

Johanna Gilje

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Education

MA Spatial Strategies	Weißensee Kunsthochschule Berlin , 2016-2019 (enrolled); thesis defended March 2025, Cumulative grade: 1,1 (3.9 GPA equivalent)
BA Critical Cultural Studies	The Evergreen State College , Olympia, WA (USA), 2011-2014 <i>Interdisciplinary Focus: "Body in Context: Interdisciplinary Art and Critical Theory"</i>
Post-baccalaureate year	The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA (USA), 2014
Semester abroad	Advanced Spanish Language, University of Havana, Cuba, 2011
Transfer	Fairhaven College at Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA (USA) <i>Credits in visual art, performance, psychology and Spanish (2009-2011)</i>

Service

2027	Elected Deputy Board Member, Nordic Summer University
2017–present	Co-founder and Collective Member, Kollektiv Quotidien
2017–2019	Elected President of the Board, Association for Performance Art Berlin (APA-B)
2017-2018	Elected Secretary of the Board, APA-B

Employment

2024-present	Freelance Editor, Independent Artist & Researcher, Berlin
2022–2024	Editor & Communications Coordinator, SAP Global Public Relations, Berlin
2019–2022	Communications Manager, Tag Communications Services on behalf of SAP, Berlin
2016–2019	Working Student, SAP Partner Public Relations, Berlin
2014–2016	Independent Artist & Editor, Berlin

Theses

2025	MA Thesis: The Imaginary Shape of Community: A Reflection on the Edges of the Real World ; Thesis graded with highest distinction: 1,0 (4.0 equivalent)
2014	Post-baccalaureate project: <i>Body, Process, Archive / the desire to contain and the inevitability of rupture</i>

Publications

Authored Books

2016	the desire to contain and the inevitability of rupture . Essays and interviews with Alice Wynne, Amjad Faur, Anders Rodin, Ben Kapp, Benjamin Michaelis, Celi Tamayo-Lee, Christopher Claiborne Salveter, Clel Howard, Evan Blackwell, Ginsy Stone, Jehrin Alexandria, Kathleen Eamon, Miranda Mellis, Nathaniel T. Wolfkirk, Scot Nichols, Tath Haver, Taylor Dow Olympia, WA: The Evergreen State College Press.
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Edited Books

2027	Activist Ecologies , co-edited with Kollektiv Quotidien (Elisa T. Bertuzzo, Prerna Bishnoi, and Uroš Pajović), Hamburg: adocs. Forthcoming.
2020	Lefebvre for Activists , co-edited with Kollektiv Quotidien (Elisa T. Bertuzzo, Uroš Pajović, Victoria Claire Anderson, Lin Nowicki, and Daniele Tognozzi). Hamburg: adocs.

Reception

- 2020 *Lefebvre for Activists*. [Reviewed by Lilli Rast](#) in "Lefebvre für alle: Aus den Beiträgen und Debatten des Symposiums 'Alltag ein Tag aus' entstand das Buch 'Lefebvre for activists.'" *Común: Magazin für stadtpolitische Interventionen*, no. 4 (December).

Contributions to Edited Volumes

- 2021 "A Reflection on Forms of Durational Relating." In *Institution is a Verb*, edited by Panoply Performance Lab Founder Esther Neff, Ayana Evans, Tsedaye Makonnen and Elizabeth Lamb. Brooklyn, NY: The Operating System.
- 2020 "What is Activism? From Under, From Over." Chapter in *Lefebvre for Activists*, edited by Kollektiv Quotidien. Hamburg: adocs.
- 2019 "Body Process Archive." Contribution to *Artists' Books for Everything*, edited by Weserburg Museum für moderne Kunst. Bremen.
- 2015 "Residue." Visual essays in *reciprocal turn: journal for artistic practice and art theory*, no. 1: Art as a Place of Menschlichkeit, edited by Mira Hirtz and Johanna Ziebritzki. Berlin.

Public Writing & Conducted Interviews

- 2016 "[A Daily Moment](#)" interview with Kata Kovács and Tom O'Doherty about project Minute/Year, January 22.
- 2015 [Artist interview series](#) for *Month of Performance Art Berlin Festival Blog* with Philip Kevin Brehse, Eva Giannakopoulou and Rilène Markopoulou, Leena Kela, Till Baumann and Anaïs Héraud, Katie Lee Dunbar, Nathalie Mba Bikoro, John Court, and Camilla Graff Junior.
- 2014 Artist interview series for [AFFECT 2014 dossier](#), Agora Collective Berlin with Broken Dimanche Press. Berlin with Leon Eixenberger, Victor Remere, Maia Nichols, Luda Lima, Vinzenz Reinecke, and Jieun Kim.

Events & Curatorial

- August 2026 Co-organizer of "[Seeds of Ecological Struggle](#)" with Kollektiv Quotidien, a 2-day practitioners' workshop on environmental activism and care with contributors to *Activist Ecologies* and the public at Spore Initiative, Berlin
- 2017–2019 Coordinator of "Sharing Practices" workshop series for APA-B in Berlin
- May 2017 Co-organizer of symposium "[Alltageintagaus: Ein Lefebvre Symposium über das Recht auf Stadt](#)" with Kollektiv Quotidien and Weißensee Kunsthochschule Berlin
- 2013–2016 Curator of 6 group exhibitions in Olympia, WA (USA) & Berlin, Germany
- [Featured in interview](#) with Homemade Culture Blog, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart

Select Scholarly & Artistic Presentations

- 2026 "The Negative Shape of Community" conference presentation. [Circle 1: Studies in Remoteness](#): "TIME WORK. Debt, inheritance, and intergenerational practice." Nordic Summer University, Saulkrasti, Latvia.
- 2025 "The Imaginary Shape of Community" thesis presentation at the Weißensee Rundgang, Berlin.
- 2014 "Curating as Social Choreography" artist talk as part of the ConVERGE Residency at [Ponderosa Movement and Discovery](#), Stolzenhagen.
- 2014 "Shining Different Colored Light on What Already Exists" artist talk at The Evergreen State College lecture hall in Olympia, WA.

Book Launches

- 2020 *Lefebvre for Activists* [book launch](#) at Hopscotch Reading Room, Berlin
- 2016 *the desire to contain and the inevitability of rupture* performative book launch at Grüntaler 9 as part of the Project Space Festival, Berlin

Artistic Work

Select Solo Projects

- 2019 *All Together Now*. Master thesis presentation (practical work) of video collage and audio installation based on 59 interviews as part of [Widerständigkeit](#) exhibition at the Haus der Statistik, Berlin.
- 2017 [the desire to contain and the inevitability of rupture #3](#). 3-day performance as research duets with invited participants Camilla Graff Junior, Janine Eisenächer, Adriana Disman, Jon Konkol, No Collective (you nakai, et al.), Lindsey Drury, Joél Verwimp, and Jörn J. Burmester. grüntaler 9, Berlin.
- 2017 *Internal Research for External Conditions*. 1:1 performance with video. Australian Embassy. Berlin.

- 2016 *Like Porcelain Dogs that Face Each Other but Don't Speak*. Performance installation and memory game as part of [While We Work](#) exhibition. AFFECT residency, Berlin.
- 2016 *the desire to contain and the inevitability of rupture*. 9-hour durational conversation as performance in a flooded gallery space with invited participants Ilya Noé, Maria F. Scaroni, Anja Ibsch, Teena Lange, Raegan Truax and Stephanie Maher. grüntaler9 as part of the [Project Space Festival](#), Berlin.
- 2016 *Mechanisms for Memory, Things in Retrospect*. 3-hour conversation piece. Lütticher Salon, Berlin.
- 2016 *Structures are for Ideations What Birdhouses are for Birds*. Performance video at [come undone](#) performance series. GlogaurAir. Berlin.
- 2015 *Everything Around the Thing*. 3-hour performance piece. [3am Flutgraben](#), Berlin.
- 2015 *Prayer for the Unconscious*. Memory ritual performance at [Homefest](#). Bucharest, Romania.
- 2015 *Studies in Choreographing Attention*. 1:1 performance. Mime Centrum, Meinblau & [Leibig 12](#). Berlin.
- 2014 *Body Process Archive*. Handmade artist book and video installation as part of Evergreen State College post-baccalaureate thesis show. The Olympia Press Building, Olympia, WA.
- 2014 *Thoughts on Loneliness*. Performance installation based on interviews. Ponderosa. Stolzenhagen.
- 2014 *the desire to contain* artist book exhibition at Kultur Propaganda. Neukölln Arts Walk, Berlin.
- 2013 *Unreconciled*. Sound and fabric installation as part of senior thesis exhibition "On, With, and Against." Evergreen Gallery. Olympia, WA.

Select Collaborations

- 2018 *Public Pool* as part of [AUSUFERN: outlândish*](#) Uferstudios Program. Grüntaler 9. Berlin.
- 2017 *Matters of Act* with No Collective and Already Not Yet Press. Grüntaler 9. Berlin.
- 2016 *Against Forensics* with Dr. Lindsey Drury as a part of NoMAD House Berlin, Theater Discounter. Berlin.
- 2016 *The Weight of Words* with Manuela Tessi. Lake Studios, Maizner 7, Lacuna. Berlin.
- 2015 *Unorganized Bodies and Radical Mechanism* with Diethild Meier. Ufer Studios. Berlin.
- 2015 *Resistance and Resilience: Do I do?* with Panoply Performance Lab. Meinblau Projektraum. Berlin.
- 2014 *House Music* with No Collective and Dr. Lindsey Drury. Mainzer7 & CARPA4 Colloquium. Helsinki.

Residencies & Performance Training

- 2016 *While We Work: A State of Temporary Affairs*, [AFFECT Residency](#). Agora Collective. Berlin.
- 2015 Independent Research Residency. [Ponderosa Movement and Discovery](#). Stolzenhagen.
- 2014 ConVERGE Artist Residency. Ponderosa Movement and Discovery. Stolzenhagen.
- 2014 [Lake Studios](#) Resident. Friedrichshagen.
- 2014 [SNDQ](#) (School for New Dance Development) intensive, scholarship recipient. Amsterdam.
- 2014 & 2013 [SFDI](#) (Seattle Festival of Dance Improvisation) intensive. Seattle, WA.
- 2013 [FRESH Dance Intensive](#), La Alternativa. San Francisco, CA.
- 2012 [P.O.R.C.H. training program](#), work study. Ponderosa Movement and Discovery. Stolzenhagen.

Internships

- 2014 Assistant Artist, AFFECT Residency Program, Agora Arts Collective, Berlin, Germany
- 2013 Curatorial Research Intern, [Portland Institute for Contemporary Art](#) (PICA) | Portland, Oregon (USA)
- 2013 Communications & Event Intern, [iLAND Symposium](#), The New School | New York City, New York (USA)

Further Education

- 2026
- Language Course: C2 German, Volkshochschule Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Sept 2025-May 2026
 - Reading Group: Reading Urban Spaces: Art & Urban Theory, ZK/U, Feb-May 2026
 - Training: Communicating with Editors and Peer Reviewers, De Gruyter Brill, March 2026
 - Reading Group: Ecologies of Care | Environmental Humanities Research Hub, March 2026
 - Seminar Series: Intentional Communities | Intentional Communities Research Network, January 2026
- 2025
- Intensive Language Course: C1 German for Professionals (20hrs/week) Volkshochschule Friedrichshagen-Kreuzberg, Nov 2024-April 2025
 - Career Coaching for Academics, TERTIA Berufsförderung GmbH & Co. KG, Berlin, Aug-Sept 2025

Languages

English (Native), German (Fluent – Certified C1 Telc), Spanish (Advanced)

Date updated: 12 September 2026