



2022 Fall Forum
Building Futures of Sustainable Presence
Presenter Bios

Eve Baron is the Chairperson of Pratt Institute's Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment—an alliance of four graduate programs in City and Regional Planning; Historic Preservation, Sustainable Environmental Systems, and Urban Placemaking and Management. She is also an Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, and a founding member of the Collective for Community, Culture and the Environment. She served as Director of the Municipal Art Society Planning Center from 2007-2010, where she coordinated the Campaign for Community-Based Planning, and was Senior Fellow for Planning and Policy at the Pratt Center for Community Development. In 2019, Brooklyn Borough President appointed her to New York City's Civic Engagement Commission. Her career and teaching interests are in participatory planning; planning process; community-based planning; community development; civic infrastructure; participatory budgeting; equity-based planning; land use; low cost housing; gentrification and displacement; experiential and service learning; and participatory action research.

Daniel Bergman is the Director of the Center for Art and Design and Community Engagement, K-12. Prior to joining Pratt, he served as Program Director Creative Art Works, a non-profit visual arts youth development organization dedicated to bringing arts education and experiences to New York City's most underserved communities. In school settings, he has served as Head of the Visual and Performing Arts at Dwight School and as Head of Visual Arts at Trinity School, both in NYC. Earlier in his career, he served as a teaching artist at museums, including PS1, MoMA and The Guggenheim, and with community-based organizations, such as Lincoln Center Institute, and Studio in a School. Daniel served on The Teaching and Learning Committee of the Board at The Center for Arts Education. Daniel holds a B.A. in Studio Art and Intellectual History from Wesleyan University, an M.F.A. in Studio Art from School of Visual Arts and a M.S.Ed in Educational Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania.

Jean Brennan works at the intersection between ecology, language, alchemy, and the body. Recurring themes include a fascination with atmospheric forces, plants, phenomenology, and color. Using the lyrical essay as method, she loosely assembles scientific research, historical and pop culture references with personal reflection, to explore our relationship to the natural world, interspecies dependency, and models of resiliency. She uses design to publish, archive, and visually score projects that may include installation, video, sculpture and performance. In 2021, Jean founded FRUIT&ROT to publish simple but thoughtful zines, broadsheets, field guides, syllabi, and chapbooks centered around art and ecology. Jean is an adjunct Professor in the Graduate Communications Design Department at Pratt Institute.

Rafael De Balanzo Joue: Trained as an Architect and designer, and Ph.D. in Sustainability Science, my area of expertise is urban sustainability and design for transitions with a focus on the Resilience Thinking Approach (RTA) for communities and territories. I am a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Mathematics and Science Department (SLAS) where I teach the MSC1-271 Ecology for Architects course. I was awarded by the Russell Sage Foundation, Fulbright-Colombia, and CUNY to evaluate the extent to which the RTA training can help local communities boost their resilience in front of systemic changes.

Maria Gracia Echeverría is a graphic designer and educator. Her undergraduate studies were Graphic Design at Universidad Católica de Chile and an MFA in Communication Design at Pratt Institute in New York. Her practice divides between freelance design based on collaborative practices —working with



independent artists, writers, and educational organizations— together with being an Adjunct Lecturer at Pratt Institute, Rutgers University and Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

Adam Friedman is Chief Strategy Officer for the Provost's Office of Research and Strategic Partnerships. Mr. Friedman is on the Boards of Directors of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the New York Economic Development Corporation, and the Urban Manufacturing Alliance, a national network of economic development professionals in more than 200 cities and which he co-founded. Prior to his current position, Mr. Friedman was Director of the Pratt Center for Community Development and his career also includes working in city government for David Dinkins and Ruth Messinger and in the non-profit sector as director of two economic development organizations. Mr. Friedman is a graduate of Haverford College and Benjamin Cardozo School of Law.

Sam Harvey, MA As a Professional Development and Resilience Specialist at Pratt Institute, Sam coordinates the Resilience, Wellness and Well-being Council and projects, chairs the MISA Committee, coordinates the Mindful Pratt community drop-in practices, and has been the Research Assistant in contemplative practices for the last 4 years. Most recently she has facilitated the Meditation Incubator: Creative Mind, Business Mind course and the COMPOSE Contemplative Pedagogy and Mindfulness Workshop series. Sam is the Vice President of the inaugural Staff Council at Pratt Institute.

Kara Hearn is a performance-based video artist and the Chair of Pratt Institute's Film/Video Department. In her work, she plays with ritual behaviors and habits that offer symbolic and/or psychological comfort to their practitioners. It has been screened, exhibited, and performed at MoMA, SFMOMA, The Bluecoat Gallery, ARQUIPÉLAGO Contemporary Art Center, Dallas Medianale, DiverseWorks, New Orleans Museum of Art, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, White Columns, Berkeley Art Museum, and Walker Art Center. Her work was featured in the book *Double Act: Art and Comedy* and has been selected twice as a "critic's picks" on Artforum.com. Hearn has completed residencies at the Core Program in Houston and at Recess, EFA Project Space, and Wassaic Project in New York. She received an MFA in Art Practice from UC, Berkeley, an MA in Interdisciplinary Art Education from San Francisco State and a BA in Creative Thought and Action from UC, Santa Cruz.

Jeffrey Hogrefe is Professor of Humanities and Media Studies, the co-founder of the Architecture Writing Program and In Search of African American and Indigenous Space Research Collaborative, and Affiliate Faculty in the Graduate Program in Performance and Performance Studies, at Pratt Institute. As an Oglala Lakota Sundance person and a transdisciplinary scholar and creative practitioner, he works on a collective pedagogy in aesthetics and politics in emerging, discrete communities at the intersections of history, memory, ethnic and gendered identities, and built, found and imagined environments. Hogrefe is the co-editor of *In Search of African American Space Redressing Racism* (Lars Müller, 2020), recipient of the 2022 ARCC award, issued by the Architectural Research Centers Consortium and the 2022 Pratt Institute Research Recognition Award. His research has been awarded grants from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts and the U.S. Department of Education. He is the co-creator of The Abolitionist Landscape Project, a cultural remapping of the Potomac River Valley as a performance in alternate present.

Bethany Ides is a writer, artist, teacher, theater-maker and organizer, living in New York's Rondout Valley. With Mahshid Rafiei and Ora Ferdman, she directs DOORS UNLIMITED which is a generative structure for investigative operatics and speculative folklife. Her performative propositions have been hosted by Harbourfront Centre, Knockdown Center, Brooklyn Museum, Fragmental Museum, Mandragoras Art Space, Tritriangle, FADO Performance Art Centre, the Prattsville Art Center, SenseLab, CounterPULSE,



Dixon Place, Sunview Luncheonette, Worksound Gallery, St. Marks Poetry Project, and digital space subleased by Meta/Instagram to BOMB Magazine. Recent essays, poetry, scripts and collaborative projects have appeared or are forthcoming in Ear | Wave | Event, The Candidate Journal: Psychoanalytic Currents, Radical Teacher, C Magazine, Temporary Art Review, Feminist Temporalities, fields magazine, Orange Mercury and for the book and radio program, both called Tongue and Cheek. She is an Adjunct Associate Professor in Humanities & Media Studies at Pratt Institute where she teaches courses on processes activating pleasure, play and critical pedagogy.

Chris Jensen is an educator, writer, and scientist with interests in cooperation, human cultural evolution, sustainability, and pedagogy. He has taught a variety of environmental science, ecology, and evolutionary biology courses to Pratt's art, design, and architecture majors. His research is focused on understanding how evolving human cultural systems interact with the evolving biological systems upon which human populations depend. He also conducts pedagogical research aimed at identifying best practices for fostering scientific learning in non-majors.

Enrique Lanz Oca from the department of Mathematics and Science one of the co-founders of the organization Greenbelt Society. He is the Department Sustainability Coordinator for Mathematics and Science.

Heather Lewis is Professor of Art and Design Education. Her historical research explores urban social movements and institutional reform in New York City. Her book, *New York City Public Schools from Brownsville to Bloomberg: The Community Control Movement and its Legacy* (2013), explores the history of grassroots organizing for educational justice in underserved communities. She teaches an ongoing public history course, *Beyond and Between Pratt's Gates*, focused on silenced histories of activism through oral history and archival research.

Lewis founded and directed Assessment for Learning which supports cross-disciplinary faculty learning communities devoted to the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL). She serves as Pratt's Faculty Director for Program and Learning Outcomes and co-leads the assessment group for Pratt's Middle States accreditation. She is also co-Principal Investigator for the NSF-funded project, *Exploring Transdisciplinary Approaches to STEM Teaching and Learning*. She has published and presented her work on teaching, learning and assessment in higher education journals and conferences.

Nat Mesnard is a writer and game designer based in NYC. They teach narrative design and game making at Pratt Institute and School of Visual Arts, and co-host the podcast *Queers at the End of the World*. Nat's poetry, fiction, and nonfiction is published in *Brink*, *Catapult*, *Cartridge Lit*, *Autostraddle*, *Kenyon Review Online*, and elsewhere. Nat's work in game design includes a tabletop roleplaying game, *BUSINESS WIZARDS*, from 9th Level Games, and a two-person roleplaying game titled "Gods of Rock" in the 2022 Level 1 Anthology for Free RPG Day.

Natalie Monterrosa teaches in the Geography and Environmental Science department at Pratt and also teaches at Hunter College, CUNY, and is a co-founder of the organization, Greenbelt Society. She is specialized in marine science and teaches weather and climate at Hunter College.

Natalie Moore is an educator, artist, and designer working in Brooklyn, NY. She is currently a CCE faculty member in the Foundation Department at Pratt Institute. As an educator, Moore has worked in collaboration with faculty members across the institute on interdisciplinary projects including *Drawing Democracies* (2013, 2015), *Visible Epistemologies* (2018/19), *First Year Conversations*, (2021/22). She

has been active in the Faculty Learning Communities at Pratt Institute since 2012 and presented on a wide range of pedagogical strategies at conferences nationwide. Moore has exhibited her work nationally and internationally for over 30 years; her work has been featured in *Sculpture Magazine*, *CNN International* and reviewed in several publications including the *New York Times*, *New York Newsday* and *USA Today*. Her design work includes work for numerous educational, non-profit, and commercial clients such as Rethink Autism, the Toffler Associates, Sprint, *Scientific American*, the Hale House, and the Guggenheim Museum. Moore received a MA Studio Art, NYU in 1992 and BA Fine Art, from University of California, Santa Cruz in 1987.

Carlos Motta (b. 1978, Bogotá, Colombia) is a multidisciplinary artist who documents the social conditions and political struggles of sexual, gender, and ethnic minority communities, challenging societal norms and values through visibility and self-representation. He has upcoming solo exhibitions at Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus (2022); Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá (MAMBO) and P·P·O·W Gallery in New York (2023). His work is included in the 58th Carnegie International (2022) and the permanent collections of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, and Guggenheim Museum. Motta participated in Film at Lincoln Center's Art of the Real (2021) and the 11th Berlin Biennale (2020). He was awarded PinchukArtCentre's Future Generation Art Prize (2014) and a Guggenheim fellowship (2008). He is an associate professor of Interdisciplinary Practice in Fine Arts at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

Eva Perez de Vega is an architect, designer and educator. She is founding partner at e+i studio, an architecture and design firm based in NYC focusing on projects that engage the public balancing social and environmental parameters with aesthetic innovation and ecological empathy. Prior to establishing e+i studio, Eva was lead design architect at Reiser+Umemoto.

Eva holds an MArch and BArch from the University of Madrid, School of Architecture (ETSAM) specializing in Building Structures, and a Masters in Philosophy from the New School For Social Research with a certificate in Gender and Sexuality studies, where she is currently a PhD candidate in Philosophy.

Sara Greenberger Rafferty (she/her) is a multi-disciplinary visual artist based in Brooklyn since 2000. Before joining Pratt as Associate Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies in Photography, she held teaching positions at Suffolk County Community College, City College, Columbia University, RISD, Parsons, Amherst College, and Hampshire College, where she was Associate Professor of Studio Art. The artist was included in the 2014 Whitney Biennial and the 2014 Hammer Biennial, as part of Public Fiction's programming, in addition to group shows at the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, Oregon; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, California; and The Jewish Museum, New York, among many others. Her work is included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, the Yale University Art Museum, among others.

Rhonda Schaller, MPS, MBSR is a Visiting Associate Professor and AVP for Resilience, Wellness and Well-being; founder of the Meditation Incubator project, and a Made in NYC fellow. Her research in contemplative practices and intention was recently awarded another two year grant from the Emily Hall Tremaine Grant for the Mindful Collaboratory project, to continue a national training and study for artists and arts leaders. Spring '22 she completed a Fulbright Specialist grant to bring contemplative practices and wellbeing pedagogy into faculty teaching and learning and staff wellness at MTU, Cork Ireland.



Irina Schneid, AIA, IIDA, is a registered architect, educator, and participatory designer. She is the Principal of Scharc Studio, and the Founder of Impact Wrkshp, a social impact organization for women in design. An Assistant Professor of Community-Engaged Learning, Irina was the School of Design recipient of the 2021 Pratt CTL Faculty Fellowship. Her research developed infrastructure and programming to support continuity in community engagement across the institute, fostering campus-wide dialogue on the topic of Participatory Education. The recipient of the 2020 IIDA Impact Stipend Award, Irina is currently developing interdisciplinary community partnered courses within the School of Design, including the coordination of the SOD Co-Design Studio. Irina has lectured and taught internationally, with teaching appointments at Barnard College, Columbia University, Temple University, Drexel University, CityTech, NYIT, and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) in Melbourne, Australia. Irina earned her B.Arch and M.Arch II from Cornell University and is licensed in New York and New Jersey.

Karin Shankar (Ph.D.) is an Assistant Professor of Performance Studies in the Department of Humanities and Media Studies at Pratt Institute. Her work has been published or is forthcoming in *Women & Performance: a Journal of Feminist Theory*, *TDR*, *Feminist Teacher*, *Art India*, *ASAP/Journal*, *Performance Philosophy*, *Performance Matters*, and elsewhere. She is currently working on her book manuscript titled: *Molecular Aesthetics: Contemporary Art and Performance in India*.

Jason Vigneri from the School of Architecture is an architect working on sustainability and green infrastructures and climate change.