

ELIZABETH ULANOVA

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Interdisciplinary Experienced, Internationally Educated, Versatile Artisan

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN Master in Landscape Architecture - M.L.A

August 2021 - January 2024

Honors: Harvard GSD Fully Funded Dean's Merit Scholarship+Tier 1 Grant for top-ranked students that covers 100% tuition, Harvard Innovation Lab Spark Grant Award (3X Awarded, 2x Highest Amount), Harvard GSD ASLA 2023 Conference Travel Grant, Harvard GSD Fully Funded Community Service Fellowship, Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies Summer Fellow

Independent Studies (ADV-9201) Final Research Presentations:

- Fall 2023 Urban Design Research: "Not Just For Kids: An Inquiry Into The Foundations, Benefits, and Design Interventions Of Play Equity For Adults"
- Fall 2022 Art History Research and Solo Artistic Exhibition: "Alchemy: Between The Past and Magic"

Landscape Architecture Core Studio Final Design Presentations:

- Fall 2023: PlayScape Renewal: Transforming Rumney Marsh Landfill and Nahant Garbage Dump Into A Public Space For Natural Play, Core 3
- Spring 2023: Project Re(Generation): A Cemetery for the Future, Core 2
- Fall 2021: Project Synthesis: A Park to Recover, Core 1

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Master of Philosophy - M.Phil, Sociology of Media and Culture

October 2019 - November 2020

Honors: The Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Twining Egginton Prize, Downing Graduate Conference (Select Research Presenter), Downing College MCR-SCR Seminar (Select Research Presenter), Downing College Twining Egginton Exhibition (Select Art Exhibitor), Downing College Cedar Tree Exhibition (Select Art Exhibitor), Seton Cavendish Bequest Grant. Initiated first-ever student art studio at Downing College, Cambridge

Thesis: "The Influence of Social Media on Modern Romantic Relationships"

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Bachelor of Arts - B.A, Visual Art, Magna Cum Laude, 3.86 GPA

September 2016 - May 2019

Honors: Magna Cum Laude (High Honors/Great Distinction), Dean's List, Leadership Service Award, Senior Thesis Stipend Award, Senior Thesis Studio, Independent Study (Department Chair, Matthew Buckingham), Tuition Scholarship, Junior Marshall Selectee, Spectator Senior Profile. 2021 Columbia Magazine (Owl Alum Feature). First-Generation Students Advisory Board, Undergrad Orientation Leader & Peer Mentor

Thesis: "Clashings of Art, Culture, and Technology in a Digital Anthro-World"

CERTIFICATIONS

Certifications: HSK Level 5 Certification of Mandarin Chinese Fluency, Hanban Credential ID H51312066193 (Achieved December 2013)

TRAVEL & SELECT SKILLS

Travel: Lived in cities all over the US as well as in Asia, and Europe. Visited countries on 5 continents (Europe, Asia, Africa, Americas, Oceania). Fluent in Mandarin Chinese.

Business: business modeling, strategic planning, pitching, social media marketing, public speaking, team-building, management, product research, communication

Media: canva, strikingly, illustrator, rhino, photoshop, typing, mac+pc adept, cadmapper, lasercutter, 3D printing, final cut pro, Nikon D3300, Canon 70D, scriptwriting, mixed media, fine painting, sculptural fabrication, ink drawing, graphic rendering.

SELECT ARTISTIC EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 - "Boston Voices by The Napkin Poetry Review", Abigail Ogilvy Gallery, Boston, MA, Jan 25th, 2024, Curators: Caroline King and Courtney Jacobovits
- 2023 - "Swan Song", Sidewalk Video Gallery, Fountain Street Fine Art, Boston, MA, November 2-29 2023, Curator: Marie Craig
- 2023 - "New Language: Contemporary Abstraction", National Juried Exhibition, Gallery 263, Cambridge, MA, Oct - Nov 2023, Jury and Curator: Daniela Rivera
- 2023 - "Fluid Memory" (Solo), Solo Artist Residency, Industry Lab, Cambridge, MA, August - September 2023, Curator: Justice McDaniel.
- 2021 - "Design Award 2021 Exhibition" A + D Architecture and Design Museum, Los Angeles, California (In Collab with Anna Stevens as writer for Steven's "Palka" exhibit)
- 2020 - "Twining Egginton 2020 Exhibition", Heong Gallery, England(Covid Canceled).
- 2020 - "Twining Egginton 2020 Exhibition", Downing College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK (Virtual Exhibit). Jury and Curator: Vicky Ambery Smith
- 2020 - "Cedar Tree Exhibition", Downing College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, Feb 2020, Jury and Curator: Vicky Ambery Smith
- 2018 - "Fall 2018 Senior Thesis Presentation", Leroy Neiman Gallery, Columbia University, NYC, Curator: Nicola Lopez and Serra Bothwell Fels
- 2018 - "Fall 2018 Visual Arts Department Exhibition" & "Spring 2018 Visual Arts Department Exhibition" Columbia University, NYC, Curator: Nicola Lopez

SELECT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

FLIP NATIONAL

Director of Technology

January 2021- March 2021

-First Generation Low-Income Partnership: a national non-profit with 20 chapters.

Exclusively managed all digital endeavors, created and piloted the first-ever technology team, and worked directly with the executive director on cross department initiatives

PROJECT ACCESS INTERNATIONAL September 2018 - August 2019

Co-Head of US Expansion

A global London-based non-profit, education startup with 20+ country teams and partnered with top universities and companies. Co-led the American expansion as a social entrepreneurship startup in strategy, partnerships, product and business development, and marketing. Highlights include: co-founding 5 ivy league campus teams and research task team

IVY LEAGUE COUNCIL NATIONAL January 2017 - May 2019

National President Emeritus

-Elected from regional conference director to national president in 1.5 years. President Emeritus ('18-'19). National President ('18), National Vice President of Technology ('17-'18), Columbia Head Delegate ('17), and IPC Director of Technology ('17). Led executive efforts that oversaw all 8 Ivy League chapters, annual conferences, policy, operational, publication, and international ventures including 30 officers and 1,300 members.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HARVARD INNOVATION LABS AND RECESS

I-Lab Venture Member and Startup Founder | January 2023 - Present

-Built the startup Recess at I-Lab Venture Incubation Program select cohort as team of 1.

Successfully launched pilot games of Boston pop-ups in Summer 2023 with detailed, diverse user feedback. 4k+ in Cash Prize Grants from Harvard (3x Spark Grant Award). Market research, business development, product prototyping, social media marketing, product research, web design, built 2 collaborations with exterior agencies to host pop-ups, web design, customer communication

INDUSTRY LAB

Solo Artist-in-Residence | June 2023 - September 2023

-Organized community engagement initiatives for over 100 residents, including hosting lectures and events. Created, curated, and presented an exclusive month-long exhibition with receptions

CULTUREHOUSE

Community Design Intern/Harvard CFSP Fellow | June 2023 - August 2023

-Data collected on design sites, made design renders for urban design studio projects, event planning for hack day, project research, wrote articles, internal and external communication,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Graduate Teaching Assistant | September 2022 - December 2022

-Fall 2022: Teaching Assistant (HIS4141) at Harvard Graduate School of Design for Histories of Landscape Architecture I with Professor Edward Eigen for 80 graduate students

RICHI CHILDHOOD CANCER FOUNDATION AND PENPAIRS.ORG

Entrepreneur-in-Residence and Startup Founder | March 2016 - August 2016

-Richi's first ever EIR, first American employee and youngest employee. Worked directly with both Richi's president as well as executive board on initiatives such as Richi's Social Entrepreneurs and Richi's Summer Immersion (social incubator). Supported 15 of Richi 2016 Immersion' portfolio startups that ranged from education to digital tech in social media, strategy, pitch building, and research. Built startup "PenPairs", business modeling, research, design and prototyping

CQ NEWS - (CHONGQING HUALONGWANG GROUP)

English Editor and Audio News Anchor | February 2015 - July 2015

-Managed editorial responsibilities as the sole English language editor for Chongqing's prominent media outlet, CQ News, overseeing digital and print articles daily. Also served as the official English voice for audio news broadcasts, narrating content regularly. Translated daily articles from Mandarin Chinese to English. Youngest ever editor in role.

NEW ORIENTAL EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY GROUP

Educator, Lecturer and Overseas Consultant | Jun 2014 - May 2015

-Trained our elite adult students in Chongqing NYSE's Elite Business, Corporate Training and Oral English department's corporate workshops, English seminars, and VIP one-on-one consultations. Lectured and designed English immersion collegiate-formatted classes at all levels, and developed the weekly curriculum for our first ever co-taught TBL courses. Youngest corporate trainer to ever hold a teaching position in the entire branch. Consecutively received high evaluations

SELECT ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Not Just For Kids: An Inquiry Into The Foundations, Benefits, and Design Interventions Of Play Equity For Adults: Advocating For the Fundamental Right to Play For Adults and the Creation of Playful Spaces As A Holistic Design Approach For Urban Well-Being

Harvard University Graduate School of Design| September 2023 - December 2023
Design and psychological research paper. Conducted utilizing empirical cases, in-person interview and discourse analysis. Topics: play equity, design interventions, psychological health, urbanism,

"The Influence of Social Media on Modern Romantic Relationships"

"Color. Celebrity. Clout. The Privilege of Media Representation: Social Opacity in an Age of #MeToo"

University of Cambridge / England | October 2019 - November 2020

Sociology research papers: dissertation, and field review. Conducted utilizing empirical cases and discourse analysis. Topics: new media, digital tech, political culture, media psychology.Conference Presentations: October 2020 (Cambridge University Downing Graduate Conference), January 2020 Cambridge University Downing College MCR-SCR Night

"Clashings of Art, Culture, and Technology in a Digital Anthro World"

Columbia University / New York| January 2018 - December 2018

Full exhibition: Leroy Neiman Gallery in December 2018. Studio honors thesis composed of a series of 3 original short films, and 4 kinetic art installations (mixed media, video projection, sculpture). Showcased cultural critiques using science-fiction plotlines. Originally written, produced, directed

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GLOBAL TRAVELER| VISUAL ARTIST| RESEARCH SOCIOLOGIST|
WRITER| DESIGNER| STORYTELLER| TECH NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT

Elizabeth Ulanova, based in Cambridge-Boston, works at the intersection of culture, art, tech, and design. Academically, Elizabeth attended Harvard Graduate School of Design (M.L.A, Landscape Architecture, Dean's Merit Scholar, Harvard CSFP Fellow), the University of Cambridge (M.Phil, Sociology of Media and Culture, Twining Egginton Prize), and Columbia University (B.A, Visual Arts, Magna Cum Laude, Distinction). Elizabeth is the founder of the startup, Recess (3x Harvard Spark Grant Award Recipient) at Harvard Innovation Lab and was also a teaching assistant at Harvard GSD. For Summer 2023, she was the artist-in-residence at Industry Lab as well as the Harvard JCHS Summer Fellow in urban community design. Elizabeth's current academic research focuses on the utilization of play equity as a holistic design approach for urban well-being. Her startup Recess currently hosts social fitness game sessions for adults that utilize playing children's games as a fresh perspective in meeting and building community in a post-Covid world.

Elizabeth is a passionate writer proficient in various writing styles, with her first love being the art of crafting poetry and dialogue. As a survivor of domestic violence, a neurodivergent child of colored immigrants, and a first-generation American, Elizabeth's artistry is deeply shaped by fluid, psychological storytelling. As a conceptual, mixed media artist, her artistic style and practice are described as 'fluid memory', and she has exhibited original artworks in New York, England, and Boston. Elizabeth's artwork ranges from abstract sculptures and fluid paintings to conceptual video installations and graphic renderings, making tangible the intangible emotions one experiences. Eager to push beyond conventional limits, Elizabeth initiated her independent study, at both Columbia and Harvard and helped initiate the first student art studio at Downing College University of Cambridge. As a sociologist, Elizabeth undertook research in the realm of new media communication, specifically exploring the influence of social media on contemporary romantic relationships.

California-born, Elizabeth is a New Yorker at heart and has lived in Asia and Europe. Elizabeth has a lifelong love for travel and has visited countries on five continents. Professionally, Elizabeth has held management positions at tech startups and education NGOs, such as National President for The Ivy League Council, Co-Head of the US Expansion of Project Access International, and Director of Technology for FLIP National (New York). Prior to Columbia, she developed digital startups as the first-ever Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Richi Foundation (Boston), worked in business liaison, journalism, and corporate education (China), and studied Mandarin Chinese, after finishing high school early (California). Elizabeth is a proud mom of two adopted pitbulls, Brave (deceased) and Skylar, and can often be found driving with her dog.