



CURRICULUM VITAE

Denise Bertschi (*1983, Aarau)

Artist-researcher, educator

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EDUCATION

- March 2018– Feb. 2023 **Doctoral Candidate EPFL Lausanne**
EDAR Doctoral Program *Architecture and Sciences of the City*
(in collaboration with IRAD *Institute for Art Research*,
HEAD Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design – Genève)

PhD supervisor I: Prof. Dr. Nicola Braghieri
(EPFL, *Arts for Sciences Laboratory LAPIS*)

PhD supervisor II: Prof. Dr. Doreen Mende
(CCC Art-led research Master HEAD Genève,
Head of research at Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden)
- 2015 **Master in Contemporary Artistic Practices**
Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design, Genève (HEAD)
Visual Arts Department
- 2012 **Bachelor in Visual Communication**
Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK)
Department Design
- 2011 **ARTeZ Arnhem Institute of the Arts, Netherlands**
BA Exchange semester
- 2005 **Bachelor of Arts for Education**
FHNW Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz

EMPLOYMENT

- 2014–ongoing **Artist-researcher** (independent)
- 2015–ongoing **Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Genève (HEAD) Visual Arts Department**

Doctoral researcher
2018–ongoing: scheduled Doctoral Defense in March 2023)

Doctoral teaching assistant
2020–2021: **BA** Bachelor, Option (Dé-)Construction (Visual Arts)
2018–2020: **MA** Master in Contemporary Artistic Practices (Visual Arts)
Under Prof. Laurent Schmid-Abt
With: Anselm Franke, Lars Bang Larsen, Uriel Orlow, Mai-Thu Perret,
Raimundas Malasauškas, Michael Stevenson, Marie-Laure Allain Bonilla,
Jelena Martinovic, Yann Chateigné
- Pedagogical assistant**
2015–2018: **MA** Contemporary Artistic Practices, Work.Master
Under Prof. Laurent Schmid-Abt

2013	Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK) Field research in India and Nepal for <i>Glocal – Global and local Design Strategies</i> (Department Design)
2012–2014	Graphic designer (self-employed) with focus on artistic editorial design
2005–2010	Teacher in Swiss public schools

EXHIBITIONS

2024	Swiss National Research Fund AGORA art-science exhibition <i>Naming Natures. On the traces of the Swiss Humboldt</i> Co-curator, with Dr. Tomás Bartoletti (EUI Florence, ETH Zurich GESS, SNC Agora applicant) MHNN Natural History Museum Neuchâtel (upcoming)
2023	CAN Centre d'Art de Neuchâtel Solo exhibition, Nov. 2023 (upcoming)
2022	Landesmuseum Zürich, Swiss National Museum <i>Im Wald – Eine Kulturgeschichte</i> Cultural history exhibition, with installation <i>Helvécia, Brazil</i> (2017/21) along artworks by Julian Charrière, Franz Gertsch, Shirana Shahbazi et. al. Musée international de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge, Genève <i>Équilibre Précaire / A fragile Balance</i> , group exhibition Along works by Olafur Eliasson, Nina Haab and Nicolas Cilins IMAGES VEVEY Arts Biennale Along works by Marina Abramovic, Lebohang Kgyange, Thomas Strutt, Martin Parr, et. al. MOST BEAUTIFUL SWISS BOOKS Winner with the monograph <i>STATE FICTION. The Gaze of the Swiss Neutral Mission</i> <i>in the Korean DMZ</i> , 2021 Helmhaus Zürich and international traveling exhibition (organized by BAK)
2021	Paris Centre Culturel Suisse CCS Solo exhibition <i>OASIS OF PEACE. Neutral Only on the Outside</i> , curated by Claire Hoffmann Fotomuseum Winterthur Film screening <i>State Fiction. Neutral Only on the Outside</i> (2021) with discussion between Denise Bertschi, Sophie Junge (UZH), moderated by Doris Gassert (research curators Fotomuseum Winterthur), in the frame of the exhibition "Claudia Adujar", Dez. 2021 Bündner Kunstmuseum <i>LANDLIEBE. Kunst und Landwirtschaft</i> , group exhibition, curated by Damian Jurt With video installation <i>PLANTA-tions</i> (2021), along works by Cuno Amiet, Mirko Basaglia, Edward Burtynsky, Dorota Gawęda und Eglé Kulbokaitė, Giovanni Giacometti, Asta Gröting, Ilkka Halso, Olaf Holzapfel, Sofia Hultén, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, et. al. SALTS Basel <i>Quilombo</i> , group exhibition, in collaboration with WAZA Art Center Congo. Curated by Samuel Leuenberger (Art Basel Parours), Benedict Wyss Super Dakota Gallery, Brussels <i>Ecosystems of Relation</i> , group exhibition, along works by Jeremy Deller, Tenki Hiramatsu, Real Madrid, Sadé Mica, Alberta Whittle et. al.
2020	Aargauer Kunsthau MANOR ART PRIZE Solo exhibition, curated by Yasmin Afschar

- 2019 **Swiss Art Awards** Nomination, Messehalle, Basel
BAK Bundesamt für Kultur
- MOST BEAUTIFUL SWISS BOOKS**
Winner with self-published artist-book *We Say We Are Fine. They Say We Are Not.*
Helmhaus Zürich and international traveling exhibition organized by BAK
- 2018 **Pro Helvetia Southern Africa, Johannesburg**
Group exhibition in the frame of the 20th anniversary of Pro Helvetia Southern Africa,
With installation *NEUTRALITY AS AN AGENT* (2018), along works by Kadiatou Diallo,
Mats Staub
- *ALTEFABRIK. Gebert Stiftung für Kultur, Rapperswil**
FOREVER OR IN A HUNDRED YEARS –
Denise Bertschi (CH) and Inas Halabi (Palestine)
Duo exhibition, curated by Josiane Imhasly
- MKG Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg**
MOBILE WELTEN. Oder das Museum unserer transkulturellen Gegenwart.
Group exhibition, curated by Roger M. Buerge and Sophia Prinz
- LOKAL-INT Raum für Kunst, Biel/Bienne**
Solo exhibition *Film Screening: NAMIBIA RAWCUT*
- 2017 **Johann Jakobs Museum, Zürich**
Coffee From Helvécia
Curated by Marcelo Rezende (Archiv der Avant-Garden, Dresden)
- 2016 **Aargauer Kunsthaut**
AUSWAHL 16 Jahresausstellung, group show, winner of NAB Förderpreis 2016
- MANIFESTA Zürich**
How to Waste time with Denise Bertschi
Performance-series, curated by Nicola Ruffo and Nele Dechmann (Kunstverein Zürich)
- 2015 **CORNER COLLEGE Zürich**
COLD.WAR.HOT.STARS, group exhibition, curated by Dimitrina Sevova
- ROSABRUX Artist-run space, Brussels**
PROTECTION ROOM, group exhibition, initiator and curator
- Die DIELE, Zürich**
Kendall Notations, duo show with Etienne Chosson
- WITS University of the Arts Johannesburg, South Africa**
Poetics of Relation. Slippery Sessions, Exhibition project initiated by Uriel Orlow and
Bettina Malcomess, along works by Nolan Oswald Dennis, Abri de Swardt, Ravi Govender,
Mbali Khoza, Nare Mokgotho, Philip Pilekjaer, Julie Sas et. al.
- 2014 **Artsonje Art Center, Seoul, South Korea**
Territories of Assembly, group exhibition, curated by Markus Miessen, Berlin
- LiveInYourHead, Genève**
MANDATORY PASSIVITY
Group exhibition, curated by Dr. Lars Bang Larsen

PRIZES, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES

2022	Most Beautiful Swiss Books Denise Bertschi, <i>STATE FICTION. The Gaze of the Swiss Neutral Mission in the Korean DMZ</i> , Edition CPG, Genève 2021
2021	La Becque, Principal residency program 3 months Pro Helvetia work grant for Visual Arts Aargauer Kuratorium project grant Pro Helvetia promotion of photobooks for <i>STATE FICTION</i>
2020	MANOR Art Prize 2020 Aargauer Kunsthaus CAN Centre d'Art de Neuchâtel 1 year artist residency
2019	59th Venice Art Biennale, Swiss Pavilion shortlist (with Dunja Herzog) GETTY Research Institute GRI, Los Angeles summer scholarship SWISS ART AWARDS, BAK nomination Most Beautiful Swiss Books <i>WE SAY WE ARE FINE – YOU SAY WE ARE NOT</i>
2018	PRO HELVETIA work grant for Visual Arts Aargauer Kuratorium project grant
2017	PRO HELVETIA Southern Africa studio residency in Johannesburg and Cape Town Aargauer Kuratorium project grant
2016	NAB Förderpreis 2016 Aargauer Kunsthaus FUNDAZIUN NAIRS Engadin Contemporary Art Center

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022	ETH Zurich D-ARCH GTA, Dr. Hollyamber Kennedy Autumn semester: <i>(Un)settling Territory: Land, Landscape and the Climates of Colonization</i> Lecture in: <i>Colonial Switzerland, Tropicality, and the Naturalist Gaze</i> (upcoming 20. Oct. 2022)
	ETH Zurich D-ARCH LUS, Dr. Nitin Bathla Lecture in workshop <i>Film, Architecture and Urbanism</i> , (upcoming 19.–21. Oct. 2022)
	ETH Zurich D-ARCH LUS, Prof. Milica Topalovic Lecture series: <i>Sessions on Territory: Urbanism and Countryside</i> Respondant to Sahar Qawasmi & Nida Sinnokrot's lecture <i>Restorative Agriculture practices and the Contemporary Arts</i> (declined due to maternity leave)
	ETH Zurich D-ARCH, LUS Institute of Landscape Architecture Doctoral Methods seminar <i>Landscape and Urban Research of a different kind: Towards sensory, imaginative, and creative approaches</i> Lecture: <i>Camera-walks with the subject – Sensorial memories of Swiss colonial traces in Helvécia (Brazil)</i> – (declined due to maternity leave)
	ETH Zurich D-ARCH, Prof. Maarten Delbeke, Chair of History and Theory of Architecture Workshop in the course <i>Exotic Architecture in Switzerland</i> (declined due to maternity leave)

2021

Swissuniversities Doctoral Course

***Unearthing Traces. Dismantling the Imperialist Entanglement of Archives and the Built Environment* (EPFL / Uni Lausanne)**

Initiated and organised together with Julien Lafontaine Carboni (EPFL),
Supported by *swissuniversities* and hosted at EPFL, EDAR Doctoral School of Architecture & Sciences of the City and the Center of International History and Political Studies of Globalization, University of Lausanne.

Invited speakers: Samia Henni, Léopold Lambert, Françoise Verges, Doreen Mende, Shourideh C. Molavi, Rohit Jain, Jovita dos Santos Pinto, Michelle Caswell, Hollyamber Kennedy, Denise Bertschi, Izabel Barros

2020

HEAD Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Genève

Bachelor Art Visuels

Lecturer of semester BA course *Traces & Places*,
with study week in the city of Neuchâtel (in collaboration with CAN Centre d'Art Neuchâtel)

ETH Zurich

D-ARCH IEA, Maria Conen

Semester invitation (*Story I*): lecture and workshop, mentoring of semester works & final crits
<https://works.arch.ethz.ch/faculty/maria-conen>

ZHdK Zurich University of the Arts

MA Fine Arts. Contemporary Art Research

Lecture *Artistic research methods of Haunting Home*, in Dr. Uriel Orlow semester course

ZHdK Zurich University of the Arts

MA Fine Arts. Contemporary Art Research

Lecture in Yasmin Afschar's MA seminar *We are the institution*

University of Lausanne

Faculty of Social and Political Science

Lecture in MA course *Colonial-/Post-colonial Switzerland"*

Invited by Dr. Prof. Thomas David, Dr. Prof. Nicolas Bancel

ETH Zurich

D-ARCH, LUS Institute of Landscape Architecture

Lecture *Archive Methods. Material traces of Swiss colonialism*
in Doctoral Program in Landscape and Urban Studies

Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst FHNW

Institut Kunst, Basel

Guest lecturer in *Art Taaaalkssss*, invited by Alexandra Navratil & Elise Lammer

2019

EPFL – ENAC

School of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Environmental Sciences

Lecture *Mapping Economic History: A Swiss coffee plantation*
in Dr. Bárbara Maçães Costa's MA semester course *Critical Cartography*

University of Lausanne UNIL

Faculty of Social and Political Science

Lecture *Helvécia, Brazil. A Swiss colonial history*

in MA course *Colonial-/Post-colonial Switzerland* by Prof. Thomas David, Prof. Nicolas Bancel

HEAD Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Genève

MA CCC Artistic research master

Lecture *The plantation Helvécia: Swiss Coloniality revisited by artistic research*
in Prof. Gene Ray's MA semester course *Plantanocene, Anthropocene*

2018

HEAD Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Genève

MA Contemporary Artistic Practices

Lecturer and initiator of spring semester MA course *Ghostly Matters. Ghosts Matter*

INVITED TALKS/CONFERENCES

2022

NEXPO. The new Expo

Round table *La Suisse et ses limites*, curated by Dr. Samia Henni, in the frame of *NEXPO – Die neue Expo* (Artistic directors: Fredi Fischli und Niels Olsen), MEN Musée d'Ethnographie Genève (upcoming: 29.10.2022)

University of Lausanne

Centre of International History and Political Studies of Globalization

Lecture in conference: *Ready for the Past? Decolonizing Swiss Museums in Lausanne*

Invited by Prof. Thomas David, Dr. Bernhard C. Schär

(declined due to maternity leave)

Most Beautiful Swiss Books 2021

Panel discussion *On Artist's books* with Dr. Susanne Bieri (Swiss National Library directorate) Helmhaus Zürich

Bernisches Historisches Museum

Colonial Provenance. Swiss museum collections in need of clarification.

Lecture in workshop (with Dr. Tomas Bartoletti)

(declined due to maternity leave)

Pasquart. Fotoforum Biel/Bienne

Symposium *PATINA: Decolonizing Archives, Human and Non-Human Narratives*

Curated by Dr. Jana Johanna Haeckel, with Kabelo Malatsie, George Mahashe, Gesine Krüger, Sophie Junge, Sami Balaji, Bianca Baldi, et. al.

Alpines Museum

Film screening "State Fiction" and discussion with Prof. Dr. Patricia Purtschert (Interdisciplinary Institute for Gender Studies University of Bern), Jean-Jacques Joss (Ex-head of Neutral Military mission NNSC in Korea), moderated by Christoph Keller

2021

BSA Bund Schweizer Architektinnen und Architekten

General assembly, Schatzalp, Davos

Panel discussion *Polyphonie*, with Jakob Tanner (UZH), Catherine Hug (Kunsthaut Zürich), Marcel Hänggi, moderated by Christoph Keller

CCS Centre Culturel Suisse Paris

Artist talk in OASIS OF PEACE. Neutral Only on the Outside

In conversation: Denise Bertschi, Dr. Heonik Kwon (Cambridge University), Dr. Adeena Mey (Afterall Journal, University of the Arts London)

Featured by EAT Engadin Art Talks series *LONGUE DURÉE* (moderated by Cristina Bechtler)

<https://engadin-art-talks.ch/de/paris-detail/e-a-t-x-paris-longue-duree.html>

CCS Centre Culturel Suisse Paris

Walk through in OASIS OF PEACE. Neutral Only on the Outside

Discussion together with Dr. Doris Gassert (research curator Fotomuseum Winterthur)

2020

SIK ISEA

Schweizerisches Institut für Kunstwissenschaften

Villa Bleuler Gespräch with Denise Bertschi and Sally Schönfeld, *Wer schafft Wissen?*

Moderated by Dr. Katharina Ammann and Albert Lutz

Aargauer Kunsthaut

Conversation with Dr. Samia Henni, Denise Bertschi, Yasmin Afschar

Public city walk *Bahia in Aarau*, as part of the solo exhibition *Denise Bertschi: Manor Art Prize*

LE FOYER – IN PROCESS

Naturama Natural history museum, Aarau

Artist talk with Dr. Gioia Dal Molin (Istituto Svizzero Roma), Yasmin Afshar, Dr. Gabrielle Schaad

2019

LACA Los Angeles Contemporary Archive

Artist talk *The Archive as a Resource for Artists*

Moderated and organised by Dr. Pietro Rigolo (Getty Research Institute Los Angeles)

Swissnex San Francisco

Artist talk *Revisiting Szeemann's "Visionäre Schweiz" – Findings from the Getty archive*,

Invited by Nicola Ruffo

EPFL – Archizoom

Lecture in Symposium *Ghost Writers*

In the frame of the exhibition *Living the City: Park Systems from Lausanne to Los Angeles*

University of Lucerne

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Cultural Studies

Lecture in *Kulturwissenschaftliches Kolloquium*

Invited by Prof. Marianne Sommer

2018

ETH Zurich – Institute of Global History

Chair for History of the Modern World (Prof. Dr. Harald Fischer-Tiné)

Lecture in Conference *New Approaches on Swiss Global History*

Invited by Dr. Bernhard C. Schär

AFFILIATIONS

2018- 2021

CCC PhD-FORUM, HEAD-Genève, led by Doreen Mende and Anselm Franke

2018- 2021

Trans-disciplinary Doctoral Program, "Migration and Post-coloniality meets Switzerland",

University of Fribourg, led by

2021–ongoing

VISARTE Schweiz full member

2020–ongoing

SIKArt Lexicon on Swiss Art, listed

JURY MEMBER

SWISS ART AWARDS

Kiefer-Hablitzel-Göhner Prize

Head of Jury: Claire Hoffmann, 2022–2025

ETH D-Arch

Guest professorship Maria Conen, HS 2020

Master Pin-up and Final Crits

édhéea, Haute Ecole d'Art du Valais

Master of Art in Public Spheres (MAPS)

Semester- and diploma jury 2018/2020

ECAL Lausanne

Master Fine Arts

Diploma jury, 2018

HEAD Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design, Genève

MA Master in Contemporary Artistic Practices

Student admissions, diploma juries as teaching assistant (2015–2020)

COLLECTIONS

Aargauer Kunsthaut / Musée d'Art et d'Histoire Neuchâtel / Johann Jacobs Museum Zürich

LANGUAGES

German first language / **English** oral & written: proficiency **French** oral & written: advanced