Elaine Ritchel | Resume

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Profile

Museum educator, arts writer, and entrepreneur with a drive to connect people and art

Experience

Owner, Santa Fe Art Tours | Sight Projects, LLC – November 2015-Present
Design and facilitate interactive, art-focused tours and programs. Selected projects:

- Launched Santa Fe Art Tours in November 2015 to provide interactive tours of Santa Fe's museums, galleries, and artist studios
- Developed, coordinated, and facilitated "Artful Looking," a summer program for the New Mexico Museum of Art
- Hosted and facilitated Slow Art Day 2016 and 2017 for the New Mexico Museum of Art

Freelance Arts & Culture Writer – July 2012-Present
Write about art and culture for various online and print publications in the US and abroad. Selected publications:

- New Mexico Magazine
- THE Magazine
- The Weekly Alibi
- Ikon Arts Foundation | Ikon Review

Independent Museum Educator – October 2011-November 2015
Created, coordinated, and implemented tours and programs for various groups and institutions. Selected projects:

- Facilitated an interpretive museum visit for museum studies students from the University of Zagreb
- Created and led thematic museum visits for the International Women's Club Zagreb
- Developed and led a museum visit for Croatian adults learning conversational English
- Organized and conducted museum tours for high school art students from the American International School Zagreb

Assistant, Croatian Association of Artists (HDLU), Zagreb – April 2013-April 2014
Assisted the Director of HDLU, Croatia's largest artist association and an active exhibition space. Selected projects:

- Researched, wrote, edited, and published a Wikipedia page on the Mestrović Pavilion, the seat of HDLU and one of Zagreb's most culturally significant gallery spaces
- Translated numerous exhibition texts from Croatian to English and proofread the association's webpage

Assistant, Museum of Contemporary Art (MSU), Zagreb – November 2011-March 2013
Provided language services and support to the marketing, education, and library departments. Selected responsibilities:

- Developed and led an interpretive, discussion-based tour for adults
- Proofread and entered data for Digitizing Ideas, an extensive regional database of digital artworks and documents

Gallery Teacher, Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas at Austin – August 2010-May 2011
Coordinated and implemented Art Central, a multiple-visit program for fourth and fifth grade students. Selected responsibilities:

- Liaised with teachers as the main museum contact for five area elementary schools
- Developed and led Art Central sessions and activities
- Administered and evaluated a writing exercise designed to assess students' observational, analytical, and communication skills

University Recruiter, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque – July 2008-January 2009
Recruited prospective students with particular focus on high-achieving and scholarship students through targeted written communication, school visits, and an on-campus program.

Museum Education Assistant, University of New Mexico Art Museum, Albuquerque – August 2005-May 2006; August 2007-May 2008; February-March 2009
Assisted the Curator of Academic Initiatives with various museum activities, including the Art Museum Discovery Club for elementary school students, exhibition openings, and lectures.

Education

University of Texas at Austin – MA Art History, 2011
Thesis: "The Architectural Sculpture of Ivan Mestrović in Relation to Adolf von Hildebrand's The Problem of Form in the Fine Arts"

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque — BAFA, *summa cum laude*, Art History, 2008
Honors thesis: "Reinterpreting the Art Museum: Guided Discovery via Interpretive Labeling"

Fellowships & Awards

FLAS Fellowship, 2010
Marshall F. Wells Fellowship, 2010
Georgia B. Lucas Foundation Fellowship, 2009
UNM Regents' Scholarship, 2004-2008

Press & Speaking Engagements

"Santa Fe, My Beloved," WatchBoom.com, 2017
"Power in Numbers," Rosewood Hotels: Conversations, 2017
"A Fresh Approach to Art Education," Edible Santa Fe, 2017
"A Culture Vulture's Guide to Santa Fe," Oyster.com, 2017
Close Looking and Reflective Writing, St. John's College, workshop, 2017
Echo Chamber, Center for Contemporary Arts, panelist, 2017
New Mexico True "How To Create Tangible Tourism" Webinar, panelist, 2016
"Top Five Things to do Near Santa Fe with Kids," Trekaroo.com, 2016
"Santa Fe Shuffle: Elaine Ritchel Flips the Script with Interactive Santa Fe Art Tours," The Santa Fe Reporter, 2016
"A Santa Fe Art Tour," NeedSupplyCo.com, 2016
"A Dynamic New Canyon Road with Elaine Ritchel's Santa Fe Art Tours," ArtBeat Radio, 2016
"Tko se još boji Zbirke u pokretu," *Večernji list*, 2012