

Curriculum Vitae

**Vivian Xu**

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**Personal Statement**

Vivian Xu is a Beijing-born inter-disciplinary artist, designer, and researcher. Her work explores the boundaries between bio and electronic media in creating machines and sensory systems, often taking the form of artifacts, installations, and wearables. Her work has been presented at various institutions in China, the US, Europe and Australia, including the National Art Museum of China (Beijing), the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra (Shanghai), Power Station of Art (Shanghai), China Design Museum (Hangzhou), NTU Center for Contemporary Art (Singapore), the New York Hall of Science (New York), SymbioticA at the University of Western Australia (Perth), the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin), Art Laboratory Berlin (Berlin), Humboldt University (Berlin), and Kapelica Gallery (Ljubljana).

She is an Assistant Professor of Media and Arts at Duke Kunshan University. She has held teaching or research positions at various institutions including Parsons New School for Design, New York University Shanghai, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen).

Vivian co-founded Shanghai-based trans-disciplinary design lab Dogma Lab with artist, designer, musician and professor [Benjamin Bacon](#)

**Education**

2011-2013     Master of Fine Arts, Design + Technology  
Parsons School for Design (The New School), New York

2005-2009     Bachelor of Art, Digital Animation and Film Communication University of China,  
Beijing

**Academic and Research Experience**

2021 -         Lead Researcher, Lab of Material Ecologies, Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan

2020 -         Assistant Professor of Media and Arts, Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan

2018 - 2019     Adjunct Faculty, Roy Ascott Technoetic Arts Studio, Shanghai

- 2016 Adjunct Faculty, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen
- 2015 - Co-founder, Dogma Lab ([www.dogma.org](http://www.dogma.org))
- 2013 - 2015 Research Fellow, New York University, Shanghai
- 2012 - 2013 Researcher at Genspace, New York

### **Solo Exhibitions and Collected Work**

- 2021 Silkworm Project, Spun Artifact, collected by the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin
- 2019 The Silkworm Project, solo exhibition, Kapelica Gallery, Ljubljana
- 2019 The Silkworm Project, solo exhibition, Art Laboratory Berlin, Berlin
- 2018 Sonic Skin, collected by UNArt Center, Shanghai
- 2013 Fantastical Machines, Between Art Lab, Shanghai

### **Selected Group Exhibitions and Performances**

- 2021 Under the Viral Shadow: Networks in the Age of Technoscience and Infection, Art Laboratory Berlin, Berlin
- 2021 《纤维艺术与设计展》, China Design Museum, Hangzhou
- 2021 Blue-Cables Vercel (virtual show), Power Station of Art, Shanghai  
<https://blue-cables.vercel.app>
- 2020 - 2021 The Final Prophet, Shenzhen STArts (Science, Technology, Art) Festival, Shenzhen
- 2020 Spectrum Artium Festival, Slovenia
- 2019 Skin Series, Fiber Arts Festival, Hangzhou
- 2019 The Kind Stranger, UNArt Center Inaugural Exhibition, Shanghai
- 2019 Quasi-Nature, Hyundai Motor Studios, 789 Art District, Beijing
- 2018 Radiation: Age of Machine, W Residency conclusive exhibition, Shanghai
- 2018 Trees of Life: Workshop - Shopwork, Knowledge in Material Part I, NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore
- 2018 AI networked performance with Shanghai Philharmonic, Shanghai Symphony

- 2018 Orchestra, Shanghai. Collaboration with artist Benjamin Bacon and musician B6.  
Out of Control, Songjiang Art Museum, Shanghai
- 2016 New Media Art Festival, Shenzhen
- 2016 Brew & Blend Festival, M50 Art District, Shanghai
- 2016 Praising Science and Prizing Art, Fudan University Medical Library, Shanghai
- 2015 Future Exhibition: Observer/Creator, CAFA Museum, Beijing
- 2014 BYOB, 1933, Shanghai
- 2014 KICK!, Gallery Ho, New York
- 2014 Hyper-Seeing, Project Space, CAFA Museum, Beijing
- 2013 Beijing Design Week, Dashilar, Beijing
- 2012 ReGeneration, New York Hall of Science, New York
- 2011 Weather Tunnel, Translife: International Triennial of New Media Art, National Art Museum of China, Beijing

### **Residencies and Grants**

- 2021-2022 Data+X Grant, awarded by Data Science Research Center, Duke Kunshan University
- 2021-2022 Carry the Innovation Forward Grant, awarded by Duke Learning Innovation, Duke University
- 2019 Artist-in-Residence, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin
- 2018 W Residency, UNArt Center, XInchang, Shanghai
- 2018 Artist-in-Residence, SymbioticA, Perth 2017 Loom, Jinjihu Museum, Suzhou

### **Selected Publications**

- 2020 Benjamin Bacon & Vivian Xu, "Memory, Storytelling and GIS Digital Archive: Introducing the COVID-19 Memory Archival Project", in *The Coronavirus: Human, Social and Political Implications*, ed. James Miller (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), 13-22. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-9362-8\\_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-9362-8_2)

- 2014 Xu, Vivian, "Synthetic Times: When Biology meets Art", *Art Bank Magazine*, March 2014.
- 2010 Bing, Xu. *Xu Bing Prints*, Translated by Jesse Robert Coffino and Vivian Xu (Beijing: Cultural Art Publishing House, 2010).

### **Selected Conferences, Invited Talks, Workshops**

- 2021 Under the Viral Shadow Symposium, Art Laboratory Berlin  
2021 ArtSci Salon + Laser Talks, University of Toronto, Toronto
- 2020 On the Nature of Nature, Making Nature: Talks on Design and the Wonrous, Sino-French Design Week, Pompidou Museum, Shanghai
- 2020 Speaker, Near Future: Possible Life, International Academic Seminars, Ningbo
- 2020 Speaker and panelist, Inter-World-View, Young Scientist Summit 2020, Wenzhou
- 2020 Speaker and panelist, 预言 - 山中天 2020 科幻论坛, Shanzhongtian Art Center, Beijing
- 2019 "The Silkworm Project and Other Works", artist talk, Matters of Activity, Cluster of Excellence, Humboldt University, Berlin
- 2019 "The Artist-Silkworm Interface: The Agricultural Treatise as Source and Scrutiny for Creating an Artist Book", artist presentation and workshop, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin
- 2019 "The Silkworm Project" Artist Talk and Workshop, Art Laboratory Berlin, Berlin
- 2018 "Future Materials & Bio Design", artist talk and discussion, BioFiction, Chronus Art Center, Shanghai
- 2018 "The Silkworm Project" artist talk and silk panel discussion with Liang Shaoji and Lisa Onaga, NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore
- 2018 Bioart: Microbial Workshop Series, Part II: Invisible Encounters, Hyundai Motor Studio, Beijing
- 2018 Bioart: Microbial Workshop Series, Part I: Bacterial Leather, Hyundai Motor Studio, Beijing
- 2017 Nonhuman Subjectivities conference, artist talk and panel, Art Laboratory Berlin, Berlin
- 2016 Artist talk "The Silkworm Project", Chronus Art Center, Shanghai
- 2015 NeoLife - Inaugural Rest of the World SLSA (Society of Literature, Science and the Arts) Conference, SymbioticA, Perth
- 2015 Wearable Technology Workshop Series, Part II: Soft Circuits, NYU Shanghai,

- Shanghai
- 2015 Wearable Technology Workshop Series, Part I: Molding Organic Materials, NYU Shanghai, Shanghai
- 2014 Artist talk, Tongji Fab Lab, Shanghai
- 2014 Lecture and Dialogue "Biological Variation and Art Practice", Rockbund Museum, Shanghai
- 2013 Lecturer, International Design, Technology and Art Lecture Series, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou
- 2013 Artist talk "Into the Bios", K11 Art Museum, Shanghai
- 2013 Artist talk and panel, "Hacked Matter: DIY Bio Showcase", Shanghai Maker Carnival, Shanghai
- 2013 Guest speaker, IM Interaction x Information Innovation Forum, Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing

### Courses

\*Please contact me for full list of courses and workshops taught.

### Selected Press / Interviews

- 2021 ["Inter-Connectivity: 'Under the Viral Shadow' at Art Laboratory Berlin"](#), Berlin Art Link
- 2021 ["Aufkla\(e\)Ren"Kunst und Wissenschaft"](#), Art in Berlin
- 2021 ["First Looks: COVID-19 Memory Archival Project"](#), Position Politics
- 2021 ["Horologic Solum"](#), Neural Magazine Issue 68 - Winter 2021
- 2020 ["Portraits of a Modern Chinese Woman: Vivian Xu"](#), filmed and produced by Hong Kong artist Ophelia S. Chan.
- 2019 ["Kunst in der Petrischale"](#), Tagesspiegel, review of The Silkworm Project
- 2018 ["Crafting Knowledge"](#), Plural Art Mag
- 2018 [Interview](#) with China Global Television (CGTV), English Channel
- 2018 IDEAT: Contemporary Life Magazine, featuring Dogma Lab with Benjamin Bacon
- 2017 Cover Story: Women in Tech, Shanghai Family Magazine
- 2017 Electric Skin featured in [Eps. 7](#) of Future Home Documentary Mini Series, Creators Project, VICE China
- 2017 ["Maximum Exposure"](#), Elle US, featuring emerging female Chinese artists (print)
- 2017 Anomaly Unreasonable [mini documentary](#), featuring Electric Skin