ROBIN B. McDOWELL RMCDOWELL@G.HARVARD.EDU // ROBINMCDOWELL.COM

EDUCATION

EXPECTED 2022 Harvard University — CAMBRIDGE, MA

Ph.D. African & African American Studies (Primary Field: History), GPA 4.0

2018 Harvard University — CAMBRIDGE, MA

A.M. History (in passing)

A.M. African & African American Studies (in passing)

2015 The University of Texas at Austin – AUSTIN, TX

M.F.A Design (Concentration: African & African Diaspora Studies), GPA 4.0

Thesis: "The Impotent Toolkit: Challenges and Limitations of Co-design for Societal Value

in Southeast Louisiana's Landscapes of African American Dispossession"

2008 The University of Pennsylvania — PHILADELPHIA, PA

B.A. Fine Arts (Concentration: Communication Design), GPA 3.58 Thesis: "Type-High: Experiments in Ornament on Letterpress"

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 — PRESENT Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University — CAMBRIDGE, MA

History Design Studio Fellow

2017 — PRESENT Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University — CAMBRIDGE, MA

Research Assistant for DACA Seminar, presented by Harvard Graduate School of Education,

Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, and the Harvard Inequality in America Initiative

2015 — 2016 Royal Tours and Dark Crescent Tours — NEW ORLEANS, LA

City of New Orleans Licensed Walking Tour Guide: French Quarter, St. Louis Cemetery #1

2012 — PRESENT Freelance Graphic Design — New Orleans, La / Austin, TX / New York, NY / PHILADELPHIA, PA / BOSTON, MA

2015 Kern Studios at Mardi Gras World — NEW ORLEANS, LA

Development Manager

The University of Texas at Austin – Austin, TX

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Carma Gorman, Design History Laboratory

2014 — 2015 Doing Innovation (The Digital Edge Project) — AUSTIN, TX

Lead Designer for MacArthur Foundation Connected Learning Project led by Dr. S. Craig Watkins

2011 — 2013 Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth — HANOVER, NH

Web Producer and Communications Specialist, Tuck Communications

2008 - 2011 Quaker City Mercantile (Gyro Worldwide Advertising) - ТАМWORTH, NH / PHILADELPHIA, PA

Creative Director, Tamworth Distilling & Mercantile

Art Director, Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction & Art in the Age Spirits

2007 The University of Pennsylvania — PHILADELPHIA, PA

Teaching assistant to Senior Lecturer David Comberg, Digital Design Foundations

AWARDS / FELLOWSHIPS

2017 – 2018 Gerald Gill Fellow, Tufts University Center for the Study of Race and Democracy

Harvard Graduate School of Arts & Science, Gochman Deans Fund for Innovation and Development

2016 – 2017 Harvard Graduate School of Arts & Science, Gochman Deans Fund for Innovation and Development

2014 – 2015 University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts Continuing Fellowship

University of Texas at Austin Graduate School Bruton Fellowship

University of Texas at Austin Graduate School Professional Development Award

University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts Travel Grant

2013 – 2014 Marshall F. Wells Scholarship and Fellowship

College of Fine Arts Student Excellence Scholarship

Emily Maverick Miller and Emily Miller Wells Presidential Scholarship

2008 Senior Fine Arts Achievement Award

Kelly Family Thesis Grant

PUBLICATIONS

"Robin & A Scribe Called Quess?" Verse of April. April 2017. www.verseofapril.com

"LIGHTS OUT: The Flambeau Strike of 1946." Antigravity Magazine. February 2017.

"Practice Radical Hospitality," Antigravity Magazine. January 2017.

"CREATIVE DIFFERENCES: Navigating the Turf Wars of Jackson Square Artists," Antigravity Magazine. September 2016.

"Parlour Games," The Iron Lattice Magazine, Volume 2, Summer 2016.

"WAX AND WHINE: Mixing science and superstition in a New Orleans Botanica," Antigravity Magazine. May 2016.

"The Revolution Will Not Be Guided: New Tales for an Old City, One Tourist at a Time," Antigravity Magazine. February 2016.

"Redoubling The Violence: Stories that Do Not Belong to You." NOLA Defender. July 5, 2015.

McDowell, Robin and Heath Schultz. "Keeping History Alive: Notes on Memorialization, Identity, and The Bonnet Carré Spillway." Interview for COMPASS/Midwest Radical Culture Corridor, Austin, TX, February 2, 2015.

McDowell, Robin. "The Austin Disaster:" Project and Video. The End of Austin Issue 5, May 2014.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

2018 "White Gold to Black Gold: African American Labor and Louisiana's Early

Petrochemical Industry"

Southern Labor Studies Association Annual Meeting – ATHENS, GA

Reconstructing Labor in the Deep South Panel

2017 "Biography of A Levee: The Life and Times of the Bonnet Carré Crevasse"

American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting – BOSTON, MA

Destabilizing Race and Nature Panel

2015 "'The Right to Exist:' The Struggle for Commemoration of the African and African American

Cemeteries of The Bonnet Carré Spillway"

Out of The Loop: Vernacular Architecture Forum 35th Annual Conference — CHICAGO, IL

(Re)building Public Memory Panel, Roosevelt University

"Tiptoe: On Intersectionality"

Feminist Geographies: Mapping Spaces, Nations, and States of Being – AUSTIN, TX

Performance/Performativity Panel, The University of Texas at Austin

"Tiptoe: On Becoming a Woman of Color"

TRANS-AM :: Losing/Becoming Self - BATON ROUGE, LA

Mediated Selves Screening Panel, Louisiana State University

2014 Screening: "The Austin Disaster"

Dimensions of Political Ecologies (DOPE) Conference - LEXINGTON, KY

Political Ecologies: Speculative Texts Screening Panel, The University of Kentucky

2011 "a workshop"

Southern Graphics Conference - ST. LOUIS, MO

Pop-up printshop and delivery service, Washington University in St. Louis

2011 "Tahrir Documents"

Creative Time Summit - NEW YORK, NY

Tahrir Documents Project presented by Emily Drumsta and Levi Thompson, New York University

INVITED LECTURES

2017 Responding to Charlottesville: Historical Perspectives — WINDHAM, ME

Bates College Panel Discussion, Department of History and Office of Equity and Diversity

2015 The Fourteenth Annual New Orleans Bookfair – New ORLEANS, LA

New Orleans Psychogeography Panel, The Tigermen Den

2015 Take 'Em Down NOLA Community Forum Series — NEW ORLEANS, LA

Panel on Intersectionality and The Struggle to Remove White Supremacist Monuments

Craige Cultural Center, CORE USA, and Christian Unity Baptist Church

Brown Bag Series: The Bonnet Carré Spillway African American Cemeteries – AUSTIN, TX

Department of Africian and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin

EXHIBITIONS

2013 The Art of Letterpress — OAKLAND, CA

Curators: Matt and Lena Reynoso, The Compound Gallery

2015 Vista Sans Wood Type Project — TRAVELING EXHIBITION AND BOOK

Curators: Tricia Treacy and Ashley John Pigford, Yale Library (New Haven, CT), Antenna Gallery

(New Orleans, LA), and San Francisco Center for the Book

2012 Wood Type, Evolved – chicago, il

Curators: Nick Sherman and April Sheridan, Columbia College of Chicago

2011 Wharton Esherick and The Birth of the American Modern — PHILADELPHIA, PA

Curator: Lynn Farrington, Letterpress Workshop for Van Pelt Rare Books and Manuscripts Library,

The University of Pennsylvania

2010 The Farm — PHILADELPHIA, PA

Curator: Julianne Ahn, Art in the Age of Mechnical Reproduction

COPY JAM! - PHILADELPHIA, PA & CHICAGO, IL

Curator: Jason Urban, Art in the Age (Philadelphia), The Luddington Building (Chicago)

SELECTED PRESS

"After The March" Twitter Chat with Imara Jones of The Last Sip, April 11, 2018.

Childs, Ed and Steve Gillis, "Strikers win at Harvard," Workers World, October 31, 2016.

Guest on Sunday Journal with Hal Clark. "January 17th Edition (NOA-TV)." 98.5FM WYLD, Aired January 17, 2016.

Guest on All Citizens Together with Guest Host CC Campbell-Rock. New Orleans Access Television, Aired January 15, 2016.

Guest on @BeingNOLA Project. January 3-10, 2016. https://twitter.com/beingnola.

Lisa Bulawsky, "2011 Conference Wrap-Up," SGC International Graphic Impressions, July 2011.

Ursula Lindsey, "Scenes from a Revolution," PRINT Magazine, August 2011.

COMMUNITY / ACADEMIC SERVICE

2017 Organizer and Research Committee Chair, New Orleans Peoples' Assembly
 2016 Fundraising and Graphic Design Consultant, North Rampart Community Center

Research Consultant, Louisiana Museum of African American History and Hidden History, LLC

Leadership Committee, New Orleans Workers Group

2015 Guest Critic, Design Theory & Methods, The University of Texas at Austin

Visual Notetaker, Texas Research Education Epicenter (TREE) IdeaLab, The University of Texas at Austin

2013 Review Committee for The Dean of the College of Fine Arts, The University of Texas at Austin

Workshop Leader for Hackidemia Austin, a pop-up arts education space for K-12 students

2012 Board Member, Tamworth Economic Development Committee

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Southern Labor Studies Association
Southern Historical Association
American Association of Geographers
American Institute for Graphic Arts (AIGA), New Orleans Chapter
NUNU Arts & Culture Collective, Arnaudville, LA
Ladies of Letterpess

CERTIFICATIONS

City of New Orleans Licensed Tour Guide (2015–Present) State of Louisiana Marriage Officiant (2016–Present) RYT-200 Yoga Teacher Certification (May 2018)