

# KRISTIN R. DAVIDSON CURRICULUM VITAE

Websites: [www.krisdavidson.com](http://www.krisdavidson.com)  
[www.archive-kris-davidson.com](http://www.archive-kris-davidson.com)

## EDUCATION

MFA | School of the Art Institute of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

BA, Communications Arts and Spanish (Magna Cum Laude) | Loyola University  
New Orleans, Louisiana

## ONGOING STUDY + SEMINARS

- 2023
  - Projection/Memory/Monument with Krzysztof Wodiczko | The Alternative Art School
  - **DEAR DAVE** critique workshop with Stephen Frailey
- 2022
  - Rewilding Mythology with Sophie Strand
- 2021
  - Mentorship with Alessandra Sanguinetti and Gregory Halpern for *Beneath a Paper Moon* | Magnum Photos
  - The Body as Instrument and Image with Cassils | The Alternative Art School
- 2020
  - Seeing with Machines with Trevor Paglen | The Alternative Art School
  - All the World's a Stage: Social Practice with Nato Thompson | The Alternative Art School
  - Alternative Art History with Gridthiya Gaweewong | The Alternative Art School

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **AI and Robotics in Art:** Investigating how artificial intelligence and humanoid robotics influence storytelling about the future, focusing on the human-machine interface and the implications of machine vision.
- **Deep Time and Nonlinear Storytelling:** Developing visual and narrative strategies that collapse conventional timelines, exploring how past, present, and future coexist and inform one another.
- **Myth in Contemporary Art:** Examining the life cycles of stories across time, how memories are mythologized, and how fiction can be used to process difficult events.
- **Changing Media Landscape, Machine Vision and Digital Literacy:** Exploring the shifting dynamics of digital media, the impact of machine vision, and the importance of media literacy, particularly in navigating truth and fact in a world increasingly saturated with misinformation.

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## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024      Pushdot | Portland, OR  
Exhibited *American Timescapes*
- 2019      LightSource SF | San Francisco, CA  
Exhibited *The Roswell UFO Incident* from *Beneath a Paper Moon*
- 2009      RIKI | Berkeley, CA  
Exhibited work from *Sacred Spaces* and *Two Americas*

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025      SAIC Galleries | Chicago, IL  
Chatter in the Forest | Exhibited *An Incomplete Portrait of Inez*
- 2022      Foley Gallery | New York, NY  
ExLab | Exhibited work from *Portraits + Monuments*
- 2022      Foley Gallery | New York, NY  
ExLab | Exhibited work from *Portraits + Monuments*
- 2019      Atelier Gallery | San Francisco, CA  
AAU Faculty | Exhibited work from *Portraits + Monuments*
- 2019      El Museo Cultural de Santa Fe | Santa Fe, NM  
CENTER Santa Fe PhotoSummer | Exhibited work from *American Macondo*
- 2007      Samespace Gallery | Berkeley, CA  
Spaces in Conflict | Exhibited work from *Sacred Spaces*
- 2005      Effections | San Francisco, CA  
Exhibited work from *Sacred Spaces*
- 2003      San Francisco Open Studios | San Francisco, CA  
Exhibited work from *Sacred Spaces*
- 2002      The Lift Gallery | San Francisco, CA  
Exhibited work from *The Equilibrium Portraits*
- 2001      Well Hung Gallery | San Francisco, CA  
Exhibited work from *The Equilibrium Portraits*
- 2000      Hollis Street Project: Click! | Berkeley, CA  
Exhibited work from *The Equilibrium Portraits*

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## RESIDENCIES

2023            **Mars Desert Research Station | Hanksville, UT**  
Crew Journalist and Artist in Residence with Transatlantic Mars Crew 261  
<https://www.transatlanticmarscrew261.com>

## COLLECTIONS

2001            di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art | Napa, CA

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2007-2020        **Academy of Art University (San Francisco, CA) | Instructor of Record**  
Courses Taught: Documentary Photography (MFA), Photo Essay (BFA), People Photography (BFA), all delivered online

2010-2016        **National Geographic Society (Washington, DC) | Instructor**  
Photography instructor for National Geographic Expeditions workshops throughout the United States (San Francisco, New Orleans, Tucson, Seattle)

2007+2010        **Semester At Sea (Charlottesville, VA) | Photographer + Mentor**  
Photographer aboard the MV Explorer; worked with university students to produce multimedia presentations and a yearbook

2004            **First Exposures (San Francisco, CA) | Mentor**  
Mentor/photography instructor for a non-profit program benefiting children

## HONORS + AWARDS + RECOGNITION

2025            Chicago Municipal Art League Fellowship

2024            Klompching FRESH finalist for *Beneath a Paper Moon*

2020            Lange-Taylor Prize finalist for *The Flying Africans* chapter of *Beneath a Paper Moon*

2016            CENTER Santa Fe Review | Selected as participant

2013            CENTER Santa Fe Review | Selected as participant

2011            *PDN Magazine* | Recognized in "Best Photography of the Year" feature

2010            *PDN Magazine* | Recognized for travel photography in "World In Focus" feature

2009            International Photography Awards | Four honorable mentions

2007            Kala Art Institute Board Prize finalist

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- 2005 International Photography Awards | Six honorable mentions
- 2004 Lange-Taylor Prize finalist for collaborative documentary about first responders

## SELECT INTERVIEWS + PRESS

Simianer, Paige, "How This Artist Explores American Storytelling Across Time." *Artwork Archive*. May 11, 2023; Online interview posted on [https://www.artworkarchive.com/blog/how-this-artist-explores-american-storytelling-across-time?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=kris-davidson](https://www.artworkarchive.com/blog/how-this-artist-explores-american-storytelling-across-time?utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=kris-davidson)

Lukacova, Kristina, "Nomad Times: Interview with Kris Davidson." *Nomad Times*. July 3, 2020; Online interview posted on [www.times.coworkbooking.com](http://www.times.coworkbooking.com)

Sease, Suzanne, "The Art of the Personal Project." *A Photo Editor*. August 2018; Online interview posted on [www.aphotoeditor.com](http://www.aphotoeditor.com)

Hudson, Hannah, "Southern Comfort." *British Airways High Life*. October 2016

Warwick, Helen, "National Geographic Traveller: Interview with Kris Davidson." *World Photography Organisation*. November 26, 2014; Online interview posted on [www.worldphoto.org](http://www.worldphoto.org)

Castro-Rodriguez, Laura. "The Southern Gardens." *Langly Field Notes*. October 11, 2014; Online interview posted on [www.langly.co](http://www.langly.co)

Sease, Suzanne, "Art Producers Speak: Kris Davidson." *A Photo Editor*. June 2014; Online interview posted on [www.aphotoeditor.com](http://www.aphotoeditor.com)

Knorovsky, Katie, "Contributors: Kris Davidson." *National Geographic Traveler*. October 2013

Moutenot J, Ewing J, Moakley P et al. "PDN Photo Annual 2011." *PDN Magazine* June 2011

Meyers, Hastings S, Henderson H et al. "World in Focus." *PDN Magazine*. February 2010

Harmanci, Reyhan, "Spatial relations — 'Spaces in Conflict' — Oakland gallery's inaugural show tackles issues of modern living." *San Francisco Chronicle*. January 18, 2007

Schonauer, David, "Let the Contest Begin." *American Photo*. November/December 1998

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## LECTURES + PRESENTATIONS

- 2025      **North Dakota State University | Fargo, North Dakota**  
Visiting Artist (1-week residency)
- 2019      **College of Charleston | Charleston, South Carolina**  
Lecture showcasing work from various National Geographic assignments
- 2017      **National Geographic Museum | Washington, D.C.**  
Lecture about assignment work from Louisiana for a National Geographic Live event
- 2017      **Dialysis Access Synergy | Singapore, Republic of Singapore**  
Guest lecture: "How Do You Want To Live Your Life?"
- 2008      **Earlham College | Richmond, Indiana**  
Presented work from *Two Americas* and *American Mestizaje* with Brian Owensby

## PUBLICATIONS | SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

Dooley, Sunny and Davidson, Kris R. "Meeting Sunny" and "Yoolthgai Awee: Beadwhite Baby Girl." *Chamisa: A Journal of Literary, Performance, and Visual Arts of the Greater Southwest*, Volume 2. Fall 2022, pp.1-9; Cover. <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/chamisa/vol2/iss1/1>

## PUBLICATIONS | EDITORIAL ASSIGNMENT WORK IN PRINT

Benoist, Valentine and Davidson, Kris. "Les Vignerons du Nouveau Monde." *Grazia Hommes*. April 2018, pp. 128-133  
Delphine, Gallay and Davidson, Kris. "Grand Format: La Fête des Morts." *Trajectoire Magazine*. N°124, 2018, pp. 71-80

Davidson, Kris. "Californian Deserts." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. March 2018, pp. 125-130

Davidson, Kris. "How I Got the Shot: Desert Fireside Portrait." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. March 2018, pp. 158

Davidson, Kris. "Latino Los Angeles." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. January/February 2017, pp. 126-133

Jaffe, Gabrielle and Davidson, Kris. "California Dreaming." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. April 2017, pp. 72-81

Davidson, Kris. "Smart Traveller Snapshot: Abigail and Rufina Mendoza, Mexico." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. April 2017, pp. 15

Davidson, Kris. "Smart Cities: Scottsdale, Arizona." *National Geographic Traveler*. September 2017

# KRISTIN R. DAVIDSON CURRICULUM VITAE

Buckley, Julia and Davidson, Kris. "Like A Local: I Love Miami." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. April 2016, pp. 49-52

Davidson, Kris. "Globetrotter: A Local's San Francisco." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. June 2016, pp. 28

Davidson, Kris. "Budget Las Vegas." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. August 2016, pp. 27

Davidson, Kris. "Spilling the Beans: Get Involved in Cacao Harvesting Deep in the Ecuadorian Jungle." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. August 2016, pp. 39-44

Davidson, Kris. "Smart Traveller Snapshot: Marlin Limon, Miami." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. September 2016, pp. 17

Buckley, Julia and Davidson, Kris. "City Life: San Francisco." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. May 2016, pp. 140-145

Berry, Oliver and Davidson, Kris. "Into the Sunset: Get Your Ticket for a Transcontinental Adventure on America's Oldest Railway." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. October 2016, pp. 62-71

Davidson, Kris. "Make It Happen: The Sunset Limited." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. October 2016, pp. 73

Davidson, Kris. "In Pictures: Oaxaca" *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. November 2016, pp. 128-126

Davidson, Kris. "Los Angeles: Capturing the Spirit of Folklórico Dancing." *National Geographic Traveller: Photography Magazine*, UK edition. November 2016, Cover.

Smith, Oliver and Davidson, Kris. "Great Escape: Colombia." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. December 2016, pp. 59-61; 62-73

Nelson, Andrew and Davidson, Kris. "Like A Local: I Love New Orleans." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. May 2015, pp. 55-58

Savka, Natalya and Davidson, Kris. "Enough Is Enough." *Sierra*. May/June 2015, pp. 50-56

Larwood, Christa and Davidson, Kris. "Great Escape: Texas." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. June 2015, pp. 47-49; 50-61

Nelson, Andrew and Davidson, Kris. "The Come Back: Ten Years After Tragedy an Undeclared New Orleans Draws a Fresh Generation of Bon Vivants." *National Geographic Traveler*. August 2015, pp. 58-67

Nelson, Andrew and Davidson, Kris. "The Insider: New Orleans, Louisiana." *National Geographic Traveler*. August 2015, pp. 68

# KRISTIN R. DAVIDSON CURRICULUM VITAE

Alan, David and Davidson, Kris. "Paper Trails: In Which Our Protagonist Journeys to the American Deep South in Search of Harper Lee — and Catfish." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. August 2015, pp. 106-107

Davidson, Kris. "Globetrotter: New Orleans Ten Years After Katrina." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. September 2015, pp. 23

Thomas, Orla and Davidson, Kris. "On-Strip — Off-Strip: Explore the Bright Lights of Las Vegas Boulevard." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. September 2015, pp. 64-75

Whitley, David and Davidson, Kris. "End of the Line." *National Geographic Traveller*, UK edition. October 2015, pp. 102-110

Davidson, Kris. "A Flavor Immersion in Louisiana Bayou Country." *NOLA's Backyard*. October 2015, Cover

Davidson, Kris. "Contributors: Kris Davidson." *National Geographic Traveler*. May 2014 pp. 6

Canning, Amanda and Davidson, Kris. "Love Letters to New Orleans." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. May 2014, pp. 94-101

Davidson, Kris. "In My Case." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. May 2014, pp. 23

Davidson, Kris. "Make It Happen: New Orleans." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. May 2014, pp. 105-106

Miller-Bouchet, Ceil and Davidson, Kris. "Over There: A Hundred Years After the Start of World War I, the Yanks Are Coming Over Again." *National Geographic Traveler*. May 2014, pp. 46-54

Miller-Bouchet, Ceil and Davidson, Kris. "The Insider: Lorraine, France." *National Geographic Traveler*. May 2014, pp. 55

Nelson, Andrew and Davidson, Kris. "The Weirdest Country in the World: Homegrown, Unique, and Thoroughly Wonderful, Louisiana Has a Character all its Own." *National Geographic Traveler*. October 2014, pp. 84-92

Nelson, Andrew and Davidson, Kris. "The Insider: Louisiana." *National Geographic Traveler*. October 2014, pp. 93

Glusac, Elaine and Davidson, Kris. "Where the Wild Things Are." *National Geographic Traveler*. January 2013, pp. 3-6

Davidson, Kris. "Long Weekend: Creole Heritage in New Orleans." *Lonely Planet Traveller* UK edition. February 2013, pp. 104

Kris Davidson. "A Return to the Big Easy." *Ultratravel*. October 2013, pp. 42

Orcutt, April and Davidson, Kris. "Range Rover." *National Geographic Traveler*. October/November 2013, pp. 1-7

# KRISTIN R. DAVIDSON CURRICULUM VITAE

Davidson, Kris. "Contents: Range Rover." *National Geographic Traveler*. October/November 2013

Ragland, Gigi and Davidson, Kris. "Louisiana's Classic Cajun Dish: Dirty Rice Comes Clean." *National Geographic Traveler*. November 2013, pp. 46

Canning, Amanda and Davidson, Kris. "Bienvenu en Louisiane." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. December 2013, pp. 84-94

Davidson, Kris. "Make It Happen: Louisiana." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. December 2013, pp. 95-96

Hudson, Shanley and Davidson, Kris. "Soul of the South." *Virgin Australia*. February 2012, pp. 45, 62-68

Reid, Robert and Davidson, Kris. "On the Road." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. September 2012, pp. 72-81

Davidson, Kris. "In this Issue: Dishing in New Orleans." *National Geographic Traveler*. November 2012, pp. 4

Davidson, Kris. "The Neighborhood: Lower Garden District, New Orleans." *National Geographic Traveler*. November 2012, pp. 22

Vlahides, John and Davidson, Kris. "The Perfect Trip: Florida." *Lonely Planet Traveller*, UK edition. December 2011, pp. 58-69

Davidson, Kris. "Queen of the Nile." *GGU: The Magazine of Golden Gate University*. Spring 2010, Cover.

Camarena, Adriana and Davidson, Kris. "San Francisco: La Guerilla Verde." *Travesías*. May 2010, pp. 82-90

## PUBLICATIONS | EDITORIAL ASSIGNMENT WORK ONLINE

Davidson, Kris. "Here Be Radioactive Dragons." *Red Planet Bound*. June 29, 2023. <https://www.marssociety.org/red-planet-bound/2023/06/29/here-be-radioactive-dragons-and-other-stories/>

Davidson, Kris. "Photo Story: California's Surreal Deserts." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. April 9, 2019. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2019/03/photo-story-californias-surreal-deserts>

Davidson, Kris. "Photography: Fireside Self Portrait." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. February 25, 2019. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2018/02/photography-fireside-self-portrait>

Kennedy Duckett, Maryellen and Davidson, Kris. "A Local's Guide to San Diego." *National Geographic*, online. October 22, 2018. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/sponsor-content-local-guide-to-san-diego>



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Kennedy Duckett, Maryellen and Davidson, Kris. "Sights and Bites: What to Eat While Touring San Diego, California." *National Geographic*, online. October 15, 2018. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/sponsor-content-sights-and-bites-san-diego>

Kennedy Duckett, Maryellen and Davidson, Kris. "Seven Reason to Visit San Diego Now." *National Geographic*, online. October 8, 2018. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/sponsor-content-top-reasons-to-visit-san-diego>

Nerberg, Susan and Davidson, Kris. "The Best of Must-See Montreal." *National Geographic*, online. November 6, 2017. <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/must-see-things-to-do-montreal-quebec>

Davidson, Kris. "Photography: How to Shoot Dancers in Motion." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. January 25, 2017. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2017/01/photography-how-to-shoot-dancers-in-motion>

Davidson, Kris. "Post-Production: Adjusting Highlights and Shadows." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. July 24, 2016. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2016/07/post-production-adjusting-shadows-and-highlights>

Davidson, Kris. "Photo Story: Cacao Harvesting in Ecuador." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. September 22, 2016. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2016/09/pictures-cacao-harvesting-ecuador>

Davidson, Kris. "In Oaxaca for Day of the Dead." *National Geographic*, UK edition online. November 2, 2017. <https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/travel/2017/11/pictures-oaxacas-day-dead>

## SELECT COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMMISSIONS

|      |                                                     |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 2018 | BODE Hotels                                         |
| 2018 | SurveyMonkey                                        |
| 2016 | Bay Club                                            |
| 2015 | FINE Design Group                                   |
| 2014 | Ford Motor Company                                  |
| 2013 | Community Bank (Louisiana)                          |
| 2013 | Kimpton Hotels + Restaurants                        |
| 2011 | Mayway Corporation                                  |
| 2010 | Semester At Sea   Institute for Shipboard Education |
| 2009 | MTV Networks                                        |
| 2007 | Semester At Sea   Institute for Shipboard Education |

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

|      |                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019 | Committee member of the American Red Cross fund-raiser gala event in San Francisco; Created a photography experience package that raised \$16,000 for disaster relief |
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## SOFTWARE SKILLS

Adobe Suite (High Proficiency): Photoshop (including Generative AI), Bridge, InDesign, Lightroom (Classic and CC), Camera Raw

Adobe Suite (Knowledgeable): Premiere Pro, After Effects, Illustrator, Adobe Dimension

Generative AI Expertise: Engaged in research and creative application of Adobe Firefly and Photoshop's Generative AI tools

Additional Tools: MadMapper (Projection Mapping)

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

College Art Association of America (CAA), member since 2023

The Mars Society, member since 2021

International Visual Literacy Association (IVLA), member since 2020

New Orleans Photo Alliance (NOPA), member since 2014

Society for Photographic Education (SPE), member since 2013

American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP), member since 2005

National Press Photographers Association (NPPA), member since 2005

## LANGUAGES

Swedish (native); English (native); Spanish (intermediate)