i>Taught a variety of art history and studio courses</i>
UNIVERSITY SUPERVISOR (2013 – 2016)	Harding University Education Department, Searcy, AR <i>Supervised and evaluated P-12 teachers before licensure</i>
MUSEUM DOCENT (2012 – 2015)	Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR <i>Completed training and certification, gave biweekly tours</i>
ART TEACHER (2007 – 2012)	Harding Academy, Searcy, AR <i>7-12th Studio Art, Advanced Placement Art History, Bible</i>
GRADUATE ASSISTANT (2006)	Harding University Art Department, Searcy, AR

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

The Art of Dying: Ars Moriendi Illustrations & How to Die (& Live) Well. Presented at the Colloquium on the Liberal Arts, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2024.

Human Dignity & Sistine Chapel. Presented at Harding University, Weekend Seminar (Preprofessional Health Science), 2024.

Theology of Beauty. Presented at Inspire, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2024.

Artist Talk: Testament of Fire. Presented at Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2024.

Mind the Gap: Contemporary Art & Christianity. Presented at the Colloquium on the Liberal Arts, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2024.

Holy Spirit, Ethics, and Aesthetics (Panel Convener). Christian Scholars Conference, Houston, TX, 2023.

A Closer Look at Art, Race, and Medicine. Presented at Harding University, Weekend Seminar (Preprofessional Health Science), March 20, 2023.

Canvas Hacks for Busy Teachers. Presented at the 11th Annual Faculty Technology Showcase, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2023.

Art & Spiritual Formation, Presented at the Harding University Lectureship, Searcy, AR, 2022.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Painting for Freedom: How a 19th-Century Painting Advocated for the Rights of Black Americans. Presented at the Colloquium on the Liberal Arts, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2021.

Artist Talk: Virtual Drawing Program. Presented at Crystal Bridges (Zoom), Bentonville, AR, 2021.

A Closer Look at Art, Race, and Medicine. Presented at Harding University (Zoom), Weekend Seminar (Preprofessional Health Science), March 20, 2021.

Artist Talk: Saints Reformed. Presented at Lyon College, Batesville, AR, 2020.

Artist Talk: Saints Reformed. Presented at Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2019.

Art and Altars: Reflections on Contemporary Art and Contemporary Christianity. Presented at the New Hampshire Institute of Art Graduate Thesis Talk, Manchester, New Hampshire, 2018.

Art in the Classroom. Presented at Central Valley Schools' Faculty Assembly, Visalia, California, 2017.

The Challenges of Generation Z and Why Your Art Students Seemingly Can't Pay Attention, Lack Creativity, and are Addicted to their Devices. Presented at the Arkansas Art Educators Conference, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 2015.

Hey! Art History Isn't Boring! Creative techniques to help you teach engaging, interesting, and fun art history lessons. Presentation made at the Arkansas Art Educators Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas, 2014.

Laocoön and His Secrets: Dating Attribution Concerns of the Vatican Sculpture *Laocoön and his Sons*. Paper presented at the Arkansas Art History Symposium, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, 2014.

Thomas Waterman Wood: *A Bit of War History*. Paper presented at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, Arkansas, 2013.

An Analysis of Kirill Zdanevich's *Composition with Figures*. Paper presented at the Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, Arkansas, 2011, and added to the image file of the Arkansas Arts Center.

An Analysis of Kirill Zdanevich's *Composition with Figures*. Paper presented at the Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, 2011, and added to the image file of the Arkansas Arts Center.

The Robie House Interior and the Contributions of George Mann Niedecken. Paper presented at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, Arkansas, 2012.

A Closer Look at the Arkansas Art Center's *Les Amoureux dans la rue* by Fernand Léger. Paper presented at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, Arkansas, 2009, and added to the image file of the Arkansas Arts Center.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

The Minimal and Liminal, Arts on Main, Van Buren, AR, 2024.

Centennial Exhibition, Stevens Art Gallery, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2023.

Painting, Baum Gallery, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR, 2022.

She Show, M2 Gallery, Little Rock, AR, 2021.

62nd Annual Delta Exhibition, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR, 2020 (virtual).

13-Year Anniversary Show, M2 Gallery, Little Rock, AR, 2020.

SoothSAY, Culture Shock Collective, Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, AR, 2019.

Are We There Yet?, Christians in the Visual Arts, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN, 2019.

The Next Generation, Landmark Building, Hot Springs, AR, 2019.

Errors, Fakes, and Oddities, Sharon Arts Gallery, Peterborough, NH, 2019.

60th Annual Delta Exhibition, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR, 2018.

The Beautiful, Christians in the Visual Arts, traveling exhibition, 2018 - TBD.

Altar Ego, MFA Winter Thesis Exhibition, Roger Williams Gallery, Manchester, NH, 2018.

Arkansas Art Teacher Exhibition, William F. Laman Library, Little Rock, AR, 2015.

Faculty Show, Stevens Art Gallery, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2012.

Partnership Exhibition, Heritage Building, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2008.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Saints Re-Formed, M2 Gallery, Little Rock, AR, 2020.

Saints Re-Formed, Argenta Art Gallery, North Little Rock, AR, 2020.

Saints Re-Formed, Kresge Gallery, Lyon College, Batesville, AR, 2020.

Saints Re-Formed, Stevens Art Gallery, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2019.

Showing the Word, Stevens Art Gallery, Harding University, Searcy, AR, 2006.

SELECTED PERFORMANCE PAINTINGS

Annual themed performance paintings for Harding Academy, Searcy, Arkansas, 2007-24.

“Mi Pueblito,” Performance painting for El Puente’s Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Dinner, Searcy, Arkansas, 2022.

The Red Thread, Performance painting for Harding Academy, Memphis, Tennessee, 2021.

“Others: It’s Not About Us,” Performance painting for Central Valley Schools, Visalia, California, February, 2017.

“What Will Become,” Performance painting for Lonoke Exceptional School’s Creative Arts for Exceptional Hearts Fundraiser, Cabot, Arkansas, September, 2015.

“Upside,” Performance painting for community, New Lexington, Ohio, August, 2015.

“Here’s Two Forever,” Performance painting at Robbins-Stanford community event, Searcy, Arkansas, December 2014.

“Exceptional Hearts,” Performance painting for Lonoke Exceptional School’s Creative Arts for Exceptional Hearts Fundraiser, Cabot, Arkansas, September, 2014.

“Improving Your Serve,” Performance painting for Harding Academy, Searcy, Arkansas, August, 2014

“Redemption,” Performance painting for Harding University Impact Keynote Address, Searcy, Arkansas, August, 2011.

“Mosaic Thinkers and the Holy Scriptures” Performance painting at the Keynote Women’s Day Lectureship, Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas, 2010.

“Pardonné,” Performed throughout Europe in the summer of 2010 (locations include France (Strasbourg, Paris, Toulouse, Lyon) Belgium (Liège), Switzerland (Geneva, Lausanne).

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Visiting artist residency, Central Valley Schools, Visalia, California, February 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

“The Art of Dying Well.” HU Experts, HU Today, October 18, 2024.

“What Matters?” The Big Question Video series, Harding University, 2024.

[Cover Illustration] Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Press, Vol. 25.2, 2021

“Art and Altars: Reflections on Contemporary Art and Contemporary Christianity.” Master’s thesis, New Hampshire Institute of Art, 2018.

“Thomas Waterman Wood's Portrayal of Black Citizens During the Early Reconstruction Era.” Master's thesis, University of Arkansas in Little Rock, 2014.

“In Search of Rockwell’s America.” Number Magazine 69 (Fall 2011): 20.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Arkansas Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Art

Culture Shock Art Collective

Arkansas Arts Council

Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art

UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Faculty Evaluations Committee, current chair (2022-)

Creative and Aesthetic Spirit, Liberal Arts Committee Working Group (2022-)

Recruiting Events Committee, University and Departmental, Harding University (2021-)

Aesthetics Committee, College of Bible and Ministry (2020-)

Hiring Committee, Art, Architecture, & Design (2023-2024)

Gallery & Permanent Collection, Art, Architecture, & Design (2019-2023)

Fine Arts Curriculum Renewal Committee, Art, Architecture, & Design (2022-2023)

AWARDS AND HONORS

Featured Artist: Arkansas Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Art, 2024.

Featured Artist: Christians in the Visual Art, August, 2020.

Special Recognition, *Wings*, Figurative Art Exhibition, Light Space & Time Art Gallery, 2018.

1st Place, *Wings*, Oakton Foundation Visual Art Competition, Fall 2017.

Merit Scholarship, New Hampshire institute of Art, 2016-2018.

2nd Place, *Alla Prima Painting* presented at the Graduate Student Research Expo, Humanities, University of Arkansas in Little Rock, 2015.

1st Place, *Thomas Waterman Wood* presented at the Graduate Student Research Expo, Humanities, University of Arkansas in Little Rock, 2014.

Honored at the Harding Academy Yearbook Dedication, 2012.

All American, Track and Field, NCAA, Division II, 2005.

Athletic and Academic Scholarships, Harding University, 2003-2006.

CERTIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

ACUE Credentialed Educator, American Council on Education

Arkansas State Art Certification P-12

Arkansas Qualified Teacher and Praxis certifications

TESS training (Teacher Evaluation and Support System)

Completed Quality Matters Online Education training

Certified A.P. Art History Instructor (Savannah College of Art and Design, Atlanta, Georgia, 2010)

Skilled in Blackboard, Moodle, and Canvas

Very efficient in all Microsoft Office applications; moderately proficient in several Adobe programs