



LAUREN POND

Interdisciplinary Artist and Curator

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EDUCATION

2012 - 2014: Ohio University, Athens, OH

M.A. in Photography, Concentration in Photojournalism

2007: School for International Training: Dakar, Senegal

Study abroad program in Senegalese arts, language, and culture

2004 - 2009: Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

B.S. in Journalism; B.A. with Honors in Art Theory and Practice; Minor in French
Cum Laude; Kappa Tau Alpha journalism honor society

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

08/2016 - Present: Multimedia Producer, American Religious Sounds Project, Columbus, OH

Collaborate with scholars across U.S. to build interactive digital resource about the sounds of American religious pluralism. Curate and edit audio recordings for immersive installation and traveling Smithsonian exhibition. Produce audio clips, essays, and thematic digital exhibits for website. Assist in planning workshops and educational programming.

10/2015 - Present: Manager, Southeast Healthcare Fresh A.I.R. Gallery, Columbus, OH

Manage every aspect of at least six annual exhibitions, including art transport, curation, design, installation, visual and written promotion, development, and programming. Document exhibitions and maintain digital catalog of all works displayed. Closely engage with artists in recovery, mentor them through the exhibition process, and support them in grant and commission opportunities. Collaborate with community partners on exhibitions and educational outreach; recent partners include the Columbus Museum of Art, Ohio Prison Arts Connection, and The Ohio State University.

12/2006 - Present: Freelance Photographer and Producer, Lauren Pond Photography, Multiple locations

Humanistically document the manifold expressions of religious belief in America for scholarly collaborations, art exhibitions, and media assignments. Share these stories across multiple media platforms. Pursue funding and cultivate partnerships for future projects. Clients include Yale University, the University of Chicago, New York University, *The Washington Post*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

09/2014 - 06/2015: Exhibitions and Outreach Assistant, Athens Photographic Project (APP), Athens, OH

Curated, designed, installed, and managed permanent exhibition of artwork by photographers living with mental illness. Engaged closely with APP photographers and mentored them in writing artist statements and curating portfolios. Created comprehensive online archive of APP photographs and exhibit catalogs. Broadened the APP's national visibility and network of community partners. Managed APP's social media presence.

09/2012 - 02/2015: Photographer and Web Assistant, Ohio University, Athens, OH

Completed photography assignments on deadline for university communications outlets. Documented the University Library's rare book collection for archival purposes. Mentored student photographers in studio lighting and other technical aspects of photography. Cultivated strong working relationships with student body and university officials.

01/2012 - 08/2012: Exhibitions Committee Chair, Women Photojournalists of Washington, Washington, D.C.

Managed juried exhibition showcasing the work of women photojournalists in Washington, D.C. Facilitated and managed exhibit's shipment to galleries and universities. Cultivated relationships with acclaimed photography jurors and institutions.

09/2009 - 06/2010: New Media Initiatives Intern, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Enhanced Museum's educational outreach by producing engaging multimedia projects about art collections. Served as lead editor of *Art Signs*, a video series featuring docent presentations in American Sign Language and recognized by the International Jodi Awards, an organization that supports accessible digital culture.

06/2008 - 09/2008: Photography Intern, The Hutchinson News, Hutchinson, KS

Collaborated with reporters to document news for daily publication while pursuing self-generated story ideas. Managed the photo editing desk during evening shifts and prepared images for publication. Produced audio slideshows and augmented newspaper's online presence.

03/2007 - 06/2007: Photography and Web Intern, *The Miami Herald*, Miami, FL

Photographed and reported news on deadline in major metropolitan area. Wrote breaking news updates and police blotter stories for the newspaper website. Produced audiovisual project about an emergency veterinary clinic.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books:

Pond, Lauren, *Test Of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation*, Durham: Duke University Press, 2017

Articles:

"Listening for Religion," *[in] Transition: Journal of Videographic Film and Moving Image Studies*, Issue 6.3, 2019

"On Being Pagan in Prison," *The Revealer*, NYU's Center for Media and Religion, 10/11/2018

"Photographing Faith," *Sightings*, The University of Chicago Divinity School, 05/17/2018

"Signs, Serpents, Salvation," *The Oxford American*, 11/22/2017

"Pagan Pride Day: Earth-based religions celebrate unique identity," *Religion News Service*, 09/22/2015

"Why I Watched a Snake Handling Pastor Die for His Faith," *The Washington Post*, 06/01/2012

"Religious Activism: A Concrete Example of 'Occupy' Ideals," *The Huffington Post*, 02/16/2012

Featured Photographs:

Sheila Burt, "American Spirituality in Stereo," *Tricycle*, 05/16/2019

Lara Farina, *Postmedieval: Prophetic Futures*, Vol. 10, Issue 1, 03/2019

Lynne S. McNeill and Elizabeth Tucker, *Legend Tripping*, Louisville: Utah State University Press, 11/2018

Nancy Isenberg, "Left Behind," *New York Review of Books*, 06/28/2018

"Finding Religion," *Ohio State Insights*, 04/05/2018

"Photo of the Day," *Photo District News*, 11/27/2017

Courtney Verrill, "Award-winning images from *Smithsonian Magazine*'s photo contest," *Business Insider*, 03/22/2016

Alan Taylor, "The Winners of the *Smithsonian Magazine*'s 2015 Photo Contest," *The Atlantic*, 03/22/2016

Justin Ocean, "See the World Through Smithsonian's Staggering Photo Competition," *Bloomberg*, 02/29/2016

Laurence Butet-Roch, "What's in a Name?" *Raw View Magazine* no. 04, pp. 142-143, Autumn 2015

Eric Scott, "Lauren Pond's 'American Heathens,'" *The Wild Hunt*, 09/11/2015

David Gonzalez, "Looking At Appalachia Anew," *New York Times* Lens Blog, 05/20/2015

"Ink, Leather, Grit - and The Church," **Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding**, 01/29/2015

Lauren Hansen, "Meet the millennial who is a serpent-handling pastor," *The Week*, 07/07/2014

Julia Duin, "Snake Handling as Spiritual Practice," *The Wall Street Journal*, 04/06/2012

Julia Duin, "In W.Va., snake handling is still considered a sign of faith," *The Washington Post*, 11/10/2011

Julia Duin, "PAPA Festival Highlights Christianity, Anarchism and Community Spirit," *The Washington Post*, 09/01/2011

"Kogod Courtyard Time Lapse," **Smithsonian American Art Museum**, 12/15/2009

Ellen Byron, "Seeing Store Shelves Through Senior Eyes," *The Wall Street Journal*, 09/14/2009

Interviews:

Kristin Distel, "Test of Faith: Lauren Pond on Christian Serpent Handling," *Cosmologies*, Winter 2019

Kate Bissell, "The Digital Human," **BBC Radio 4**, 10/01/2018

Kali Handelman, *The Revealer*, NYU's Center for Media and Religion, 02/12/2018

Yasmeen Khan, **talkRADIO**, 02/03/2018

Faith & Leadership staff, **Duke Divinity School**, 01/09/2018

Frank Stasio, **WUNC's The State of Things**, 11/16/2017

Skyler Reid, *American Photo Magazine*, 02/21/2018

NPR's On The Media, 06/15/2012

Reviews:

Randall Holm, Review of "Test of Faith," *Pneuma*, Volume 41, Issue 2: 316-318, 08/30/2019

Chelsie Dubay, "Test of Faith" *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, Volume 24, Issue 2: 256-258, 10/25/2018

Leo Hsu, "Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation," *Fraction Magazine*, Issue 109, 04/2018

Jim Fischer, "Diversity Is Our Strength," *Columbus Alive*, 03/15/2018

Ralph Hood, "Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation," *Reading Religion*, 03/08/2018

Sean O'Hagan, "'Praise the Lord and pass the rattlesnakes': The pastor killed by the viper he preached with," *The Guardian*, 01/26/2018

Jeff Grabmeier, "The Photographer and the Serpent Handlers," *Ohio State News Service*, 01/23/2018

Elizabeth Palmer, "Serpents and Salvation," *The Christian Century*, 01/03/2018

Roger May, "14 Books That Meant the Most to Me in 2017," **100 Days in Appalachia**, 01/2018

Danae King, "Photographer captures life, death, and religious beliefs of serpent handler and his family," *The Columbus Dispatch*, 12/22/2017

Bill Lynch, "Journalist finds forgiveness with Mercer snake handlers for photobook," *The Charleston Gazette-Mail*, 12/08/2017

James McWilliams, "How Can Journalists Cross Cultural Divides in the Age of Trump?" *Pacific Standard Magazine*, 07/18/2017

Stan Alost, "Lauren Pond Wins Eighth Biennial Center for Documentary Studies/Honickman First Book Prize in Photography," *As I See It*, 02/08/2017

EXHIBITIONS CURATED

Upcoming in 2021:

American Religious Sounds Project, **Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service**, Co-Curator, Multiple locations
Fresh A.I.R. Gallery group exhibition, **Columbus Metro Parks**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

Upcoming in 2020:

10/09 - 11/14: *The Essence of Character*, **Columbus Cultural Arts Center**, Columbus, OH

07/24 - 09/11: *Trust The Process* (with Ohio Prison Arts Connection), **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

03/10 - TBD: *Fresh A.I.R. Gallery* group exhibition, **OhioHealth Riverside Hospital**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

03/18 - 05/08: *Lost to Shadow* by David Marteney, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

2019:

12/04/2019 - 01/17/2020: *The Fool* by Patrick Vincent, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

09/06 - 11/15: *You Have Nothing to Worry About* by Melissa Spitz, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

03/02 - 11/14: *Who We Are: Journeys of Recovery*, **Columbus Museum of Art**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

10/01 - 12/01: *Belief, Unbound*, **Saint Louis University**, St. Louis, MO

07/31 - 08/02: *Fresh A.I.R. Gallery* pop-up exhibition, **Addiction Studies Institute**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

07/10 - 08/23: *Pathways* by Matt Swift, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

05/08 - 06/21: *Daughters of Eve* by Paula Long, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

05/03 - 05/17: *Expressions of Recovery*, **934 Gallery**, Columbus, OH

03/20 - 04/26: *Celebrating Recovery* by Todd Loe, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

01/23 - 03/08: *Familiar Places* by the Athens Photographic Project, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

2018:

12/19/2018 - 01/11/2019: *Vulnerable Strength* by Naima van der Does, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

09/05 - 11/09: *Post-Traumatic Expression* by Shawn Augustson, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

08/01 - 11/01: *Visions of Hope*, **Bricker & Eckler LLP**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

07/11 - 08/17: *Awakening* by Jan Kustron, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

05/16: *Fresh A.I.R. Gallery* pop-up exhibition, **Gateway Film Center ReelAbilities Film Festival**, Columbus, OH

05/01 - 07/29: *Take Heart* (with VSA Ohio), **Flux + Flow Dance and Movement Center**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

05/09 - 06/22: *Places I'd Like To Be* by Maria Tacon, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

03/28 - 05/04: *Inland and Upland* by Eric Pelka, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

02/07 - 03/09: *The Shape of Life* by Adrian Sibley, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

2017:

12/06/2017 - 01/12/2018: *Something Touching* by Brittany Ann Campbell, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

09/13 - 11/17: *By the Sea* by Kristin Morris, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

07/19 - 08/25: *I Woke Up* by David Leonard, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

05/24 - 06/30: *Mending Broken Pieces* by Em Gan and Cassandra Peters, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

04/27 - 06/15: *Finding Inner Peace*, **Martin de Porres Center**, Co-Curator, Columbus, OH

03/29 - 05/05: *Happy, Joyous, & Free!* by Ann Lemon, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

02/08 - 03/17: *Breathe and Bloom* by Gloria Molyneux, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

2016:

12/07/2016 - 01/13/2017: *Revealed* by Cathy Jeffers, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

10/05 - 11/18: *My Blessing, My Curse* by Charles Wince, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

08/17 - 09/23: *The Many Parts of One* by Toni Jo Coppa, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

06/22 - 07/29: *Paintings in Paper* by Elizabeth Haworth-Wagner, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

07/14: *Historic Franklinton* permanent installation, **Southeast Healthcare Franklin Station**, Columbus, OH

05/04 - 06/03: *The Light Within* group exhibition, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

02/17 - 03/25: *Relics of Industry* by Brian Donald Cook, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH

2015:

12/09/2015 - 01/29/2016: *Pictures for Ana* by Quentin Heath Willis, **Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**, Columbus, OH
Athens Photographic Project permanent installation, **The Market on State**, Athens, OH

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS

2019:

Belief, Unbound (solo), **Saint Louis University Lived Religion in the Digital Age Project**, St. Louis, MO

2018:

Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation (solo), **American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting**, Denver, CO
Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation (solo), **West Virginia University Library**, Morgantown, WV
Diversity Is Our Strength (solo), **Martin de Porres Center**, Columbus, OH
Wide Open: Excellence in Photography (group), **Dairy Barn Arts Center**, Athens, OH
Slow Exposures: Celebrating Photography of the Rural South (group), **Cochran Gallery**, La Grange, GA
Religion COMPAS Visual Art Show (group), **Ohio State University STEAM Factory**, Columbus, OH
Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation (solo), **Ohio University Schoonover Gallery**, Athens, OH

2017:

Test of Faith: Signs, Serpents, Salvation (solo), **Rubenstein Photography Gallery at Duke University**, Durham, NC

2016:

American Pagans (solo), **The Magical Druid**, Columbus, OH
Peace (group), **Martin de Porres Center**, Columbus, OH
Global Community: What We Have in Common (group), **Studios On High Gallery**, Columbus, OH
The Narrative Portrait (group), **SE Center for Photography**, Greenville, SC

2015:

Looking At Appalachia (group), Multiple locations

2014:

School of Visual Communication Spring Exhibition (group), **Dairy Barn Arts Center**, Athens, OH
FotoVisura Spotlight (group), **powerHouse Gallery**, Brisbane, Australia

2013:

Women Photojournalists of Washington (group), **FotoNOMA Gallery**, Washington, D.C.

2012:

Faith in Action (solo), **Art Matters Gallery**, Mt. Ranier, MD

2011:

Re-Evaluation (solo), **The Tasting Room**, Chevy Chase, MD

2009:

Progression (group), **Dittmar Gallery**, Evanston, IL
Portfolio Exhibition (solo), **Northwestern University McCormick-Tribune Center**, Evanston, IL

2008:

Project FOCUS (group), **Artistic Jeanius Gallery**, Chicago, IL

2007:

Open Shutter (group), **Norris University Center**, Evanston, IL

AWARDS & HONORS

2019:

Project Support Grant for Fresh A.I.R. Gallery, Greater Columbus Arts Council
Artist Fellowship, Saint Louis University Lived Religion in the Digital Age Project

2018:

Grand Prize, Ohio State Religion COMPAS Visual Arts Show
Artist Resource Grant, Greater Columbus Arts Council

2017:

Duke Center for Documentary Studies/Honickman First Book Prize in Photography

2016:

First Place, American Experience Category, *Smithsonian Magazine* Photography Contest

2014:

Paul Schutzer Memorial Scholarship, Ohio University School of Visual Communication
Selected Participant, *New York Times* Portfolio Review
Selected Participant, Eddie Adams Workshop XXVII
Shortlisted, Lucie Foundation Emerging Photographer Scholarship
Finalist, FotoVisura Student Spotlight Grant

2013:

Finalist, Magnum Foundation Inge Morath Award
Gold, Solo Journalist Multimedia Essay, College Photographer of the Year Competition

2012:

Third Place Magazine Graphic/Illustration, Religion Newswriters Association Contest

2010:

Commendation for Sustainable Growth Award (for *Smithsonian Art Signs* video series), International Jodi Awards
First Place Video, American Geological Institute *Life in the Field* Contest

2009:

Winner, Student Category, PDN Photo Annual Contest

2008:

Winner, Picture Story Category, William Randolph Hearst Journalism Awards
Second Place in Portraiture and Honorable Mention Picture Story, Illinois Student Best of Photojournalism Contest

2007:

Honorable Mention in Portraiture, Illinois Student Best of Photojournalism Contest
First Place Feature Photograph Portfolio, Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Circle Awards
Award Recipient, NPPA Women In Photojournalism Contest

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

2020:

Panel Presentation, **Society for Cultural Anthropology Distribute 2020 Conference**, Online
Keynote Address: *Test of Faith*, **Ohio Partners in Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Conference**, Columbus, OH
Artist Lecture: *Ohio Soundscapes*, **Bowling Green State University**, Bowling Green, OH

2019:

Audio Presentation: *Belief, Unbound*, **American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting**, San Diego, CA
Artist Lecture: *Belief, Unbound*, **Saint Louis University Religion In Place Symposium**, St. Louis, MO
Artist Lecture, **Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction**, Columbus, OH
Artist Lecture, **The Focus Group**, Columbus, OH

2018:

Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting**, Denver, CO
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **West Virginia University**, Morgantown, WV
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Shawnee State University**, Portsmouth, OH
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **University of Chicago Seminary Co-op Bookstore**, Chicago, IL
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **St. John Fisher College**, Rochester, NY
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Appalachian Studies Association Conference**, Cincinnati, OH
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Ohio University**, Athens, OH
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Michigan State University**, East Lansing, MI

Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Taylor Books**, Charleston, WV
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Gramercy Books**, Bexley, OH

2017:

Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **The Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH
Author Talk: *Test of Faith*, **Duke University**, Durham, NC

2016:

Artist Lecture: *Exploring Religion Through Photography and Sound*, **Ohio University Classics and World Religion Colloquium**, Athens, OH
Artist Lecture: *Empathy Through Photography*, **Ohio Art League**, Columbus, OH
Panel Presentation: *Photography and Sound: A Multidimensional Approach to Religion*, **Midwest American Academy of Religion Conference**, Muncie, IN

2015:

Artist Lecture: *Test of Faith*, **Ohio University**, Athens, OH

2014:

Artist Lecture: *American Heathens*, **Ohio University**, Athens, OH
Artist Lecture: *Test of Faith*, **Ohio University**, Athens, OH

2013:

Artist Lecture: *Documenting A Faith and Its Price*, **Carson-Newman University**, Jefferson City, TN
Panel Presentation: *Death of a Snake-Handler: A Conversation About Ethical Research*, **Appalachian Studies Association Conference**, Boone, NC

2012:

Artist Lecture: *Photographing Religion*, **University of Maryland**, College Park, MD
Artist Lecture: *Serpent-Handling for Young Pentecostals*, **Appalachian Studies Association Conference**, Indiana, PA

2011:

Artist Lecture: *Fading Faith*, **American University**, Washington, D.C.

COLLECTIONS

Duke University Archive for Documentary Arts

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Adobe Software: InDesign, Photoshop, Audition, Lightroom, Bridge, AfterEffects, Premiere

Additional Software/Platforms: Microsoft Office Suite, Final Cut Pro/X, Transcriba, WordPress, Constant Contact

Coding: Basic HTML and CSS

Hardware: Apple and PC, Canon and Fuji camera equipment, Sennheiser audio equipment, Zoom H4N audio recorder

LANGUAGES

French: Writing, reading, and speaking proficiency

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion

Association of Art Museum Curators

Ohio Art League

References available upon request