

MAX BARNEWITZ

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AREAS OF INTEREST

- Comics Studies & ImageTexts
- Zines & Embodied Arts Practices
- Queer Ecology & Queer Formalism
- Accessibility & Interdisciplinary Arts Practices
- Human-Animal Relations

EDUCATION

M.F.A. Comics California College of the Arts
2021-2023 – Thesis: *Locating the Hybrid Animal & Envisioning Chimerical Discourse: There Once Was a Town & Pass/Fail.*

M.A. Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies University of Utah
2014-2016 – Thesis: *The Animal as Queer Act in Comics: Queer Iterations in On Loving Women and Nimona.*

B.A. French, B.A. Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies University of Utah
2010-2014 – Minor in Anthropology. Graduated Summa Cum Laude.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching & Tutoring

Digital Drawing & Experimental Mark Making University of Utah
Semesters Taught: Fall 2023, Spring 2024
Coursework focuses on experimental mark making and digital illustration. The combined traditional and digital studio course opens new, creative directions, facilitating the integration of dynamically evolving new media platforms for application

Humanities Tutor Faris Education
Fall 2016
Tutored subjects in the Humanities including English literature and writing, World History, and Social Studies for students grades 6-12 primarily at Rowland Hall, St. Marks schools. Provided one-on-one mentoring to students to improve comprehension of coursework, build critical thinking skills, writing abilities, and test taking techniques.

English Language Intensive Program Instructor
August 2016

Women of the World

Developed and facilitated an English Language course tailored to the needs of refugee women preparing for college. Course emphasized areas of English related to the students' interests and goals, including: navigating college, building community, and using language in fields such as nursing, business, and teaching.

Graduate Teaching Assistant
September 2014 - May 2016

University of Utah

Assisted professors in undergraduate classes including Introduction to Classical Mythology, Globalization in Literature and Film: Focus on Africa, and a Survey of World Religions.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
September 2013 - May 2014

University of Utah

Assisted facilitation of Undergraduate Student Experts on Teaching research program in the Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence.

Zine & Comics Workshops

Nature Drawing & Zine Workshop
November 2023

Jordan River Nature Center

Co-facilitated an all-ages nature drawing workshop at the Tracy Aviary Jordan River Nature center alongside Grid Zine Fest and the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Librarian at the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library.

STEMCAP: Paper Making & Nature Poetry Workshop
October 2022

Millcreek Youth Center

Facilitated a papermaking workshop addressing themes of recycling and overconsumption for incarcerated youth.

Queer Comics Workshop
August 2022

Under the Umbrella Books

Facilitated an all-ages auto-bio comics activity focused on Queer Joy for LGBTQ+ community members.

Embodied Creativity: Dance & Zines
March 2021

loveDANCEmore

Hosted two Zoom-based workshops in conjunction with loveDANCEmore's Only the Lonely program. Workshops focused on embodiment, community building, and revaluing lived-experiences through zine making.

Queer Teen Zines
October 2020

Salt Lake City Public Library

Facilitated an hour-long zine workshop as guest presenter for the Alphabet Soup program, an LGBTQ+ youth group..

Queer Zines: QSAF 2020 Workshop Queer Spectra Arts Festival
September 2020

The hour-long Zoom workshop covered a queer history of zines, resources for zine making, and a zine prompt "How I Feel About Risk" aligned with the 2020 Queer Spectra Arts Festival theme: The Risk of Representation.

Zine Workshop for LGBT Resource Center University of Utah
March 2020

Presented a Queer History of Zines with M.A. History Candidate Juli Huddleston at the LGBT+ Resource Center at the University of Utah.

Teen Zine Workshop Encircle House
October 2019

Facilitated zine making introduction for LGBTQ+ youth arts group in Salt Lake City.

Guest Lectures

DANCE 2961: Special Topics University of Utah
March 2020

Facilitated "Zines & Embodied Art" for E'lise Jumes' class Embodied Philosophy.

DANCE 1075: Creative Process University of Utah
March 2019

Facilitated "Zines & The Creative Process" for Alexandra Barbier's class for non-majors.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Toronto Comics Arts Festival Academic Symposium
June 2023

"Following the Sequential Animal: What's Next for (Queer) Animal Comics." Poster presentation. Postponed due to Covid-19. Available online here: https://www.academia.edu/81722266/Following_the_Sequential_Animal.

Queer Continuum Conference
September 2017

"Queer(ing) Comics: Comics as a Medium for Queer Representation." Individual presentation. Salt Lake City Public Library.

Confutati: University of Utah Graduate Student Conference
February 2016

"'A Cruel Phallic Woman': Webcomics and the Unmasking of Queer Wonder Women in Kat Leyh's *Supercakes*." #Identity Panel Presentation.

College of Liberal Arts Graduate Symposium, University of Nevada, Reno
February 2015

“‘Fusion of Word and Deed’: Intertextual Constructions in Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home*.”

Utah Conference on Undergraduate Research, Brigham Young University
February 2014

“Sea Otter Resource Depression? Analysis of Age Structures of *Enhydra lutris* from Yerba Buena Shellmound, San Francisco, California.” Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jack Broughton. Presented updated data from Yerba Buena Shellmound archaeofaunal collection. Poster presentation.

University of Utah Undergraduate Research Symposium
April 2013

“Teaching French Grammar Through Theater.” Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christine Jones. Research on the use of historical theater texts in French language classrooms to improve students’ language skills with an embodied approach to the study of French culture and history. Poster.

Stanley J. Olsen Eagle Lake Zooarchaeology Conference
July 2011

“Sea Otter Resource Depression? Analysis of Age Structures of *Enhydra lutris* from Yerba Buena Shellmound.” Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jack Broughton. Research on Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherer subsistence strategies and the effects of over-exploitation of California Sea Otters. Panel presentation.

SCHOLARLY & CREATIVE RESEARCH

Refereed Articles

Barnewitz, M. (2021). “Academic Enough? Queering Pedagogy with Zines.” *Embodied DIY: Feminist and Queer Zines in a Transglobal World*. Edited by Paula Guerra and Laura López Casado, *Zines Journal*, Issue 3: Embodied DIY.

Articles

Barnewitz, M. (2023). *Bringing Environment & Comics Together: Interview with Aidan Koch*. Electric Squeak.

<https://electricsqueak.com/articles/bringing-environment-comics-together-interview-with-aidan-koch>

Barnewitz, M. (2022). *Making Accessible Comics*. Electric Squeak.

<https://electricsqueak.com/articles/making-accessible-comics-by-max-barnewitz>

Barnewitz, M. (2021). *Tori Meyer & Arin Lynn Invite Audiences to Experience the Everyday in Quotidien/Quotidan*. 15Bytes: Utah's Art Magazine.
<https://artistsofutah.org/15Bytes/index.php/tori-meyer-arin-lynn-invite-audiences-to-experience-the-every-day-in-quotidien-quotidan/>

Barnewitz, M. (2020). *Shm00fi3zZ Virtual Birthing: A Queer Orwellian Spacescape in the Age of COVID*. loveDANCEmore.
<https://lovedancemore.org/reviews/2020/8/31/shm00fi3zz-virtual-birthing-a-queer-orwellian-spacescape-in-the-age-of-covid>

Published Images

California College of the Arts Student Anthology (2023)
 Excerpts from *There Once Was a Town*. Graduate student anthology.

Oltre Collage Fanzine #6: Secret Languages (2023)
 Italian-based collage publication featuring artwork from 42 artists. *Work*, *Telephone*, featured in the collection.

Electric Squeak, Vol. 3 (2023)
Hive Mind. Watercolor and ink comic.
<https://electricsqueak.com/issue-three/hive-mind-by-max-barnewitz>

Electric Squeak, Vol. 2 (2022)
Hunting Dahu. Watercolor and ink comic.
<https://electricsqueak.com/issue-two/issue-two-test-by-test-person>

Halophyte Magazine Vol. 3: Collaborations (2020)
 Edited by Andrew Shaw and Mary Toscano. *The Animal that Therefore I Am* featured in the collection.

Group Exhibitions

Great Salt Lake: Out of This World (2023)
 A multimedia event in connection with Brolly Arts, Great Salt Lake Institute at Westminster College, and Save the Great Salt Lake. Watercolor and mixed-media collage, *Smog*, featured in the show. Feb 2023.

Emanata: CCA Graduate Student Exhibition (2022)
 California College of the Arts, Comics MFA second years presented pieces from their graduate thesis works.

Queer Spectra Arts Festival (2022)
 A multimedia event for LGBTQ+ artists, Salt Lake City. Mixed media collage, *Telephone*, featured in the show.

The Animal That Therefore I Am, Finch Lane Gallery (2021)

Barnewitz, M. and Graham, J. *The Animal That Therefore I Am* presents a collection of multimedia works in conversation with essays and lectures by Jacques Derrida. January-February 2021.

Halophyte Collective: Myth in Memory Exhibition (2020)

Barnewitz, M. *Genogram 2: Entanglement*. Ink, watercolor, and collage on board. 3' x 2.5' work presented at Finch Lane by the Halophyte Collective.

Flash Project: Queer Spectra Arts Festival, Finch Lane Gallery (2020)

Barnewitz, M. *Fit for a Man*. Tempera paint and sharpie on board. 3' x 4' work shown alongside a collection of works by artists from the Queer Spectra Arts Festival.

Performances

Only the Lonely: Duet for Non-Things and Forsaken Objects (2021)

Barnewitz, M. and Sargent, E. *Duet for Non-Things and Forsaken Objects* chronicles the quotidian during the pandemic and explores the boundaries of embodiment in a time of restriction. <http://lovedancemore.org/spring>

Deseret Experimental Opera: One Hundred Years Hence (2021)

Barnewitz, M., Barbier, A., and Price, N. *One Hundred Years Hence* is an immersive operetta chronicling the life of Elsie Pierath, a blind immigrant from Denmark who settled in Utah in 1903. <https://www.deseretopera.org/hundre-years-hence/>

Media & Reviews

Clever Octopus, (2022), Community Artist Spotlight: Max Barnewitz.

<https://www.cleveroctopus.org/blog/maxbarnewitzspotlight>

Cityweekly, (2021), The Animal that Therefore I Am, The Essentials,

<https://www.cityweekly.net/utah/the-essential-aande-picks-for-jan-28-feb-3/Content?oid=16351871>

loveDANCEmore, (2021), loveDANCEmore Presents a Spring Sampler of New Works.

https://lovedancemore.org/reviews/2021/5/15/lovedancemore-presents-a-spring-sampler-of-new-work?fbclid=IwAR3XxGS4GodaXxskX-7eTNj_CBSA0Ws8CW-SVwYjubwKKxk7wOPym6cXXLA

Culture Bytes Podcast: Providing A Queer Performing Space in Utah, Interview with Max Barnewitz. Season 2, Episode 17.

https://www.utahculturalalliance.org/podcast_culture_bytes

The Utah Review, (2019), Inaugural Queer Spectra Arts Festival Explores Multiple Facets of Queer Aesthetic.

<https://www.theutahreview.com/inaugural-queer-spectra-arts-festival-explores-multiple-facets-of-queer-aesthetic/>

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONORS

Utah Division of Arts & Museums Artist Career Advancement Grant
Awarded \$1,500 Career Advancement Grant for FY 2024.

California College of the Arts Merit Scholarship
2021-2023 Recipient of \$55,000 grant from California College of the Arts towards the completion of the 60-unit program.

Featured Artist, Alt Press Fest
2022 Featured Artist for Salt Lake City Public Library Alt Press Fest. (\$250 Honorarium).

Salt Lake Arts Council Artist Empowerment Grant
2022 Recipient of \$2,500 grant to publish a book with materials created in conjunction with *The Animal that Therefore I Am* Exhibition.

University of Utah Representative, Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS)/ProQuest Distinguished Thesis Non-STEM Award
2016 Recipient of campus-level award and \$500 honorarium for MA Thesis *The Animal as Queer Act in Comics*.

Warren D. Fishburn Jr. Scholarship for Modern Language
2013 Merit-based scholarship awarded two semesters' tuition for students majoring in a modern language.

University of Utah Departmental Scholarship, Department of World Languages and Cultures
2012 Merit-based scholarship awarded two semesters' tuition in the Department of World Languages & Cultures.

Pi Delta Phi Société Nationale D'Honneur Française
2011 Member of French National Honor Society in recognition of academic success in French language and cultural studies.

ARTS ORGANIZATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Program Mentor, UMOCA Out Loud
November 2023-Present

Helps develop course curriculum in partnership with UMOCA art educator for spring 2024 LGBTQ+ youth arts program. Coordinates guest speakers and additional mentors and leads workshops to build skill sets and creative toolkits for participating students.

Editor in Chief, Electric Squeak

2022-2023

Editor in Chief of California College of the Arts comics magazine featuring work by MFA students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Published online annually.

www.electricsqueak.com

Program Manager, Art Access

December 2021-June 2022

Coordinated Art Access career development programs for artists with disabilities including the Partners mentorship program, Artist Working Groups, and workshops with community partners. Supported the implementation of accessibility training focused on increasing access to arts and cultural spaces in Utah. Additional support provided for grant writing, fundraising, and community outreach and communications.

www.artaccessutah.org

Co-Founder, Queer Spectra Arts Festival

February 2019-August 2022

Co-organizer and facilitator of multidisciplinary arts 501(c)(3) showcasing LGBTQ+ art. Coordinated fundraising, artist outreach, curation, social media, and community engagement. The event is listed on the *Top Ten Moments of the Utah Enlightenment* by the Utah Review in 2019, and it earned the Utah Cultural Alliance's 2020 Utah Exceptional Contribution Award. www.queerspectra.com

Co-Organizer, Grid Zine Festival

May 2017-Present

Collaborate on development for annual festivals, regular Zine Club workshops, website design, artist and community engagement. www.gridzinefest.org

Writer, loveDANCEmore

May 2020-August 2022

Performance journal and dance criticism blog; loveDANCEmore promotes dance and performance art in the Salt Lake community. Works include interviews, reviews, and digest pieces on web-based journal. Focus areas include outsider art and multidisciplinary performance pieces. www.lovedancemore.org

Head Writer & Editor, ComicsVerse.com

November 2017- October 2019

ComicsVerse engaged with social justice topics in popular culture to promote diverse representation and positive cultural change. Produced over 120 analysis pieces, interviews, and reviews. Developed ongoing podcast and writing projects in the areas of ecocriticism and minority representation in popular culture. Focus area was queer and independently published comics.

Queer Ecologies Research Interest Group
Summer 2016

Co-organized interdisciplinary Queer Ecologies Interest Group, dubbed "Freaks of Nature," focusing on ecocriticism, posthumanism, and queer theory.

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

Communications Director, JL Productions
January 2024 - Present

Develop and coordinate marketing and social media campaigns for queer documentary film production. Support development and fundraising efforts including grant writing and crowdfunding initiatives. Assists with graphic design and web development.

Social Media Coordinator, Pride in Panels
January 2024 - Present

Assist Pride in Panels: San Francisco Queer Comics Festival organizers in creating event-related social media presence on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Communicates with tablers and attendees as needed.

Engaged Learning Specialist, Salt Lake Community College
October 2023-January 2024

Managed student engagement with Engaged Learning Office programs including Community-Engaged Learning Student Fund and Study Away. Directed outreach and communications to increase student engagement, creating media assets for program promotion. Assisted Engaged Learning Director with budget management, organized faculty involvement in faculty development opportunities, and supported participation in conferences and events.

Social Media Assistant, CCA MFA Comics
September 2022-August 2023

Assist California College of the Arts Comics Chair in creation of CCA MFA Comics social media presence on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Outreach Coordinator, SLCgreen
June 2019-December 2021

Assisted Salt Lake City Sustainability Department ("SLCgreen") Communications Director with public facing outreach, SLCgreen blog (www.slccgreenblog.com), social media, and ongoing City sustainability initiatives. Managed SLCgreen interns at public outreach events. Primary outreach projects included sustainable food system development; youth-oriented curricula including energy efficiency curriculum for Salt Lake City YouthCity program; and public engagement around Salt Lake City's zero waste goals.

Access to Justice Coordinator, Utah State Bar
December 2016 - March 2019

Organized resources for *pro bono* and reduced-rate legal representation.

Wrote and edited Bar communication materials including ABA award-winning Law Day special education and materials for the *Utah Bar Journal*.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software, Web, & Graphic Design: Adobe Creative Suite; Procreate; SquareSpace; WordPress; ReadyMag; Mozilla Spoke; Microsoft Office Suite; Instructure Canvas.

Languages: English (native), French (proficient), German (beginning).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Comics Studies Society, 2023-Present