

# Lark Alder

aka. Lark VCR  
Virtually Conflicted Reality  
They/Them/Theirs

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## Education

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| 2016 | MFA, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA<br>Minor: Certificate from the Berkeley Center for New Media (BCNM)  |
| 2006 | BA, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA<br>Major: Visual and Environmental Studies with concentration in Film & Video<br>Minor: Portuguese Language |

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## Teaching Experience

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| 2021-present | Lecturer<br>Stanford University, Stanford, CA<br>Courses: Queer Technology & Speculative Design (Electronics and Arduino)  |
| 2017-present | Lecturer<br>San Jose State University, San Jose, CA<br>Courses: Digital Media Creative Code, Intro to Digital Video Art, Advanced Digital Video, Advanced Projects (Augmented Reality), BFA Thesis Exhibition, Intro to Queer Arts |
| 2017         | Lecturer<br>SAE Expression College, Oakland, CA<br>Courses: Multimedia and Web Design  |

2016                      Lecturer  
UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA  
Courses: Video Production, 2D Digital Animation

## Awards / Grants / Residencies

2020-2021              Akademie Schloss Solitude Web-Residency, Stuttgart, Germany

2018-2020              Faculty Fellow, PRIDE Center, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA. Development of LGBTQ+ arts events and workshops.

2016                      Investing in Artists Grant, Center for Cultural Innovation, San Francisco, CA

2016                      East Bay Fund for Artists Grant, East Bay Community Foundation, Oakland, CA

2016                      Fellowship, UC Berkeley Department of Art Practice, UC Berkeley, CA. Financial support for organizing the UC Berkeley Survivors' Symposium, including an art show with student works related to sexual and gender-based violence.

2015                      CITRIS Invention Lab Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA. Fellowship providing funding and maker space lab access

2015                      Peter Lyman Fellowship in New Media, Berkeley Center for New Media, Berkeley, CA. Funding for pursuing professional development in New Media.

2015                      CITRIS Foundry Tech Incubator 2015-16 Cohort, Berkeley, CA. Acceptance into startup incubator.

2015                      Murphy-Cardogan Contemporary Arts Award, San Francisco, CA

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## Publications

2021                      "Queer Time, Productivity, and Failure in Interactive Media", Chapter in Interactive Storytelling for the Screen, Routledge

- 2021 *"Honoring the Moon's Otherworldly Presence – Virtual Moon Altar"* Lark Alder in conversation with Denise Helene Sumi, *On the Occult and Supernatural* (Journal), Akademie Schloss Solitude
- 2021 *Network Imaginaries*, Amsterdam article co-written with Xin-Xin, Hackers and Designers Journal, Amsterdam

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## Screenings & Exhibitions

### Exhibitions

- 2022 *ooOoo*, Video installation and interactive media, *Fragile Solidarity* (Conference and exhibition), Stuttgart, Germany
- 2021 *KRAKEN*, Video and interactive archive, SURF, Et. al Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2020 *Traumagotchi*, Interactive website and installation, *Invincible California*, Worth Ryder Gallery, Berkeley, CA
- 2019 *Humancomputerlove.com* (Installation with video projection and interactive website), *(Inter)Facing Digital Media Art Faculty Exhibition*, Natalie and James Thompson Art Gallery, San Jose, CA
- 2019 *The Lesbian Lexicon*, Hit Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2019 *Humancomputerlove.com*, *Gender Bodies and Technology Conference: TechnoLogics - Power and Resistance*, Virginia Tech, Roanoke, VA
- 2018 *Traumagotchi*, *Queer Technology Exhibition*, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA (Interactive website and installation, collaboration with Porpentine Heartscape)
- 2018 *Traumagotchi*, *NEXTNEW GAMES*, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA
- 2017 *Traumagotchi 1.0*, *Vital Hybrids*, B4BEL4B Gallery, Oakland CA (video game and arcade booth installation)
- 2017 *Culturally Complete Wiki*, *Vital Hybrids*, B4BEL4B Gallery, Oakland, CA (website and installation, collaboration with anonymous wiki contributors)
- 2017 *FEMMEBOT.net*, Creative Coding Intensive Group Show, Gray Area Foundation for the Arts, San Francisco, CA

- 2016 *Tattle-Tale Heart, Third Party*, CNTRL-SHFT Collective, Oakland, CA (projected film and installation of heart monitor devices)
- 2016 *Tattle-Tale Heart, MFA Show*, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
- 2015 *Geoff's Letter of Unapology*, Berkeley Center for New Media, Berkeley, CA
- 2015 *Opossum Impressions*, Berkeley Center for New Media, Berkeley, CA
- 2015 *Meeglo, Tattle-Tale Heart & Babump*, Murphy-Cardogan Exhibition, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA (installation featuring startup booths)
- 2015 *Happy Toilet, SGraffito*, Oakland, CA (video installation)
- 2015 *Babump, San Francisco International Arts Festival*, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA (startup booth installation and performance)
- 2014 *Slime Queen, Rainbow in the Dark*, 15-city US performance tour (traveling installation and multimedia performance)
- 2014 *Quick! Eat my diamond, WorkMore!*, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA (sculptural installation with projection mapping, collaboration with Constance Hockaday and Alice Cunt)

## Performances

- 2022 *HEEL*, The Golden Bull, Oakland
- 2022 *HEEL*, Castro Art Capsule, SF
- 2022 *HEEL*, Queer Block Party, SF

## Screenings

- 2018 *Tattle-Tale Heart, Communal Shorts Program*, The Cinema of Gender Transgression, Anthology Film Archives, New York City, NY
- 2018 *Happy Toilet, TRANIMATION!*, The Cinema of Gender Transgression, Anthology Film Archives, New York City, NY
- 2017 *Tattle-Tale Heart, Femmosphere*, Schuwels Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 *Tattle-Tale Heart, Boston LGBT Film Festival*, Boston, MA
- 2017 *Tattle-Tale Heart, MIX NYC*, NY Queer Experimental Film Fest, New York City, NY

2017	<i>Tattle-Tale Heart, Idapalooza, Queer/Trans Art Fest, Smithville, TN</i>
2016	<i>Tattle-Tale Heart, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA</i>
2016	<i>Tattle-Tale Heart, TWIST Seattle Queer Film Fest, Seattle, WA</i>
2016	<i>Tattle-Tale Heart, Echo Park Film Center, Los Angeles, CA</i>
2016	<i>Tattle-Tale Heart, Periwinkle Cinema, Artist's Television Access, San Francisco, CA</i>
2016	<i>Slime Queen, CRIBS Music Videos, UMASS Amherst, Amherst, MA</i>
2015	<i>Kim's Corner, Creative Growth Video Screening, The New Parkway, Oakland, CA</i>
2015	<i>Happy Toilet, QueerFail Festival, Luggage Store Gallery, San Francisco, CA</i>
2014	<i>Happy Toilet, Frameline Film Festival, Animated Shorts, San Francisco, CA</i>
2014	<i>Happy Toilet, Frameline Film Festival, Local Shorts, San Francisco, CA</i>
2013	<i>Happy Toilet, SF Transgender Film Festival, San Francisco, CA</i>
2011	<i>Fantastic Variety, Local Underground, Artist's Television Access, San Francisco, CA</i>
2011	<i>Slime Queen, Experimental Half-Hour (TV Show), Portland Community Media, Portland, OR</i>

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## Lectures / Presentations / Workshops

2022	Stanford Art + Tech Salon, Stanford University CA
2021	<i>Intentionality, Prophecy, and Ancestry</i> , panel, <i>Magical Cohabitations</i> , virtual conference, Akademie Schloss Solitude
2021	<i>Identities in Expanded Realities</i> , panel, book launch for <u><i>Interactive Storytelling for the Screen</i></u> , Routledge

- 2020 Experimental Chatroom Workshop, Hackers & Designers Summer Academy 2020: Network Imaginaries. Collaboration with Xin Xin
- 2020 Artist Talk, Tuesday Night Lecture Series, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
- 2019 Speaker, Code Kitchen, Parsons School of Art and Design, New York, NY
- 2019 Interview, "State of The Art Podcast" with guest host Dorothy Santos  
Workshop Organizer, "Human-Computer Love: Liberatory applications for future sex technologies", *Gender Bodies and Technology Conference: TechnoLogics: Power and Resistance*, Virginia Tech, Roanoke, VA, April 2019
- 2019 Panelist, "Playing with Ourselves: Examining Life Through Virtual Media", *Gender Bodies and Technology Conference: TechnoLogics - Power and Resistance*, Roanoke, VA, April 2019
- 2019 Lecture/Presentation, "Incantation in Code," *Processing Community Day*, Los Angeles, CA, January 2019
- 2018 Keynote Speaker, *Creative Coding Fest (CC Fest)*, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 Panelist/Presentation, "Human-Computer Love," *Gender, Sex & VR Panel*, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
- 2018 Artist Talk/Panelist, "Traumagotchi," *Talking Art: NEXTNEWGAMES*, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art (SJICA), San Jose, CA
- 2018 Panelist, *Queer Technology Panel Discussion*, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA
- 2018 Artist Talk, "Virtually Living: The Tamagotchi Effect," *LASER Art and Science Lecture Series*, San Jose, CA
- 2017 Artist Talk, "Tattle-Tale Heart" *Living Room Light Exchange*, Oakland, CA
- 2016 Artist Talk, "Heart Startups," *LASER Talk Series on Art and Science*, University of San Francisco (USF), San Francisco, CA
- 2015 Lecture/Presentation, "Biosurveillance: Big Data Meets the Beating Heart," *Manufacturing Transparency Conference*, sponsored by the Berkeley Center for New Media, Berkeley, CA
- 2015 "Babump: Health Data for Employers," *Graduate Research Hot Topics*", UC Berkeley EECS Annual Research Symposium (BEARS), Berkeley, CA

## Visiting Artist Lectures / Presentations

2018	Visiting Artist Lecture, <i>Forum Lecture Series</i> , CSU East Bay, Hayward, CA
2018	Visiting Artist Lecture, <i>Queer Wiki Course</i> , Mills College, Oakland, CA
2015	Visiting Artist Lecture and After Effects Workshop, Video Art Course, UC Berkeley

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## Related Professional Experience

2012-2015	Instructor, Creative Growth Art Center, Oakland, CA. Worked with disabled artists in the Video Production Workshop.
2013-2014	Instructor, Mid Peninsula Media Center, Palo Alto, CA. Taught courses in animation and special effects.
2012-2013	Multimedia and Video Manager, AMF Media Group, San Ramon, CA. Managed all stages of video production for an advertising agency.
2008-2017	Freelance Video and Motion Graphics. Oakland, CA.
2006-2007	TV Series Producer, "One Life: Living with HIV/AIDS," KMTP Channel 32, Mountain View, CA.

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## Technical Expertise

### Programming languages

JavaScript, Python, Processing / P5.js, Arduino, Node.js, HTML/CSS

### Digital Film/Video

**Pre-Production:** Screenwriting, storyboarding, casting

**Production:** Lighting, audio recording, DSLR and DV cinematography

**Post-Production:** Color correction, sound design, motion graphics, special effects, compositing

Animation: 2d character animation, rotoscoping, stop-motion, cell animation

## Software

Unity, Adobe Creative Suite. Expert in Premiere and After Effects