

# Dr Lucy Sabin

## Artistic Researcher

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I'm a researcher and practising artist in the environmental humanities with a background in communication and media arts. My research interests include air, atmospheres and breathing, art-science, posthumanism, decolonial studies, queer feminist science studies, and multispecies sensing.

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### Qualifications

- 2020-24 LAHP-funded PhD in Geography (Practice-related), University College London. Thesis title: *Aerography: Air quality and creative practice*. Passed (no corrections) on October 4, 2024. Supervisors were Andrew Barry (Geography) and Joy Sleeman (Slade). See <https://aerography.uk/>
- 2018-20 Master of Research (MRes) in Communication, Royal College of Art, London. Thesis: *Atmospheric cartography: Articulating ecological connectivity in air*.
- 2012-16 BA Liberal Arts majoring in French, Spanish, and Philosophy, Durham University, First Class Hons, with VC Scholarship for Academic Excellence. Erasmus Program 2015 in Facultad de Belas Artes, Universidade de Vigo.

### Employment

- 2024- Postdoctoral Researcher – RE4GREEN (qualitative research, impact) Dept. Ethics, Law & Humanities, Amsterdam UMC, Netherlands.
- 2024 Postdoctoral Researcher – Patterns in Practice, Information School University of Sheffield, UK. Fixed term: June-August.
- 2023 School Tutor. Media, Arts, and Humanities, University of Sussex. Courses: Global Cinema, BA Film Studies; BA Media and Communication.
- 2023 Writing Tutor. MSc Human Geography, University College London.
- 2020-21 Visiting Lecturer. MA Graphic Design, Arts University Bournemouth. Courses: Master's Projects 1 & 2, MA Graphic Design.
- 2020 Technician. Creative Web Design, University for the Creative Arts.
- 2017-18 Visiting Lecturer. BA Graphic Design, University for the Creative Arts. Course: Interface and Interaction Design, BA Graphic Design.
- 2016-17 Communications Coordinator. SheCanCode. Farringdon, London.
- 2016 PR & Social Media Intern. Cancer Research UK. Angel, London.

## Research visits and residencies

- 2023        Doctoral internship with the SYMBIOSE design research group.  
              Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs, Paris.
- 2022        mLAB Residency, Geography Institute, University of Bern.
- 2022        Transdisciplinary residency and research visit on Saharan dust,  
              Instituto Interuniversitario de Geografía, Universidad de Alicante.
- 2022        Symbiotic Stories collaborative residency at spudWORKS, Sway.
- 2020-21     Creative Associate (Digital), Modern Art Oxford, year of 2020.

## Research grants and awards

- London Arts and Humanities Partnership. PhD Studentship. £61, 704 (2020-23).
  - LAHP Research Extension Fund. £10,284 (2023).
  - LAHP Research Support Fund. £3,000 (2021-23).
- The Mead Travel Fund. Travel bursary. £850 (2023).
- Global Engagement Fund. UCL-PSL Doctoral Research Internship. £3,650 (2023).
- mLAB Residency, University of Bern. Artist-in-residence. £10,940 (2022).
- Arts Council England. Developing Your Creative Practice Award. £9,834 (2020-23).
- University of Oxford. TORCH Humanities Cultural Programme. £3,000 (2020).

## Art exhibitions

- *Oily palms*. Zine collective, Brighton MET, July 2023.
- *Exposición*. Solo end-of-residency exhibition, University of Bern, May 23-26, 2022.
- *Breathing worlds*. Co-curated with Derek McCormack. Modern Art Oxford, 2020.
- *Breathworks*. Participatory arts and video installation, Modern Art Oxford, 2020-21.
- *In memory of air*. Sound art, interactive installation. RCA Graduate Show, 2019.
- *Lichen literacy*. Interactive installation. Hockney Gallery, 2019.
- *Untitled worlds*. Experimental photography, The Plough Arts Centre, 2019.

## Journal articles

- Sabin, L. (forth.). "Field(work) to exhibition: Doing artistic research on occupational exposures to pesticides with a chemical gaze." *Exchanges Journal*.
- Sabin, L. (2024). "Imag(in)ing Saharan dust." *Sentio Journal*, 6, 97-109. ISSN 2632-2455. <https://sentiojournal.uk/issues/issue-6-barriers-boundaries-belonging/>
- Sabin, L. (2024). "Breathe for Ella: Artivism, intersectionality and sensing air pollution." *Artnodes*, 33. <https://doi.org/10.7238/artnodes.v0i33.417688>
- Sabin, L. & Olcina Cantos, J. (2023). "Weathering Saharan dust beyond the Mediterranean Basin: An interdisciplinary dialogue." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 41(6), 1036-1057. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02637758231217789>
- Sabin, L., Komposch, N., & Mestrot, A. (2023). "Exhibiting toxicity: Sprayed strawberries and geographies of hope." *Cultural Geographies*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14744740231183202>
- McCormack, D.P. and Sabin, L. (2021). "Breathing worlds." *Venti Journal* 2 (1). <https://www.venti-journal.com/mccormack-and-sabin>

## Book chapters

- Sabin, L. and Olcina Cantos, J. (forth.). "Becoming with Mediterranean winds: A transdisciplinary dialogue in turbulent times." In: Vaughan, M., Nuttall, S. and Hofmeyer, I. (eds.), *Postcolonial air and atmospheres: Elemental life and climate crisis*. London: UCL Press.
- Sabin, L. (forth.). "Re-sensing." In: Gibbon, S., Glazer, E., & Sabin, L., and Barry, A. (Eds.). *Chemical exposures*. London: UCL Press.
- Sabin, L. (2022). "Chemo creatures in a digital ocean! The making of a speculative ecosystem." In: Travis, C. et al. (Eds.). *Routledge handbook of digital environmental humanities*. London; New York: Routledge, 242-254.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003082798-20>

## Editorial work

- Gibbon, S., Glazer, E., Sabin, L., & Barry, A. (forth.) *Chemical exposures*. UCL Press.
- Sabin, L., & Dalle, M. (2019). *Archives of curiosity*. Limited edition. London: RCA.

## Art collectives / collaborations

Founding member of Eco-Feminist Art-Science (EFAS, 2024-), Material Flows (transatlantic ECR research group, 2022-), Symbiotic Stories (2022).

## Artist Interviews

- James Waddell for *Still Point Journal*, November 15, 2021. <http://bit.ly/interviewls>
- BBC Radio 4. Episode: "Filth." Program: *Art of Now*. January 28, 2021.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000dpjh>

## Selected presentations / Workshops

- "Field(work) to exhibition: Doing artistic research on agrochemicals". International Conference on Sustainability Culture [online], NCHU Taiwan, November 2024.
- "Thinking with Saharan dust." Lecture. *Cases in Cultural Analysis*, UvA, June 2024.
- "Breathe for Ella." Conference presentation. *Media Activism*, UOC, May 2024.
- "Weathering Saharan Dust." Online lecture. WISER, Wits, March 2024.
- "Breath work." Workshop for academic staff. *Creative Methods in Health Geographies*. Sch. of Geography and the Environment, Uni. of Oxford, May 2023.
- "Practice-related approaches to studying material flows." Hybrid seminar with Yale.
- *Human Geography Seminar Series*, Dept. of Geography, UCL, February 2023.
- "Writing and Making the Constructed Environment: Grounding Creative Practices in Histories of Technology." Conference presentation, *SHOT*, New Orleans, Nov. 2022.
- "Elusive exposures." *Chemical Exposures*, UCL, June 2022.
- "LICHEN ART LABS." Outdoor workshop. The Koppel Project, London, July 2021.
- "Suspension and the sneeze cloud." Conference presentation. *Contagion: Spread the Word*. Queen Mary University of London, June 2021.
- "In the air." Online lecture. *Alternative Epistemologies Festival*. IAS, May 2021.
- "Breathing worlds." Panel presentation. TORCH, University of Oxford, October 2020.
- "Breathable for whom? Air quality in the geopolitical arena." RCA, September 2019.

## My key transferable skills

- Creative: artistic research, photography, curation, graphic design, website design, digital methods, exhibition design, soundscapes.
- Methods: qualitative & participatory research, workshop design, group facilitation, interdisciplinary collaboration, exhibition ethnography.
- Writing: editing, grant writing, research proposals, peer-reviewing, impact reporting.

## Languages I speak (always interested in learning new ones!)

English (native), French (advanced), Spanish (advanced)

## Volunteering / Activism

Routes into Languages; Women in Technology; Environmentalism

## Professional memberships

EASST, Royal Geographical Society, Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), a-n  
The Artists Information Company.

## References (my PhD examiners – request to contact)

Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos  
Professor of Law & Theory / Poet and visual artist  
University of Westminster  
Email [andreasp@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:andreasp@westminster.ac.uk)

Peg Rawes  
Professor of Architecture and Philosophy  
The Bartlett School of Architecture  
University College London  
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