

Sofia Lemos

Curator and writer

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RECENT POSITIONS

Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (TBA21 and TBA21–Academy)

Curator

February 2021–January 2024

Madrid, Venice, and Vienna

- Led the conceptualisation and implementation of the programme *Meandering*, including fellowships, commissions, convenings, residencies, and performances across multiple venues.
- Coordinated teams across three countries, over sixty artists and contributors, and annual budgets of €300k+.
- Organised and led a collaborative international research group to develop new protocols for performance acquisition.
- Developed various project-related partnerships locally and internationally.

Nottingham Contemporary

Curator Public Programmes and Research

September 2018–June 2021

Nottingham, United Kingdom

- Curated a weekly events programme, overseeing contracts, travel arrangements, and led planning and coordination meetings.
- Launched the multi-year research and live strand *Sonic Continuum*, which included performance, listening sessions, sound commissions, residencies, and a new issue of *The Contemporary Journal*, where I served as associate editor.
- Led academic partnerships with the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University.
- Steered the digital transition to online programming in the pandemic and achieved an average 270% increase in engagement.
- Participated in funding strategy meetings and initiated a transversal working group on institutional sustainability.

Riga International Biennial of Contemporary Art

Associate Curator

September 2019–October 2020

Riga, Latvia

- Curated and moderated a 21-week-long online series of talks and conversations for RIBOCA2, engaging globally renowned thinkers and an audience of over 10 thousand per episode at the onset of the pandemic.
- Oversaw coordination between speakers, a cross-functional team, and digital platforms.

Galeria Municipal do Porto

Associate Curator

November 2017–May 2019

Porto, Portugal

- Curated new commissions, advised on programme strategy, and co-curated a week-long festival of talks and performances.

SELECTED PROJECTS

complete list available on request

2027 **Carte Blanche à Daniel Steegmann Mangrané** (co-curated with Gregóry Cástera)
Modern Art Center, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Portugal

2026 **Feral School** (co-curated with Daniel Steegmann Mangrané and Juliana Fausto)
Modern Art Museum (MAM) Rio de Janeiro, and Pivô Salvador, Brazil
An experimental school of art and contemporary thought with a focus on ecological and social justice in Brazil, in partnership with Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Portugal.

2025 **Reluctant Gardener**
Culturgest, Lisbon and Porto, Portugal
A two-chapter exhibition of sculptural, sound-based, filmic, and performative objects. Works by Nina Canell, Rei Naito, Ariel Schlesinger, and Álvaro Urbano. Performances by Isabel Lewis and Vica Pacheco. Partners include MOUSSE.

- 2023 **Third Margin, Deepest Spring**
Various locations, Andalusia, Spain
A city-wide convening of performance, talks, poetry, and communal meals. Works and contributions by Jesús Alcaide, Gracia López Anguita, Mohamad Bitari, Elizabeth Gallón Droste, Brooke Holmes, Mar Grieria i Llonch, and Caique Tizzi. Performances by Lafawndah with Coby Sey, Isabel Lewis with Guillermo Castro Buendía, Carlos López Campos, Javiera de la Fuente, Laila Tafur, and Rosario Vacas.
- 2022 **An Ocean Without Shore**
Various locations, Andalusia, Spain
A city-wide convening of performance, talks, poetry, and communal meals. Works and contributions by Carolina Caycedo, Coco Fusco, Juan López Intzín, Michael Marder, Claudia Pagès, Chaveli Sifre, and Medina Tenour. Performances by Edgar Calel, Lafawndah, Isabel Lewis, Ana María Millán, Fernanda Muñoz-Newsome, Eduardo Navarro, and Rosa Tharrats.
- 2022 **The Journeying Stream** (co-curated with Daniela Zyman)
Various locations, Andalusia, Spain
A city-wide convening of performance and talks. Performances by Madison Bycroft, Seba Calfuqueo, Niño de Elche, Laia Estruch, Lafawndah, Isabel Lewis, and Eduardo Navarro.
- 2020 **Sonic Continuum**
–2021 Investigated practices of world-making through sound, both as a force that constitutes the world and a medium for producing knowledge about it. Works by Space Africa, Hannah Catherine Jones, Hassan Khan, Radio Earth Hold, Lina Lapelyté, Isabel Lewis, Jota Mombaça, Bhavisha Panchia, Leyla Pillai, Tabita Rezaire, Aura Satz, Urok Shirhan, Syma Tariq, Hajra Waheed, and Belinda Zhawi. Contributions by Andrew Brooks, Amelia Groom, Tavia N'yongo, Fumi Ojiki, Hypatia Volourmis, and Salomé Voegelin, and others. Partners included ICA London, NTS Radio, and Cashmere Radio.
- 2020 **Five Bodies** (in collaboration with Dr. Sarah Jackson, Nottingham Trent University)
–2021 A series of creative-critical workshops and poetry readings exploring hybrid methodologies and experimental thinking. Contributions by Mirene Arsanios, Jesse Darling, Johanna Hedva, Bhanu Kapil, Donika Kelly, Lila Matsumoto, Maggie Nelson, Nisha Ramayya, Kameelah Janan Rasheed, Ariana Reines, Himali Singh Soin, and Simone White.
- 2019 **Campus** (co-developed with Sam Thorne and Carolina Rito)
A city-wide and free independent studies programme. Contributions by Gurminder K. Bhambra, Tina Campt, Celine Condorelli, Anselm Franke, Elvira Dyangani Ose, Quinsy Gario, and Nora Sternfeld.
- 2018 **Artist Moving Image**
–2021 A monographic screening program followed by a conversation with the artist. Contributions by Tamar Guimarães, The Otolith Group, Laura Huertas Millán, Ayoung Kim, Isadora Neves Marques, Arjuna Neuman, Denise Ferreira da Silva, Jenn Nkiru, Ana Vaz, Rehana Zanan, and others. Partners included the Derek Jarman Award.
- 2018 **Contemporary Conversations**
–2021 A series of dialogues exploring how visual artists approach the present in its cultural, ecological, and postcolonial dimensions. Contributions by Aimar Arriola, Ain Bailey, Melissa Blanco-Borelli, Jayne Brown, Nadine El-Enany, Silvia Federici, Malik Gaines, Iman Issa, Sophie Lewis, Michael Marder, Tanya N'yongo, Fumi Okiji, Paul Preciado, Elizabeth Price, Jimmy Robert, Dhanveer Singh Brar, Shela Sheikh, Sung Tieu, Ines Weizman, and others.
- 2020 **A Glossary for Desirable Futures**
An online series of talks and conversations. Contributions by Marisol de la Cadena, Federico Campagna, CA Conrad, Emanuele Coccia, Vinciane Despres, Avery F. Gordon, Jack Halberstam, Tim Ingold, André Lepecki, Sophie Lewis, Michael Marder, Astrida Neimanis, Tobias Rees, Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Jackie Wang, and McKenzie Wark.
- 2018 **Forum do Futuro: Ágora Club** (co-curated with Guilherme Blanc)
Serralves Museum and Rivoli Theatre, Porto, Portugal.
A week-long festival with talks and performances with contributions by Beatriz Colomina, Ali Cheri, Eva Franch i Gilabert, Brooke Holmes, Mary Reid Kelley, Kapwani Kiwanga, Maurizio Lazzarato, Art & Language, Toyo Ito, Paul Preciado, Walid Raad Marina Warner, and Slavs & Tatars. Performances by Trajal Harrel and Alexandra Pirici.
- 2017 **METABOLIC RIFTS** (co-curated with Alexandra Balona)
–2019 Serralves Museum, Campo Alegre Theatre, and Rivoli Theatre, Porto, Portugal.
A symposia series dedicated to ecological discussions at the intersection of visual arts and performance studies. Contributions by Brenna Bhandar, Susana Caló, Maria Iñigo Clavo, Nikita Dhawan, Donna Haraway, Michael Marder, Matteo Pasquinelli, Ana Teixeira Pinto, Fabrizio Terranova, Helena Reckitt, Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Ana Vujanovic, and Vivian Ziherl. Performances by Alexandra Bachzetsis and Ligia Lewis.

PUBLICATIONS

- Lemos, Sofia (ed.) *Meandering: Art, Ecology, and Metaphysics*. Berlin: Sternberg Press, 2024. ISBN: 978-1-915609-51-9
- Lemos, Sofia (ed.) "Sonic Continuum: On the Sound and Poetics of Time," *The Contemporary Journal*, Nottingham Contemporary, 2020–21. <https://doi.org/10.31411/TCJ.03>
- Lemos, Sofia and Alexandra Balona (eds.) *METABOLIC RIFTS*. Berlin: Anagram, 2019. ISBN: 978-989-20-9311-6

SELECTED WRITING

complete list available on request

- 2022 "Sonic Restitution in the Future Anterior," Satch Hoyt: Afro-Sonic Mappings, Guevara, Paz (ed.), Berlin: Archive Books
- 2022 "Journey to the One" in 7,8Hz with Michael Marder and Federico Campagna, Pestana, Mariana (ed.), Lisbon: MAAT
- 2022 "Lina Lapelyté: Acoustic Ecologies and the Sonicity of Labour", *Forest as a Journal*
- 2020 "Christine Sun Kim: The Sound of Passing Time," *MOUSSE Magazine*
- 2019 "Haegue Yang: Abstraction in Verse," *Document Journal*
- 2018–19 Regular contributor for *Contemporanea*
- 2017–19 Regular contributor for *e-flux criticism* (formerly known as *art-agenda*)

SELECTED TEACHING AND TALKS

- 2024– Guest Lecturer, EINA Idea, Barcelona
- 2023 Keynote "Regenerative Practice: Convening, Wayfinding and Sense-Making" at *Earth Bonds: the sustainable institution* at Rupert, Vilnius, in partnership with E-WERK Luckenwalde and LUMA Arles
- 2022– Guest Lecturer, MAS Curating, ZHdK
- 2021 Guest Lecturer, Visual Communication, Royal College of Art, London
- 2020 Guest Tutor at Haegue Yang's studio, Städelschule (Hochschule für Bildende Künste), Frankfurt

FELLOWSHIPS AND VISITING PROGRAMMES

- 2025 Research Fellowship, Onassis Foundation AiR, Athens, Greece
- 2019 Visitors Programme, Frame, Helsinki, Finland
- 2018 Research Residency, Point Centre for Contemporary Art, Nicosia, Cyprus
- 2015 Research Fellowship, Synapse Curators' Network, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
- 2014 Visitors Programme, Mondriaan Fund, Amsterdam

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2021 Production grant from Porto City Council, Portugal
- 2019 Public grant for editorial production, DGArtes, Portugal (with Alexandra Balona)
- 2019 Lorenzo Bonaldi Art Prize for Young Curators, Portugal
- 2017/18 Production grant from Porto City Council (with Alexandra Balona)
- 2014/15 European Cultural Foundation stipendium "Culture@Work" for research proposals
- 2013 Research grant Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía and MACBA

ADVISORY ROLES AND MEMBERSHIPS

- 2024– LOOP Barcelona, Spain. Currently advising on strategic vision, organisational structure, and programme strategy for the organisation dedicated to advancing artists' moving image, film, and video.
- 2024– CIMAM International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art

SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES

- Curatorial: Concept development, commissioning, programme strategy, budgeting, and fundraising.
- Project management: Planning, administrative follow-up, managing teams, strategic partnerships, and stakeholder engagement.
- Research, writing and editorial: Contemporary art, critical theory, history, ecology, and performance studies.
- Public speaking and teaching: Tutoring, speaking, chairing, and moderating talks and debates.
- Organisational development: Relationship building, leadership, adaptability, creativity, delegation, and strategical thinking.
- Digital proficiency: Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite (Acrobat, InDesign, Photoshop), Google Workspace.

LANGUAGES

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| Portuguese | Native |
| English | Full professional proficiency |
| Spanish | Full professional proficiency |
| French | Limited working proficiency |
| Catalan | Elementary proficiency |
| German | Elementary proficiency |

EDUCATION

- 2012 **M.A. Critical Theory and Museum Studies** (with Distinction) alongside MACBA's Independent Studies Programme
–2013 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Museum of Contemporary Art Barcelona. Supervised by Paul Preciado
2008 **B.A. Political Science and International Affairs** with a minor in Philosophy
–2012 Universidade do Minho, Portugal. Erasmus at Universidad Complutense de Madrid (2011–12)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2023 **Compassionate Leadership Certification** (with Distinction)
Centre for Compassionate Leadership, USA. Sponsored by TBA21
2021 **Women in Leadership** (with Distinction)
Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom. Sponsored by Nottingham Contemporary

EARLY POSITIONS

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| Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Associate Researcher | July–November 2017, Berlin, Germany |
| Contour Biennale 8, Public Programme Coordinator | January–March 2017, Mechelen, Belgium |
| Studio Tomás Saraceno, Research Coordinator | July 2015–June 2017, Berlin, Germany |
| PRAXES Centre for Contemporary Art, Curatorial Assistant | January–June 2015, Berlin, Germany |
| Drawing Room Confessions, Editorial Assistant | July 2014–October 2017, London, United Kingdom |
| David Roberts Art Foundation, Curatorial Assistant | May–December 2014, London, United Kingdom |
| Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona, Research Assistant | January 2013–March 2014, Barcelona, Spain |

REFERENCES

The following persons may be contacted for references (listed in alphabetical order)

Hiuwai Chu, Head of Exhibitions, Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona (MACBA)
Cédric Fauq, Chief Curator, CAPC Bordeaux
Denise Ferreira da Silva, Professor, Social Justice Institute, University of British Columbia
Anselm Franke, Head of Curatorial Studies, Zurich University of the Arts and former Head of Visual Art and Film at HKW
Natasha Ginwala, Artistic Director, Colomboscope and Curator, Sharjah Biennale 16
Rebecca Lamarche-Vadel, Director, Foundation Lafayette Anticipations and former chief curator RIBOCA2
Andrea Lissoni, Director, Haus der Kunst
Manuela Moscoso, Executive Director and Chief Curator, CARA
Övül Ö. Durmuşoğlu, Independent Curator
Paul Preciado, Philosopher and writer in residency at the LUMA Foundation
Markus Reymann, Director, TBA21 and TBA21–Academy
Simone Sentall, Head of Collection, TBA21
Sam Thorne, Director, Japan House and former Director, Nottingham Contemporary
Salma Tuqan, Director, Nottingham Contemporary
Benjamin Weil, Director, Modern Art Center, Gulbenkian Foundation
Daniela Zyman, Artistic Director, TBA21