

ZARINA LAALO

**DESIGN.
CURATION.
STORYTELLING.**

CONTACT

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(613) 868-9995
Ottawa, ON

EDUCATION

2021-Present
Algonquin College, DIP
Interactive Media Design

2011-2012 | Complete
University of Toronto, MA
Masters of Art History,
Exhibitions & Sensory Culture

2006-2011 | Complete
University of Ottawa, BFA
Bachelors of Fine Arts,
Honours & Psychology Minor

CREATIVE SKILLS

Adobe Illustrator
Adobe Photoshop
Adobe InDesign
Adobe Lightroom
Adobe XD
Adobe Premiere Pro
InVision

TECH SKILLS

HTML & CSS
CMS (WordPress, Drupal,
SquareSpace, Shopify)
Microsoft Office Suite

EXPERIENCE

Self-Employed

Freelance Researcher | Curatorial Consultant

- Provided research with ContentWorks for various heritage projects to assist clients such as the National Capital Commission, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and Parks Canada. This included developing heritage inventory sheets and reports with accurate archival information for national historic sites and lighthouses, and bibliographic research used to develop annual reports.
- Offered consultation for previous exhibition content and current travelling exhibition across Canada for the Vancouver Biennale's award-winning exhibition (*Weaving Cultural Identities*). Wrote and edited exhibition essays, offered strategies for public programming with hosting institutions, and consulted on conservation practices for travelling works.

Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale

Curator Ancillary Projects | Coordinator of International Residencies

- Created exhibition content with the Director of Public Projects and marketing team, including press releases, artwork signage, exhibition statements, and web/social media content.
- Worked with a diverse range of both local and international artists, ethnic communities, Indigenous groups, and various cultural partners and institutions to deliver quality public programming in a variety of indoor and outdoor settings. Managed events from conceptualization; developed partnerships, project-management and implementation. This included small festivals for audiences of up to five hundred attendees.
- Worked resourcefully within limited budgets of a non-profit organization. Wrote grant applications for projects and submitted reports, successfully obtained over \$75,000 for local, provincial, and federal grants within a single fiscal year.
- Conceived, developed, and oversaw all aspects of ancillary Vancouver Biennale exhibitions (including *Weaving Cultural Identities*, an award-winning art exhibition currently travelling across the country).
- Managed day-to-day operations including human resources, supervising and training volunteers, maintaining website and digital communication, filing and archival management, and public inquiries.
- Worked directly with all external and internal departments, including fabrication teams, graphic designers, curatorial advisory team, and artistic director to oversee major outdoor and indoor exhibits.

2021 - 2022

2017 - 2019

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2015 - 2017; 2019

Library and Archives Canada

Exhibitions and Loans Officer

- Created and managed hundreds of records for public access using the Library and Archives content management system database.
- Created supplementary interactive exhibition materials (including interactive e-books that allowed visitors to engage with the exhibition's digitized images, music, and other materials).
- Worked closely with curators and project managers to select and locate, catalogue, handle, research, digitize, and interpret a variety of items for exhibition display at Library and Archives Canada and cultural partners. Prepared documentation (data and optimizing images) and reports for many sections within the department.

2016

Canadian Museum of History

Contractor for Acquisitions, Loans, and Collections Management

- Worked with the director of Collections management and Conservation in order to prepare documents reflecting work processes and workflow. Projects included mix of independent and collaborative work.
- Prepared contracts, cost projections, conservation strategy charts and presentations, as well as other relevant documentation.

2013 - 2016

WALL SPACE Gallery

Curator and Gallery Associate

- Refreshed gallery's entire website; transferred onto Squarespace using new write-ups, photography. Updated website's theme to incorporate branding elements and set up the e-commerce platform.
- Prepared and curated exhibitions and events at the gallery monthly. Developed ideas for new shows and events, wrote exhibition content, marketed shows and gallery services (designed online and print signage), installed works, met with and selected work from new artists, developed strong relationships with clientele, and wrote artist grants.

REFERENCES

Natalia Lebedinskaia

*Former Dir. of Public Projects,
Vancouver Biennale*
natalia@vanmuralfest.com
(204) 721-2789

Karine Brisson

*Chief, Exhibitions,
Library and Archives Canada*
karine.brisson@canada.ca
(613)-608-8240

PROJECT SKILLS

Ideation & Content Creation
Design
Production
Project Management
Miro
Mondays
ClickUp
Fundraising & Grant Writing
Event Management
Public Outreach
Social Media

LANGUAGES

English (Advanced)
French (Beginner)
Russian (Beginner)

WORK AWARDS

2020 - BC Heritage Award,
Curator for *Weaving
Cultural Identities*

SECURITY

Secret Clearance (Expires
February 13, 2027)

HOBBIES

Cooking & Baking
Interior Decorating
Puzzle Solving