

# ~ MONICA NICKOLAI ~

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## Education

- 2010 **School of the Art Institute of Chicago** MFAW Writing
- 2004 **Webster University** BA Studio Art, BA English with an emphasis in creative writing
- 2003 **Regent's College of London** Study Abroad Program

## Collections

- 2011 Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, a gift on behalf of SAIC and President Walter Massey

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 **Small Window Large Landscape Gallery** Daejeon, Korea
- 2018 **Café Sieunoo** Daejeon, Korea
- 2015 **Salt Gallery** Gwangju, Korea  
**Gallery DJAC** Daejeon, Korea

## Artist Residencies

- 2020 **Lokalen Lichtenvoorde** Lichtenvoorde, Netherlands
- 2016 **Art Space Jang** Daejeon, Korea

## Group Exhibitions

- 2023 **Spaces, Places** Broadway Gallery; Letchworth Garden City, England
- 2019 **Performativity** Tactile Bosch; Cardiff, UK  
**Performativity** WWW SPACE; Seoul, Korea  
**From Here to There** Seoul Museum of Art Chango Gallery; Seoul Korea  
**From Here to There** Cyart Gallery; Seoul Korea
- 2017 **Twelfth Night** Daejeon Gallery; Daejeon, Korea  
**Writing Chinese Characters in Front of Confucius** Daejeon Citizens' College; Daejeon, Korea
- 2016 **Young Artists' Residency Exhibition** Daejeon Creative Center; Daejeon, Korea  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Open Studio Exhibition** Art Space Jang; Daejeon, Korea  
**Da Vinci Dances in the Old Downtown: 2<sup>nd</sup> Network Exhibition** Gallery Jeong; Daejeon, Korea  
**Da Vinci Dances in the Old Downtown: 1<sup>st</sup> Network Exhibition** Alternative Art Space Ipo; Seoul, Korea  
**Asia Kula Kula-ring** Asian Cultural Center (exhibition venue of Gwangju Biennale); Gwangju, Korea

- Open Studio Exhibition and Artist Talks** Art Space Jang; Daejeon, Korea
- You Don't Know DJAC** Daejeon Citizen's College; Daejeon, Korea
- 2015 **10,000 Li Back Home** Space One; Seoul, Korea
- 8** Yuseong Cultural Center; Daejeon Korea
- Seoul Photo and Imaging Show** Coex Mall; Seoul, Korea
- Beyond the Fields We Know** Daejeon City Hall; Daejeon Korea
- Cross-Cultural** APIC Gallery; Daejeon, Korea
- 2014 **Grand Opening of Gallery DAC** Gallery DAC; Daejeon, Korea
- Made in Korea** Wooyeon Gallery; Daejeon, Korea
- 2013 **Daejeon Arts Collective** Bohm Gallery; Daejeon, Korea
- 2012 **Chicago Torture Justice Memorials** Sullivan Gallery; Chicago, IL
- 2011 **Text Sound Transmission** Stramash Space; an online gallery run by curators based in Glasgow, Scotland
- 2010 **Public Light & Space** satellite space of Richard Gray Gallery at John Hancock Building; Chicago, IL
- The Embedded Flaw** Betty Rhymer Gallery; Chicago, IL
- 2004 **Empty Spaces** (BA Exhibition) Webster University's Hunt Gallery; St. Louis, MO
- Nadadada (7)** Gallery of Contemporary Art St. Louis (Now Museum of Contemporary Art St. Louis)

## Shows/Performances

- 2020 **Big Day South** *Animation*  
Online gallery of Daegu music festival
- 2019 **Electric Cinema Short Film Festival** *Video Art*  
Crazy Multiply; Seoul, Korea
- 2017 **Twelfth Night** *Collaborative performance*  
Daejeon Junggu Cultural Center; Daejeon, Korea
- 2016 **Angle X** *Interactive animation*  
Art Space Jaengiy; Daegu, Korea
- 2015 **Big Day South** *Performance/video*  
Moim Gallery in collaboration with Angle Magazine; Ulsan, Korea
- 2011 **Speak English** *Writing for sketch theater show*  
Gorilla Tango Theater; Chicago, IL
- 2010 **All the Best**, *Invitation to respond creatively to video installation by Annette Elliot and Nazy Lotfi*  
Sullivan Gallery; Chicago, IL
- 2008 **Gerbil Power** *Play written for Seoul Players*  
The Orange Tree; Seoul, Korea
- 2004 **Girl of Your Dreams** *Play selected for the Surfacing Playwrights' Festival; St. Louis Repertory Theater; St. Louis, MO*

## Collaborative Public Projects

- 2018 **Downtown Daejeon Revitalization Program**  
Created a mural with blackboard space for local residents to write to each other to preserve and renovate historic downtown Daejeon neighborhood
- 2014-2015 **Gallery DJAC**  
Working with a group of collaborative artists, I helped scout positions for a gallery, renovate the chosen location into a gallery, create promotional materials, organize events, and communicate with invited artists.
- 2011 **Field Museum—Chicago Climate Action Plan**  
Working as an intern with a team of urban anthropologists, I helped to develop signage for a community garden in Pilsen, facilitate exhibition design created about a student-led community project, and assisted in developing public art projects to engage communities in climate-friendly practices.

### **Project Cabrini Green**

*A collaborative public art project led by artist Jan Tichy*

I helped to create a curriculum, lead art and writing workshops, edit student work for the website and art book publication, and assemble the light boxes that were installed in the building and exhibited as art world-wide. Exhibitions and documentation were presented by the Richard Gray Gallery with No Longer Empty in New York, the SKOR Foundation in Amsterdam, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and Hamburg, Germany.

## Grants and Awards

- 2010 **Gold Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education**  
'Best In-House Publication' for *Public Light and Space*, a group exhibition catalog (group project)
- 2009 **World Less Traveled** Grant to Japan for art project research

## Teaching Experience

**Hongik University Jochiwon, Korea**

*Professor, August 2017 - August 2025*

•Developed curriculum for and taught Basic English for Film and Design Majors. Students learned the steps of the design process and created designs and concepts and designs for visual narratives, such as graphic novels, illustrated books, games, etc.

- Developed curriculum for and taught Basic English for Game Design. Students learn the design process for game design and created a narrative and design elements for a game design document
- Developed curriculum for and taught Basic English for Ad/PR Majors. Students learned communication and design for advertising, including developing logos and ad campaigns
- Developed curriculum for and taught Art History in English
- Developed curriculum for and taught integrated skills courses in English as a foreign language and other courses as assigned

**Woosong University** Daejeon, Korea

*Professor, February 2016 – August 2017, August 2013 – August 2014*

- Developed curriculum for and taught *Draw Me a Story*, a course in which students created illustrated stories
- Taught and evaluated students in English as a second language

**Soongsil University** Seoul, Korea

*Professor, August 2014 – February 2015*

- Taught and evaluated Korean-speaking students in English conversation

**Maryville University** St. Louis, MO

*Adjunct Instructor, September 2012 – May 2013*

- Taught creative writing, advanced writing, and composition courses

**School of the Art Institute of Chicago** Chicago, IL

*Adjunct Instructor, May 2011- May 2012*

- Taught writing course with art history content
- Tutor and run workshops for undergrad and ESL MA/MFA art students in communication about content related to their classes
- Run workshops and tutoring sessions for art education students in writing, language arts, and reading comprehension

**Columbia College Chicago** Chicago, IL

*Writing Consultant, September 2011- May 2012*

- Tutored writing skills to liberal and fine arts students

**School of the Art Institute of Chicago** Chicago, IL

*Writing Center TA, June 2009-December 2010*

- Earned promotion as head tutor in my last semester
- Tutored students in writing skills
- Performed administrative duties upon request

**School of the Art Institute of Chicago** Chicago, IL

Sharp Woodshop TA, August 2008–May 2010

- Tutored first-year students in construction, safety, and tool use in the wood shop
- Maintained equipment, safety, and cleanliness

**School of the Art Institute of Chicago** Chicago, IL

Early College Program TA, Summer 2009

- Assisted in teaching an interdisciplinary studio art and writing course to the Early College Program
- Led evening workshops

## Certifications

**Web Development**

Career Foundry, Online program

**Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages**

Prague Schools, accredited by Trinity College

## Publications

2024 **Korea Times** South Korean Newspaper (4 articles)

*Artistic duo explores power of language in new tech-driven project*

*Daejeon-based artist explores mortality*

*Daejeon artists experiment with 'souping' photographic film*

*Daejeon artists prepare for spring exhibition*

2023 **Korea Times** South Korean Newspaper (2 articles)

*Daejeon artists present autumn show*

*Daejeon hosts 14th int'l play festival*

2019 **Land and Territory** Literary Anthology

Prose poem

**The Knickknackery** Online Literary Publication

Flash fiction

2018 **Riddled With Arrows** Online Literary and Art Publication

Featured artwork

2016 **Your Uncle Richard** Online Art Project

Video art

**Angle Magazine** Online Art Publication

Video feature of my interactive animation accompanying band

Amazing Visual

2015 **Photo + Travel** Exhibition Catalog

Publication of photograph by jury selection

- 2011 **All the Best**, *Exhibition catalog*  
Wrote and performed a reading in response to a video installation
- 2010 **Public Light & Space** *Exhibition catalog with DVD*  
Featured artist: submitted photos of my work, wrote an essay, gave a video interview for the DVD, and edited video
- 2009 **The Embedded Flaw** *Exhibition catalog*  
Featured artist: wrote short piece to accompany featured work

## Selected Press/Media Coverage

Seo Hee Ju. "Monica Nickolai" [\[b\]racket magazine](#), April 2019.

"Ten Thousand Li Back Home" [Dodooba](#).  
[https://www.dodooba.com/guide\\_details.php?ref\\_id=2461&feature\\_type=0](https://www.dodooba.com/guide_details.php?ref_id=2461&feature_type=0). Accessed Sept. 8, 2016.

Kim, Yoori. "Monica Nickolai, Vice President of Daejeon Arts Collective (DJAC)" Touch Base in Seoul. KBS Radio.  
[http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/program/program\\_seoulreport\\_detail.htm?No=4909](http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/program/program_seoulreport_detail.htm?No=4909). Broadcast by worldwide radio on May 23, 2015.

Weiss, Hedy. "Fountain creator challenges young artists' imaginations"  
[Chicago Sun-Times](#), May 22, 2010

Viera, Lauren. "'Public Light & Space' at Paul Gray Gallery" [Chicago Tribune](#), June 6, 2010