

# Cynthia Winings Gallery

ART 465: Studio Art Internship

# Overview of Experience

My internship at the Cynthia Winings Gallery provided me with a number of valuable experiences, including:

- The opportunity to compare past gallery experience with this professional experience
- Learning the ins and outs of running an art gallery, including management and finances
- Discovering efficient ways to curate and install shows
- Using organizational and technical skills to manage archives, mailing list, event information, and more
- Networking with artists and visitors alike, all while having valuable dialogues about work presented in the gallery space

# Events



Of the events the gallery hosted this summer, I was able to work both the openings for *The Invention of Atmosphere*, and *Visual Breathing*. In addition to this, I participated in assisting and in discussion at artist talks for each of these shows, with artists Ingrid Ellison, and Lari Washburn.

Pictured: opening for *The Invention of Atmosphere*

# Events



At said events, tasks included: setting up and taking down refreshment tables and serving guests, to discussing work with guests and answering questions, encouraging sales, and assisting the artists with whatever they may need.

These were wonderful opportunities to meet local professionals!

Pictured: artists meet and greet at the opening of *Visual Breathing*

# Show Installation



Pictured: mid-installation of *Visual Breathing*

Assisting with the installation of shows not only provided me with a number of different methods for hanging work effectively, but also offered insight on different hardware options for hanging. In addition, I was able to learn the importance of where a work is placed in relation to other pieces, as well as the essentials of lighting.

# Show Installation



Another skill observed and learned during the installation of various exhibition was how to properly distribute light in a gallery space.

Pictured: rearranging lights in preparation for *The Invention of Atmosphere* show opening

# The Sculpture Garden

A major project for the Cynthia Winings Gallery this summer was the installation of a new sculpture garden behind the gallery. This had been planned for many years prior, and its success required:

- Numerous planning and organization-based discussions
- Putting together a clean-up team to prepare the outdoor space
- Clearing out trees, brush, weeds, and so on in the space
- Replacing rotten steps and repainting the staircase
- Placing new sculptures in the space, and promoting its opening

# The Sculpture Garden



Pictured: sculpture garden space on the first cleanup day





# The Sculpture Garden



Pictured: Completed staircase and sculpture garden space, with the installation of first sculpture (by Lunaform)

# Other Tasks



Among these larger tasks, smaller promotional tasks were completed as well, including working on designing and distributing flyers, and painting a sign for gallery events.

I was often able to sit the desk and greet visitors as well, answering questions and assisting with sales as needed.

# Conclusion

This internship was a wonderful learning opportunity that allowed me to:

- Learn in greater depth the details of running an independent gallery
- Develop networking and communication skills
- Develop technical skills necessary for show curation and installation
- Work closely with local professionals
- Foster strong bonds with the gallery owner, artists, and visitors