

# CHRISTIE PEARSON

christie@christiepearson.ca/www.christiepearson.ca

## CULTURAL EVENTS

### COLLECTIVES

Founding member of cultural collectives *Friends of Alexandra Park*; *The Waves* immersive vibratory environments; *Wade Collective* installation and performance art in pools; *Urbanvessel* theatre in urban spaces; journal *Scapegoat Architecture / Landscape / Political Economy*

### EDUCATION

Masters of Architecture Cornell University 2012  
Bachelors of Architecture University of Waterloo 1995  
Bachelors of Environmental Studies University of Waterloo 1991

### EXHIBITION, DIRECTION, CURATION

2023 **Geospheric Sweatbath** installation at Public Sweat. Collaborators: Kathryn Walter, Rob Cruickshank, Sara Torrie. Utopian thermal environment 6-wk public multidisciplinary project saunas by artists, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto. Curation Art Spin.

2021-4 **Public Sweat** Project Advisor exploring the public sauna as artwork; curation Art Spin (Layne Hinton and Rui Pimenta)

2022 **Oculus Rain** installation for riverMOUTH multidisciplinary arts festival. Digitally interactive sound installation at Oculus Pavilion, Humber River, Toronto. Curation Urbanvessel.

2022 **riverMOUTH** Guided public walk on landscape and architectural history of the Oculus Pavilion and South Humber Park

2016 **A la recherche** (in search of practice-based research Drawings. Curated by Barbara Balfour. With Thewaves.

2015 **Immersive Vibratory Environment** Thermal-humidity installation and event at Tasmanian School of the Arts. With Thewaves.

2013 **Edible Park** Tree Planting Design & Festival Friends of Alexandra Park community process including advisory lecture series, public outreach, collective dreaming and consultations, community festivities and plantings.

2012 **Sunnyside: Fire on the Water** Artistic Direction, Curation, and Installation. Produced with Thewaves (Christie Pearson and Marcus Boon). Marcus Boon DJ/sound art curation, Darren Copeland audio, Aimee Dawn Robinson choreographer, Juliet Palmer composer. Multi-disciplinary arts festival over 24 hours made the entire Beaux-Arts Sunnyside Bathing Pavilion publicly accessible and free to all. Included musical and dance performances, readings, dance floor, and experimental immersive social bathing environments. Including Margaret Krawecka, Melissa Fisher, Alexandra Gelis, M.A.M.A., Slowed DJs, Dos Mundos, Poirier, Maga Bo, Venus X, DJ/Rupture, Marcatu Mar Aberto, Uma Nota Culture, Alison Peacock, Lo Bil, Barbara Lindenberg, Victoria Cheong, Dawne Carleton, Alex Samaras, Nick Fraser, Brodie West, Linda Allemanno, Doug Tielli, Charles, Davidson, Nicole Rampersaud, Lake Ontario Waterkeeper, City of Toronto Parks Forestry and Recreation, Sunnyside Bathing Pavilion, Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre, The Music Gallery

2012 **Black Ash Baskets** Expanded curation of public program to learn basket making from tree sourcing to completion from Ojibwe basket maker and elder Renee Wasson Dillard. Grey Roots Museum, Owen Sound

2009 **Waters of Forgetfulness** Installation and reading of Ivan Illich at the Art Eggleton Park wading pool. Presented with Human River, coordinator Georgia Ydreos, and annual Lost Rivers Walk, presented by the Toronto Public Space Committee, following the buried Garrison Creek from Christie Pits to Fort York

2009-13 **M.A.M.A.** Event co-organizer, promotion, graphics, scouting of 14 underground music events in Toronto. With M.A.M.A. (Marcus Boon, Alex Livingston, Andrew Wedman, Merike Andre-Barrett)

2008 **Breathe** Photographic installation on swimming and breath in subway station for the Contact Photography Festival What's Your Revolution show curated by Sharon Switzer

2008 **Slip (2008)** Inspired by the 2006 performance, Urbanvessel worked with director Chelsea McMullan to create this experimental dance short film screened at Toronto International Short Film Festival, Dance Camera West LA, Loikka Dance Film Festival Finland, International Dance and Electronic Media Festival Mexico City

2008 **Whirl** Site-specific installations of cast kozo washi paper on wood sculpture for the Convergence of Art, Culture and Science conference and event, University of Toronto.

2007 **Turn** 1:1 sculptures of the solidified void from the space between the legs of 9 significant Canadian women artists. Created during wood turning apprenticeship with Stephen Hogbin. Outdoor exhibition, Owen Sound.

2007 **Stitch** Concept and workshop phase for theatre piece on textiles and labour; premiered in 2010

2002-7 **WADE** Festival of Performance and Installation Art in Wading Pools. Conception, artistic direction and curation collaboration with Sandra Rechico. Produced in cooperation with YYZ Artists Outlet, City of Toronto Culture, City of Toronto Parks Forestry and Recreation. Featured 25 local, national, and international artists in community parks: Atanas Bozdarov, Tomasz Smereka, Michael Caines, Leah Decter, Peter Chin, Sandra Gregson, John Greyson, Margaret Moores, Marcia Huyer, Yam Lau, Shannon McMullen, Fabian Winkler, Hazel Meyer, Theodor Pelmus, Eugenio Salas, Michele Stanley, Tony Stallard, Chrysanthe Stathacos, Ingrid Bachmann, Lorainne Oades, Ana Rewakowicz, Nick Tobier, Chris Arnoldin, Su-Ying Lee, David Hoffos, Maxine Heppner, Cecilia Chen, Colette Urban, Sonya Schonberger, Lisa Deanne Smith, Julie Fiala, Gwen MacGregor, Sarah Peebles, Rob Cruickshank, Gene Threndyle, Florencia Berinstein

2006 **Night Swim** Artistic Direction and installation. All-night swimming installation and event at Trinity Bellwoods public pool. Produced with Thewaves. Sound artists curation Marcus Boon for 12 hourly sets by Tim Hecker, FM3, Keith Fullerton Whitman, Windy and Carl, Marina Rosenfeld, Raz Mesinai, Sarah Peebles, Sandro Perri, Luis Jacob, Geoff Snack, Andrew Wedman and Orixasound. Curated by Jessica Rose for Toronto's inaugural Nuit Blanche. 10,000+ attendees.

2006 **Slip** Concept, poetry, environment, sets, lighting; Urbanvessel Artistic Direction, Harrison Baths Public Swimming Pool. Performers led audiences through the spaces of the pool complex unravelling a picture of the latent drama of these spaces and those who depend upon them. Team Juliet Palmer, Anna Chatterton, Yvonne Ng, Christine Duncan, Vilma Vitols, Aki Takahashi, Jean Martin, Louis Laberge-Côté, Susanne Chui.

2006 **Four Lines** Concept and curation with Urbanvessel for Continuum's soundAxis Festival of New Music. Artists performed while riding four public transit lines to converge at a greenhouse for a shared finale, including Sarah Peebles, Nilan Perera, Christine Duncan, Jean Martin, Rob Clutton

2004 The Space Between My Legs Exhibition at York Quay Gallery during Superdanish festival. Wood turning applied to LEGO as building/space

2003 **108** Photographic stills of Tokyo made into a movie choreographed to 108, audio work by composer and musician Sarah Peebles. Shown at the Goethe Institute, Toronto; turned into an enhanced CD.

2003 **Stretched Legs** Installation of modified nylon stockings exploring sculptural-spatial potential, London UK. With Clare Racine.

2002 **Feather Bath** Participatory site-specific installation and event. Gibraltar Point Center for the Arts residency connected humans and waterfowl.

2002 **Washi Bath** Paper and fire installation, Gibraltar Point Center for the Arts.

2002 **Ice Bath** Participatory site-specific installation in St. Patrick's Square facing the Harrison Baths public pool. Cast of a standard enameled steel bath tub in ice as a public sculpture. Marking the 2001 removal of the bathtubs that had previously provided comfort, dignity to the many homeless people who bathe here.

2000 **Dry Bath** Series of installations marking public baths, sento, in the Tokyo neighbourhood of Kita Kogane station during the annual Bon Odori festival using kozo washi paper casts with diverse inclusions.

2000 **String Space** Neighbourhood outdoor string-based spatial interventions with 2nd year architecture students at University of Toronto School of Architecture

1999 **Hallowe'en Wade** Overnight light-based installation and public event at the McCormick Park wading pool, Toronto

1999 **Street Cleaning** Re-enactment of the 1973 work Washing/Tracks/Maintenance: Outside by Mierle Laderman Ukeles at the TD Bank, Toronto. With October Group.

1998 **Mud Baths** Participatory site-specific installation at Mies van der Rohe's TD Bank and the edge of the Don River at the Don Valley Brickworks

1998 Fabricator T-shirt Exchange Participatory public clothing swap event with The October Group: Kika Thorne, Adrian Blackwell, Cecilia Chen, Luis Jacob, Barry Isenor +. Power Plant Gallery, Toronto

1998 **Tree Cast** Installation in High Park, Toronto for Earth Day. Gauze textile and flour casting.

1997 **Earth Moves** Grave excavation in Allen Gardens park to memorialize victims of poverty including Shawn Keegan. For the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty. With The April Group (Kika Thorne, Adrian Blackwell, Cecilia Chen).

1997 **Street Cast** Intersection of Queen and Spadina. Performance/event. Gauze textile and flour casting.

1997 **Mattress City** Play Space Participatory site-specific installation and weekend event facing Toronto City Hall in Nathan Philips Square protesting homelessness. with The February Group: Kika Thorne, Adrian Blackwell, Cecilia Chen, Luis Jacob.

1996 **Inflatable Tube Shelter** Participatory site-specific installation facing Toronto City Hall in Nathan Philips Square protesting development speculation during the Toronto Days of Action protests against conservative provincial government cutbacks. with The October Group: Kika Thorne, Adrian Blackwell, Cecilia Chen, Barry Isenor, Ken Hayes, Derrick Wang, Mike Lawrence, Wiebke von Carolsfeld.

1995 **Multiplied Entrance** Installation at the Red Head Gallery. With Cecilia Chen.

1994 **Flux** and **Deluge** set design and construction for water based dance by choreographer Bill James

1994 **Ceiling Mirror** installation at an abandoned theatre on Bloor Street

1993 **Mediatrix** Installation at Cold City Gallery with Anne Buttrick and Joanne Bingham

## **PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

2023 Friends of Randy Padmore Park, CA *What Can a Park Be?*

2023 Flussbad Project Garden Berlin DE *Urban Bathing and Ecological Renewal*

2023 Ravensbad Bagno Popolare, Baden, CH *The Architecture of Bathing and Participatory Art*

2023 CityLAB: Berlin DE *Space and Transformation: Bathing in Public and Tactical Urbanism*

2021 University of Montreal CA School of Architecture *The Architecture of Bathing*

2021 MJMA Architects CA *The Architecture of Bathing*

2021 LGA Architectural Partners CA *The Architecture of Bathing*

2020 University of Waterloo CA *The Architecture of Bathing*

2015 Tasmanian College of the Arts AU *Immersion, Bathing, Art*

2013 University of Waterloo CA *Public Baths, Public Spaces*

2006 Ryerson University School of Architecture CA  
Other Practices lecture series *Work*  
1998 University of Toronto FALD CA *The Urban Public Bath*

## **PROJECT GRANT SUPPORT**

2020 Canada Council for the Arts, 5K, Digital Originals Grant, Global Bathing Architectures

2015 Canada Council for the Arts, 2.5K, Travel Grant, Sydney Australia

2013 Live Green Toronto Grant, 9.2K, Community native edible tree planting project, Alexandra Park

2012 Canada Council for the Arts, 3K, Travel Grant, Berlin Germany

2012 Ontario Arts Council Arts, 5K, Arts Education Grant, Black Ash Basketry in Grey County

2012 Canada Council for the Arts, 16.5K, Project Grant for Organizations, Fire on the Water

2011 Toronto Arts Council, 6K, Visual Media Grant, Fire on the Water

2011 Canada Council for the Arts, 12K, Inter Arts Grant, Fire on the Water

2010 Ontario Arts Council Grant, 4K, Multi-Arts Grant, Fire on the Water

2009 Toronto Arts Council, 3.5K, Theatre Grant

2007 Canada Council for the Arts, 10K, Inter Arts Research Grant, London UK, Paris France, Fire on the Water

2006 Ontario Arts Council, 3.5K, Research Grant, Public bathing

2006 Toronto Arts Council, 20K, Grant, Wade

2006 Ontario Arts Council, 10K, Grant, Wade

2006 Canada Council for the Arts, 25K, Grant, Wade

2006 Trillium Foundation, 28K, Grant, Wade

2006 Laidlaw Foundation, 20K, Grant, Wade

2004 Toronto Arts Council, 5K, Grant, Wade

2004 Ontario Arts Council, 10K, Grant, Wade

2004 Canada Council for the Arts, 20K, Grant, Wade

2004 Laidlaw Foundation, 5K, Grant, Wade

2004 Trillium Foundation, 18K, Grant, Wade

1999 Canada Council for the Arts, 10K, Inter Arts Research Grant, Tokyo Japan, Public bathing