SARAH FRIEND

BIOGRAPHY

lebt und arbeitet in/ lives and works in Berlin

AUSBILDUNG / EDUCATION

2022 Berlin Program for Artists
2016 Recurse Center, Manhattan, NY
2010 BFA: OCAD University, Toronto, ON
      Major: Drawing and Painting
      Minor: Digital Media Studies

ARBEIT: SOFTWAREENTWICKLUNG & UNTERTICHT / WORK: SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT & TEACHING

2024
Creative Resident, IDEO, online.
> *Built a participatory memorial for my 2021 NFT edition Lifeforms. Lifeforms are NFT-based "entities" that need to be given away every 90 days in order to stay alive. This extension of the project included:*
> - *processing and analyzing the transaction data showing how people interacted with the Lifeforms*
> - *building an allowlisted NFT minting experience that would incorporate this data, showing information to each minter about how they interacted with the lifeforms project over the past years*
> - *writing an app where those who still currently have a living lifeform older than one year can cross the Wormhole arbitrary message bridge from Polygon to Ethereum*
> - *hosting all metadata for both of these mint experiences onchain, as well as custom generated NFTs onchain*
> - *tech stack: Javascript, Solidity, Hardhat, Express, Wormhole, Docker, Netlify, Viem*

Guest Professor, „Tactical Play", HEAD Genevé, Geneva, Switzerland.
> *One week game design workshop as part of Masters in Interaction Design*

Instructor, „Artworldbuilding", Rupert Residency, Vilnius, Lithuania.
> *Two day workshop using game-playing to explore the economics of the art world, as part of the Alternative Education Program*

Instructor, „Decentralized Web Curriculum for Creators", Gray Area, San Francisco, USA.
> *12 week class on theory and practice of making artworks using decentralized technology hosted online. Including hands on instruction for artists in use of Metamask, block explorers to interact with verified smart contracts, testnets, and decentralized storage*

2023
Core Researcher, Summer of Protocols, online.
> *Research focus on how worlds – MMORPGs, social media platforms, and protocols like Ethereum – die, and related archival best practices*

Instructor, „Social Networks of Tomorrow", La Plateforme, Marseilles, France.
> *8 week class on historical context of decentralized social media, including hands-on instruction in software development – expanded from the year prior*

2022
Professor, „Money and the Currency of Art", The Cooper Union, NYC, USA.
> *Semester long undergraduate studio class on the politics, history, and practice of cryptographic protocols and blockchain-based artworks. Included hands-on instruction in Solidity and web development, using wallets and block explorers*

Instructor, „Social Networks of Tomorrow", La Plateforme, Marseilles, France.
> Two day workshop on historical context of decentralized social media

2021-22
Tech Lead, Culturestake.
> *Hired up and led the development of a quadratic voting app, with the goal of making better decisions about arts funding. Did app architecture, sprint planning and issue tracking, as well as smart contract and full stack development. Development was undertaken in two phases, first with a 2-person team, and then a different 3-person team configuration. App was initiated by Furtherfield, an art gallery in London and was used for the curation of their programming, and at a subsequent event at the Haus der Kunst in Germany*

Founder and Curator, Ender Gallery.
> *Curated 4 residencies in the game Minecraft via open call, and organized events artist talks and exhibition walkthroughs both in-game and on Twitch. Ran all server infrastructure for the game, web design and development, and communications*

2019-21
Smart Contract Lead, Circles UBI.
> *As part of a 2-person dev team, built the smart contracts, api, and indexing for Circles UBI, an experimental community currency that aimed to lead to a more equal distribution of wealth. We brought this project from Greenfield to production with several hundred thousand users. I also co-founded a dev-coop called bitspossessed that maintains it to this day*

2018-22
Organizer, Our Networks, irl and online conference in Toronto, Canada
> *Organizer of a conference about all aspects of the decentralized web, including in person events in Toronto in 2018 and 2019 and online versions in 2020 and 2022. Over the years this included included selecting talks via open call, gallery exhibitions, screening nights, inviting musical performers, an Internet Yama-ichi market in 2019, and the creation of speculative fiction wiki in 2022.*