

Petra Johnson (PhD) is an independent artist based at Lijiang Studio, Jixiang Village, Yunnan and the Department of Design & Innovation, Tongji University, Shanghai until August 2020. She has worked as lecturer in Contextual Studies in the UK (2001-2002, Dudley College) and China (2002-2006, College of Fine Arts, Shanghai University). From 2004 to 2006 she acted as artist mentor for 'artistlink China-UK', a co-operation between the British Council and the Arts Council.

Petra has exhibited at the German Pavilion at the EXPO 2010, at the Shanghai Biennale in 2012/13, at Art Berlin in 2013 and by invitation of artist and curator Qiu Zhijie she has contributed to the Zhongshan Park Project in Xiamen; in Taidong, Taiwan and in Shanghai. In her solo exhibitions - Dartington, UK 2007; amspace, Shanghai 2008; Zendai Museum, Zhujiyajiao, China 2011; Railway Art Centre, Taidong 2013; ReformerART, Shanghai, 2016; D & I, Tongji University, Shanghai 2017; Shanghai Glass Museum 2019 (with Olga Merekina); - she explores movement modes through the affective landscape by combining choreographic installations with walking projects.

Petra has also initiated two long-term research collectives:

The Screen Collective (2016) has held a number of high-profile public panels in Shanghai at Chronos Art Centre, Tongji University and Himalaya Museum; in Singapore at Nanyang Technological University and in Beijing (2018) with Steph DeBoers from Indiana University at the Media Architecture Biennale. (see also <https://www.leoalmanac.org/on-adjacency-infrastructural-tactics-for-urban-screens-in-transit-shanghai-version-stephanie-deboer/>)

The Movement Research Group (2018) is an independent post-doctoral research team and consists of anthropologist and dancer Marceau Chenault (East China Normal University) and animation artist Zhang Yinan (Tongji University). Our performance work has been shown at the Clore Gallery at SOAS, London.

Johnson's current dual role as resident artist in both a city (in Professor Zhou Hongtao's Making Lab at D & I, Tongji University, Shanghai) and a village (Jixiang Village near Lijiang, Yunnan) enables her to deepen research in the use of technologies past and present.

In 2018 Johnson devised a concept for artist led residencies in a rural environment. '*Mapping the Affective Landscape*' brought together artists from different disciplines for a four week period and encouraged them to think of the locality as their curator. Spread over the entire year, these altogether four blocks of residencies hosted mature artists as well as recent graduates from all over the world during different stages of the agricultural calendar. In order to focus the artists' attention on the subtly changing relationship between their perception and the locality, each block was framed into a week of landing, a week of grounding, a week of finding and finally a week of founding: see also <http://www.lijiangstudio.org/mappingtheaffectivelandscape>.

This project laid the foundation for the 2019 group project: *A-LLA-LA-LEI* (see <https://lijiangstudio.org/a-lla-la-lei-intro>) which curates activities in three villages around Lashihai and explores points of convergence between art and agriculture. It addresses the following questions:

1. *How to create an environment that fine-tunes the ability to note and to disseminate local knowledge?*
2. *How to maximise traffic of knowledge from the rural to the urban, so it changes the city?*

This year's residents and co-researchers include an anthropologist from India, a landscape sureyor, a farmer from the US, a leading professional at the Royal Academy of Art, London; musicians (US, South America, China and Japan); dancers (Japan, Russia), visual artists (London, Rome, Amsterdam) and professionals with backgrounds in architecture/urban planning (China).

Education:

BA (Hon)	Wolverhampton University	English Literature/Design History
MA not completed	Dartington College	Devised Theatre/Choreography
PhD	Oxford Brookes University	Social Sculpture

Publications:

Kirby, S. (ed) 2006	<i>Artist links 2002-2006</i>	London: Arts Council/British Council
Kiyak Yingin, A.(ed) 2011	<i>made in sishane</i>	Istanbul :Salt
Duxbury, N. (ed) 2013	<i>Animation of Public Space through the Arts</i>	Coimbra: Al Medina
Huang, Z. (ed) 2014	<i>Composition of the Ordinary</i>	Shanghai: Urban China
Saper, C. (ed) 2015	<i>Mapping Culture Multimodally</i>	Hyperrhiz: New Media Cultures, US
Swatch (2016)	<i>Faces and Traces</i> Issue 2, 2016 p.113	Swatch Art Peace Hotel Shanghai
Ni Mingqing & Zhu Mingjie (ed) 2017	<i>Open Your Space</i>	Tongji University Press
Lijiang Studio (2018)	<i>Mapping the Affective Landscape</i> http://www.lijiangstudio.org/mappingtheaffectivelandscape	Chin/Engl
Lijiang Studio (2019)	<i>A-lla-lla-lei</i> https://lijiangstudio.org/a-lla-la-lei-intro	Chin/Engl
Lu, Sipei (2021)	https://ecoartasia.net/LJS/LJS_eng.html	Hongkong University
China Academy of Art (2021)	http://sdi.caa.edu.cn/youngtoyoung/index_debug.html?year=2021&detailid=2021-A1#/gallery/detail	

Recent Exhibitions/Performances

Tongji University, D & I (2019)	<i>On Waiting with Screens in Transit</i> Exhibition with Xu Zhifeng and Step DeBoers <i>Becoming Time</i>
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Performance with Marceau Chenault a.o.

Shanghai Museum of Glass (2019) *Six Movement Variations*
Concept and Choreography with Olga Merekina
<https://www.chanceartfoundation.org/copy-of?lang=en>

Public Panels and Symposia

Sacks, S. (2021) **Kassel21 Social Sculpture Lab**, Research presentation
Neue Galerie / Documenta Archiv project, Germany

Duxbury, N (convenor) 2014 Mapping Culture Coimbra University, Portugal
Presentation *Composing the Ordinary*

BoDing, B. (curator) 2016 *Mediated Body and embodied technologies*
Chronus Art Centre, Shanghai
https://www.goethe.de/ins/cn/de/sta/sha/ver.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&event_id=20771032

Shanghai Project 2017 *Screens as Sites of Public Discourse*
Envision Pavilion, Himalaya Museum, Shanghai.

Symposium (2017) InDialogue Nottingham Art Exchange, UK
Presentation *A Montage of Small Movement*
<https://indialogue2014.wordpress.com/documentation-2016/>

Symposium (2018) *Emergent Visions: Adjacency and Urban Screens*
Screens Collective Presentation
The School of Art, Design and Media at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
<https://www.emergentvisions.net/speaker/the-screens-collective/>

Symposium (2018) *Art, Materiality and Representation*
Movement Research Presentation *Poetic Encounters with Algorithm*
British Museum and SOAS, London

Biennial (2018) Media Architecture Biennial 2018
Screens Collective Presentation *On the Way: On the Geographic Affects of Waiting in Urban Transit*
Central Academy of Fine Art, Beijing

Practitioner Forum (2018) Talk: *On mapping and cognitive webs*
China Academy of Art, Hangzhou
社会美育国际工作论坛暨实践者大会
地图制作与认知网络, 中国美术学院, 杭州

Symposia (2019) *'Digital Conservation and Innovation Symposium for Art and Cultural Heritage'*
Presentation *Remote Sensing: Technologies of distance and modest mobile techniques*
Tongji University and China Academy of Art, Shanghai

Artist Residencies:

Lijiang Studio, Yunnan Province, China 2006, 2017, May 2018- May 2020

m&de research residency, Dartington, UK, 2006

Zendai Museum, Zhuji, 2011

Taidong Art Museum, Taiwan 2013

Galerie Marzahn, Berlin, 2013

Kunstforum, Cologne, 2012, 2014, 2015

Swatch Art Peace Hotel, Shanghai 2015-2016

ReformerART, Shanghai 2016

Making Lab, Department of Design & Innovation, Tongji University, Shanghai (2017-ongoing)

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www.petrajohnson.org (2011)

www.walk-with-me.org.uk (2012-2017)

<https://lijiangstudio.org/a-lla-la-lei-intro> (2017-2020)

www.theshapeofsound.art/ (2021- ongoing)

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<https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/835089/1019931>