

ICE Annual Report FY18

I. OVERVIEW

Mission

Ideas for Creative Exploration (ICE) is a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary creative projects, advanced research and critical discourse in the arts, and for creative applications of technologies, concepts, and practices found across disciplines. It is a collaborative network of faculty, students, and community members from all disciplines of the visual and performing arts in addition to other disciplines in the humanities and sciences. ICE enables all stages of creative activity, from concept and team formation through production, documentation, and dissemination of research.

Support

In FY18 ICE received support from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of the Vice President for Research, and the Graduate School. Throughout its history, ICE has been supported by the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Department of Dance, Department of English, Department of Theatre and Film Studies, Hugh Hodgson School of Music, the Georgia Museum of Art, and the generous support of many volunteers, businesses, and individuals.

Administration

David Saltz is the Executive Director and Mark Callahan is the Artistic Director of ICE.

Advisory Board

Thirteen members of the ICE Advisory Board are appointed by the Executive Director for a three-year renewable term. The Advisory Board gives counsel to the Executive Director on ICE-sponsored programs. The FY18 members are as follows:

George Contini (Theatre and Film Studies)
Chris Cuomo (Women's Studies and Philosophy)
John English (Professor Emeritus, Journalism)
Chris Garvin (Art)
David T Gay (Mathematics)
Hope Hilton (Athens community)
Katherine McGuire (Athens community)
Jed Rasula (English)
Bala Sarasvati (Dance)
Peter Van Zandt Lane (Music)
Meredith Welch-Devine (The Graduate School)
Andrew Zawacki (English)
AC Carter (Student Representative)

See **Appendix A** for the ICE Bylaws.

Graduate Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research

Graduate School Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research foster expanded research activity at UGA and serve as a beacon to the most innovative graduate candidates in the arts. Three assistantships per year are awarded to students entering programs in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies. Assistantship recipients receive two years of funding from the Graduate School, followed by a third year of funding from the appropriate home department in the form of a Departmental Assistantship.

Graduate assistants in their second year are Matthew Flores (Art), Carla Cao (Music), and Rebecca Jackson (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants in their first year are AC Carter (Art), Ciyadh Wells (Music), and Jason Woodworth-Hou (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants starting in August 2018 are Alex McClay (Art), Kelly Catlin (Music), and Phil Brankin (Theatre and Film Studies).

See **Appendix B** for a report of Graduate Assistant activities.

Partnerships

The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts is a showcase for faculty innovation and achievement. It facilitates intellectual exchange with the University and the public by the encouragement of interdisciplinary activity, which extends to the sciences and other orders of knowledge. The mission of the Willson Center is to promote research and creativity in the humanities and arts. It supports faculty through research grants, lectures, symposia, publications, visiting scholars, visiting artists, collaborative instruction, public conferences, exhibitions, and performances. It is committed to academic excellence and public impact.

Idea Lab is a UGA student organization committed to providing an open, interdisciplinary platform for engagement with topics in arts.

Watershed UGA facilitates the use of the UGA campus as a living laboratory to advance sustainability and environmental stewardship through teaching, research, service, and university operations.

The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) an interdisciplinary research and training unit that focuses on environmental conservation and sustainability.

The Office of Sustainability coordinates, communicates, and advances sustainability initiatives at UGA in the areas of teaching, research, service and outreach, student engagement, and campus operations.

UGA is a partner of the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru), an alliance committed to transforming research universities to ensure the greatest possible institutional support for arts-integrative research, curricula, programs and creative practice between the arts, sciences, and other disciplines. It is committed to supporting the growing body of high-quality scholarly and creative production most attainable when disciplines are free to experiment within and across their boundaries.

II. PROJECTS and EVENTS

ICE Conversation Series

In FY18 ICE continued a series of public events focusing on topics related to creativity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and research in the arts.

Dance Exchange Summer Institute September 6

A presentation by ICE Graduate Research Assistant Carla Cao about her participation in the Dance Exchange Summer Institute “Artmaking in Action: Evolving Creative Practices” with movement-based activities to ignite inquiry and inspire change.

Computation, Fascination, and Interaction
September 20

In a world surrounded by data, what are the ways in which computational thinking and artistic thinking can meaningfully intersect? Connor Trotter (Computer Science and Art) shared his CURO Summer Research Fellowship examination of various convergences of art and technology to make the case for programmers as artists, and artists as programmers.

Arts + Environment Project Ideas Session
October 4

An open session to learn about arts + environment project funding opportunities at UGA. Kevin Kirsche and Tyra Byers from the Office of Sustainability and Michael Marshall from the Lamar Dodd School of Art shared information about Campus Sustainability Grants and the new Social Ecology Studio Project Pilot Grants. Participants received feedback on project ideas, met potential collaborators, and learned more about available resources.

Will Alexander
January 18

Will Alexander works in multiple genres. In addition to being a poet, he is also a novelist, essayist, aphorist, playwright, philosopher, visual artist, and pianist. His books include *Asia and Haiti*, *The Sri Lankan Loxodrome*, and *Compression and Purity*. Alexander has taught at many colleges and universities, including the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics, the University of California, and Hofstra University, among others. His honors and awards include a Whiting Fellowship for Poetry, a California Arts Council Fellowship and the 2016 Jackson Poetry Prize. Will Alexander's visit was supported in part by the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts and the Creative Writing Program in the department of English.

CV Workshop
February 7

A CV and resume workshop to share practical skills and advice for creative people working across disciplines.

Bound to Fail: Aesthetic Possibilities of Failure
February 21

Failure is an inherent part of every artistic practice, but how can it be used in a productive manner? Matthew Flores, MFA Candidate in Photography and ICE Graduate Research Assistant led a conversation on failure, mistakes, accidents, and defeats, and how these can turn from research problems into aesthetic solutions.

Viva Arte Viva
February 28

John English, UGA professor Emeritus, artist, and veteran freelance journalist shared a presentation of his coverage of one of the biggest art shows in the world: the 2017 Venice Biennale, *Viva Arte Viva*.

Inlets Foundation for Experimental Practices
March 28

Inlets Foundation for Experimental Practices presented on their artistic practices, aesthetic philosophy, and concert programming. A Miami-based organization, Inlets organizes concert series that explore radical forms of sonic expression and unconventional performance contexts. They perform their own works and that of other experimental artists from around the world. Their repertoire redefines the concert format, the role of the artist, and the relationship between artist, performer, and audience member. Many of their pieces are performed outdoors or in casual environments from inside retail stores to inside cars. Their art often has the effect of highlighting the profundity and complexity behind even the simplest performative actions and relationships.

Idea Lab Mini Grant Program

The Idea Lab student organization partnered with ICE to facilitate a mini grant program modeled after the ICE Project Grant program. Idea Lab members created a call for proposals, communications plan, public information sessions, selection committee, and budget strategy. Three projects were selected based on their creative merit, extent of collaborative and interdisciplinary activity, and feasibility. Special consideration was given to projects with themes about, by, or for marginalized populations.

Georgia Prison Beekeepers

Lead applicant: Cristina Echezarreta (Art)

A collaboration of a students, faculty, and staff in Art and Entomology with the Georgia Prison Beekeeping program to explore prisoners' relationship to nature through the arts.

Perfect Pantry

Lead applicant: Hillary Jourdan (Agriculture)

A collaboration of students and faculty in Agriculture and Art with the Atlanta Community Food Bank to develop arts-based approaches to food assistance.

North Oconee River Project

ICE Graduate Research Assistant Carla Cao led an interdisciplinary project team to explore rights of nature laws that grant legal personhood to natural entities and to investigate how legal personhood could be granted to the North Oconee River. With initial support from an Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru) Student Challenge Grant, the team created a series of events, a website, publication, outreach activities with Stroud Elementary School, and drafted an Athens-Clarke County Community Bill of Rights and Rights of Nature Ordinance in collaboration with the UGA Environmental Law Practicum class. The project received additional support from Watershed UGA, the Social Ecology Studio, and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.

The a2ru Student Challenge Grant team included Berea Antaki (UGA Textiles and Merchandising), Carla Cao (UGA Music Composition), Iva Dimitrova (UGA Mass Media Arts), Nima Hamidi (University of Iowa Music Composition), and Suzie Henderson (UGA Ecology).

Introductory Community Rights Workshop

A workshop at the State Botanical Gardens led by activist Paul Cienfuegos that introduced to Athens the powerful strategies and history of the Community Rights Movement. Since 1999, the Community Rights Movement has helped hundreds of communities pass locally-enforceable laws that promote rights of nature, such as the right of ecosystems to flourish and evolve, democratic rights, such as the right of local community to self-government, and workers' rights, such as the right to living wages.

Arts on the River Celebration

A community celebration of visual and performance art to honor the North Oconee River and its right to thrive and be healthy. This event included an exhibition with dance, spoken word, and music at Sandy Creek Park and on the waters of Lake Chapman. The festival and accompanying publication included contributions from Jorge Gomez Abrante, Gabriella Andino, Berea Antaki, Robert Blatt, Jake Blaydes, Carla Cao, Iva Dimitrova, Lindsay Giedl, Suzie Henderson, Dean Rosenthal, Paula Runyon, Taylor Shaw, Olivia Shuler, Chris Taylor, and Manfred Werder.

Surround: An Immersive Experience

Surround was a multidisciplinary experience including performances and an exhibition featuring the work of creatives who blur the lines between genre, venue, and medium specificity, who embrace the unknown, collaboration, and confrontation as it manifests sensually. The project was organized by 2015 Idea Lab Mini Grant recipient Monique Osorio as a continuation of the *Hyphenated American* series and supported in part by the Athens Institute for Contemporary Art (ATHICA). *Surround* was part of the ATHICA series *Beast It!* supported in part through the generous support of The James E. and Betty J. Huffer Foundation, the Athens Area Arts Council, and the Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA also receives support from its partner agency, the National Endowment for the Arts.

Performance Collaborations

The Clown, with Cooper Holmes and music by Monique Osorio featuring Clare Nunley, Emily Cho, JP Brien-Slack, Michael Jarrel, Miller May, Joshua Presley, Dan Phipps, and Pedro Alliprandini.

Concerto for Beverley with Monique Osorio, Sahada Buckley, Sydney Doemel, JP Brien-Slack, Vivian Cheng, Sean Askin, Andrew Short, Nick Martinez, and costumes by Ajmal Millar.

Dance and Music Performance with Emily Koh and Lisa Yaconelli

Improv Performance with Killick Hinds, Stephanie Pharr, and Rafael Villanueva

Musical Ensembles

Lambda Celsius, with AC Carter

Moth Sweat, with Rafael Villanueva and Ryder Seigle

Richard Gumby, with Scott Crossman and oxtthers

Beverley, featuring Monique Osorio, Sahada Buckley, Gabri Ann Dino, Sydney Doemel, and Courtney McCracken with contributions by Melody Stolpp

Cult of Riggonia, with Jeremy Raj, William Datzler, and others

Queen Alex, with Alex Suarez

Head Plethora, with Monique Osorio, John Norris, AC Carter, Sydney Doemel, Sahada Buckley, Gabri Ann Dino, and Bridget Dooley.

Poetry

Chris Lott
Polina Yakovleva
Bridget Dooley
Shamala Gallagher
Paul Cunningham

Visual Art

AC Carter
Kira Hynes
Sara Boden
Margaret Anderson
Jeremy Kiran Fernandes
Rafael Villanueva
Logan Shirah
Jeremy Raj
William Danztler
Nicholette Milhoan
Melody Stolpp
Cal Clements

a2ru Emerging Creatives Student Summit and Challenge Grant

ICE Graduate Research Assistants Ciyadh Wells and Jason Woodworth-Hou were awarded a2ru Travel Grants and additional support from ICE to participate in the a2ru 2018 Emerging Creatives Student Summit, *Spectacle and the Collective Experience*, at Louisiana State University.

The a2ru Emerging Creatives Student Summits bring together students who have an interest in the arts, crossing disciplinary boundaries, and developing collaborative projects. Each year, approximately 120 undergraduate and graduate students attend the summit from a2ru partner universities across the country, along with 20-30 administrators, faculty, and staff. These summits have a strong project-based component with activities such as panel discussions with special guests, keynote speakers, site visits or field trips, performances and exhibitions, networking opportunities, and skill-building experiences built in throughout. The theme “Spectacle and the Collective Experience,” challenged students to broaden and interrogate their understanding of spectacle within the immediate context of Mardi Gras, as well as their own communities and the broader, disciplinary contexts of the arts and sciences.

Student Summit participants were eligible to apply for an a2ru Student Challenge Grant. ICE Graduate Research Assistant Jason Woodworth-Hou was included in the award-winning team to develop a workshop on collaboration. “Makin’ Rain” was awarded \$4,400 plus travel support and will develop a workshop method for honoring the process of creative thought across disciplines. The team also includes Jennifer Ezell (Texas Tech University), Jesus Gonzalez (University of Houston), and Desen Ozkan (Virginia Tech).

Art+Tech Workshops

ICE hosted a series of informal art and technology workshops focusing on the intersection of art and computation. Led by Connor Trotter (Computer Science and Art) the workshops were an extension of his research as a CURO Summer Fellow. Workshop themes included Art and Code, AI and Music, and Language.

Clark Lunberry: Writing on Water

Interdisciplinary artist Clark Lunberry spoke about creating site-specific poetry installations and introduced a new work for the UGA campus. Lunberry is a Professor of English at the University of North Florida and the author of *Sites of Performance: Of Time and Memory* (Anthem Press 2014) and *Writing on Water | Writing on Air* (University of North Florida 2016). His large-scale poems placed on water and windows include recent installations in Oxford, England; Paris, France; Toronto, Canada; Tokyo and Hiroshima, Japan; and Stanford University.

Lunberry created a temporary installation at Lake Herrick, a prominent feature within Oconee Forest Park, which serves as a living laboratory for research in the natural and social sciences. The new work, viewable near the Boardwalk Trail bridge, coincided with a major restoration project at UGA aimed at promoting water quality and enhancing Lake Herrick as an amenity for experiential learning, research, and recreation. His lecture and installation were supported in part by the Helen S. Lanier Chair of the Department of English.

Inlets Ensemble: Circling, Environment, Autonomy

Inlets Ensemble: Circling, Environment, Autonomy was a performative installation by Inlets Ensemble that featured interactive, sonic works concerned with the nature and emergence of an aesthetic event, and the evolving perception and relationship with the event over time. Inlets Foundation for Experimental Practices is a Miami-based artist-run organization emphasizing an expanded approach toward events and publications to foster radical forms of sonic expression. As a performing ensemble, the organization has presented contemporary and historical works of experimental music under the name Inlets Ensemble. The organization has created and participated within a variety of projects in South Florida, including at numerous unconventional locations.

Perfect Pantry (it all starts with a seed)

Perfect Pantry (it all starts with a seed) was a group exhibition and workshop at The Bakery arts venue in Atlanta, organized by 2018 Idea Lab Mini Grant recipient Hillary Jourdan (Agriculture) and consisting of collages, journals, interactive work, and spoken word by those who face food insecurity in metro Atlanta. The exhibition provided an emotional and interactive look into the lives of those experiencing food insecurity. In partnership with the UGA Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication, the Atlanta Community Food bank, and select metro Atlanta food pantries, the project used works of art created by food pantry clients as the platform for food insecure individuals to share their experiences and critiques of food assistance, in the hopes of bringing change to make Atlanta food assistance models more effective.

Arts + Environment

ICE plays a leadership role in arts + environment initiatives at UGA with key partners Watershed UGA, the Center for Integrated Conservation Research (CICR), and the Office of Sustainability. ICE facilitated a summer (2017) pilot program with the support of the Graduate School and CICR. During brief recruitment period 54 applications were received for 12 spots in program from ICON (Integrated Conservation Research PhD program), Art, Theatre and Film Studies, Ecology, College of Environment and Design, English, Genetics, Music, Geology, Romance Languages, Linguistics, and Public Health. In September, the outcomes of the summer pilot program *Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Workshop and Research Study* were compiled in an IRB-approved qualitative research study providing in-depth data about the impact of integrating creative inquiry methods to enhance team research and complex problem-framing. UGA projects were featured in a panel session “Sustainability and the Arts: collaborations to engage diverse audiences in grand challenges” at the 2017 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) national conference. ICE participated in the development of a successful proposal to host the upcoming a2ru national conference (Nov. 1-3, 2018) “Arts Environments: Design, Resilience, and Sustainability.”

XR Research

ICE successfully applied for a Technology Small Grants for Interdisciplinary Programs grant from the Graduate School to support research in extended reality (XR) platforms such as virtual reality, mixed reality, augmented reality, and locative media. With the support of a Technology Small Grant, ICE will extend the growing campus network of XR technologies by creating the first hub with a specific focus on students interested in arts research collaborations. The technology will allow students to experience creative work in VR platforms and support learning activities including the curation and comparative analysis of existing works from around the world, and the review of new projects in progress. ICE will facilitate student access and event programming, support new projects, and work with other units on campus to broaden the range of student perspectives and expertise UGA.

APPENDIX A: ICE BYLAWS

Executive Director

The Executive Director is responsible for the budget and overall direction of ICE. The Executive Director is appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Executive Director reports to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Artistic Director

The Artistic Director is responsible for the daily operation of ICE. The Artistic Director is appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Artistic Director reports to the Executive Director of ICE.

Advisory Board

Members of the Advisory Board are appointed by the Executive Director for a three-year renewable term. There shall be thirteen members. The Advisory Board shall include one student representative. The Advisory Board gives counsel to the Executive Director on ICE- sponsored programs. The Executive Director shall convene the Advisory Board at least three times each academic year. The Executive Director or any member of the Advisory Board may convene a meeting of the board at any time with at least one week of prior notice. A simple majority of the Advisory Board constitutes a quorum.

Grant Selection Committee

Members of the Grant Selection Committee are appointed by the Executive Director, upon recommendation by the Advisory Board. There shall be five members. The committee must contain at least two members of the Advisory Board. The Grant Selection Committee is responsible for the review and ranking of competitive applications following a call for proposals. The Artistic Director shall act as a non-voting chairperson of the committee. The committee shall be dissolved after reporting to the Executive Director.

Amendment Procedures

The Bylaws may be amended by a vote of nine members of the Advisory Board. Amendments to the Bylaws must be submitted to Board members at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken. The ballot may be taken by mail if all members are not present at the designated meeting.

APPENDIX B:

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTS RESEARCH

Background

Graduate students have been at the heart of Ideas for Creative Exploration (ICE) from its inception in 1999. The ICE Project Grant program, a competitive support structure for collaborative research, established a track record of projects initiated by or involving significant contributions from graduate students. Graduate students in the arts are a driving force behind the development of interdisciplinary creative research at UGA, and in 2008 their ongoing participation led to the creation of a special research assistantship administered by ICE.

Graduate School Assistantships in Interdisciplinary Arts Research foster expanded research activity at UGA and serve as a beacon to the most innovative graduate candidates in the arts. Three assistantships per year are awarded to students entering programs in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies. Assistantship recipients receive two years of funding from the Graduate School, followed by a third year of funding from the appropriate home department in the form of a Departmental Assistantship.

Selection Process

Graduate applicants are invited to submit an additional statement with their application materials to be considered for the assistantships. Each one-page statement contains a description of the applicant's research interests and any previous experience in interdisciplinary or collaborative environments.

Graduate Coordinators in Art, Music, and Theatre and Film Studies submit up to five nominees each for the assistantships. A five-member selection committee reviews the nominations and ranks them within each department. Nominees are considered based on their potential to conduct research in accordance with the ICE mission to generate innovative, truly interdisciplinary creative projects and critical discourse in the arts.

The FY18 selection committee included the following members:

Judy Milton, Assistant Dean, Graduate School
David Saltz, Executive Director, ICE
Marla Carlson, Graduate Coordinator, Theatre and Film Studies
Peter Jutras, Graduate Coordinator, Music
Isabelle Wallace, Graduate Coordinator, Art

Research Support Structure

The graduate assistantship awards require a sixteen-hour per week work commitment. During the first two years of study, recipients develop creative research under the auspices of ICE. Assistantship duties include the student's own collaborative work across disciplines and facilitating projects and proposals with faculty, students, and community members. Individual departments assign duties during additional years of study.

Current Graduate Assistants

Graduate assistants in their second year are Matthew Flores (Art), Carla Cao (Music), and Rebecca Jackson (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants in their first year are AC Carter (Art), Ciyadh Wells (Music), and Jason Woodworth-Hou (Theatre and Film Studies).

Graduate assistants starting in August 2018 are Alex McClay (Art), Kelly Catlin (Music), and Phil Brankin (Theatre and Film Studies).

Contributions to Interdisciplinary Arts Research

Graduate assistants play an integral role in providing administrative support to ICE, facilitating interdisciplinary events that make research in the arts available to the UGA and Athens communities, participating in faculty-led projects, and creating self-initiated projects. Highlights of FY18 include the following:

- Jason Woodworth-Hou collaborated with an interdisciplinary team of students to create an a2ru Student Challenge Grant proposal *Makin' Rain* which was selected by a2ru to receive \$4,400 in project funding and additional support for travel.
- Carla Cao led the North Oconee River Project team, producing a series of events, a website, publication, outreach activities with Stroud Elementary School, and draft ordinance in collaboration the UGA Environmental Law Practicum. The project received support from an a2ru Student Challenge Grant, Watershed UGA, the Social Ecology Studio, and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.
- Ciyadh Wells and Jason Woodworth-Hou attended the a2ru 2018 *Emerging Creatives Student Summit* at Louisiana State University with the support of competitive a2ru travel grants.
- AC Carter assisted with logistics and program development for the *Surround: An Immersive Experience* and *Perfect Pantry: it all begins with a seed* events.
- Carla Cao gave a presentation at the 2017 a2ru National Conference, “Arts in the Public Sphere: Civility, Advocacy, and Engagement” at Northeastern University in Boston.
- Rebecca Jackson was selected to be a presenter at the upcoming 2018 a2ru national conference.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou provided logistical support for the Seminar in Digital Technologies in Theatre and Performance Studies at UGA supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- AC Carter created graphics and promotion campaigns for ICE-supported events.
- AC Carter, Ciyadh Wells, and Jason Woodworth-Hou assisted with research on a2ru partner institutions in preparation for the upcoming a2ru national conference hosted by UGA.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou collaborated with faculty David Saltz (Theatre and Film Studies), Sujata Iyengar (English), and Peter Lane (Music), and students in Theatre and Film Studies to support development of *The Rosetta Theatre Project*, an interdisciplinary project combining real-time motion capture data and live performance.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou served as a member of the 2017-2018 UGA Campus Sustainability Grants Program Selection Committee.
- Matthew Flores assisted with editing of the ICE Links resource website with over 300 links to funding, exhibition, performance, research, and community resources online.
- AC Carter assisted with development for an experimental sound project with UGA art librarian Lindsey Reynolds and Kindercore Vinyl company.
- AC Carter, Ciyadh Wells, and Jason Woodworth-Hou collaborated to create a performance installation during UGA Spotlight on the Arts.
- Ciyadh Wells participated in a campus planning session for the upcoming 2018 a2ru national conference hosted by UGA.
- Ciyadh Wells served as a liaison for the *Georgia Prison Beekeepers* project in development.

- Ciyadh Wells served as a liaison for a music and social justice project in development and assisted with preliminary grant proposal development.
- Carla Cao attended the U.S. Rights of Nature Symposium at Tulane Law School in New Orleans.
- Carla Cao facilitated a three-day residency by Inlets Foundation for Experimental Practices, including a performance, exhibition, and public conversation.
- Ciyadh Wells presented a session “Queer/Trans Performance Art,” at the 2018 UGA Connect Conference.
- Ciyadh Wells was selected as Historian for the UGA Graduate and Professional Students Association.
- Ciyadh Wells served as co-founder and co-director of the Athens GA Guitar Society.
- Matthew Flores and Jason Woodworth-Hou provided logistical support for the public installation *Writing on Water* at Lake Herrick.
- Matthew Flores produced the ICE Conversation *Bound to Fail: Aesthetic Possibilities of Failure*.
- Matthew Flores assisted with research and literature review on cultural policy issues.
- Rebecca Jackson consulted with faculty members Barbara McCaskill (English), Amma Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin (Theatre and Film Studies), and Dr. Scott Nesbit (College of Environment and Design) and collaborated with students in Theatre and Film Studies to create Alternative to share the names and narratives of lesser known heroes of the Antebellum South.
- Rebecca Jackson competed in the 4’33” research communication competition during UGA Spotlight on the Arts.
- Carla Cao produced the ICE Conversation *Dance Exchange Summer Institute*.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou served as liaison for the *Art + Tech* workshop series.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou assisted with the successful application for a Technology Small Grants for Interdisciplinary Programs grant from the Graduate School to support research in extended reality (XR) platforms.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou assisted with the development of a proposed arts and science storytelling event with the community group The Rabbit Box.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou assisted Marlon Brunley, Acting MFA, in the filming and editing of his one-man production “Black in the Box,” which has been touring nationally at fringe festivals.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou assisted Ami Salee, Acting MFA, as co-animator for “Ruthie in the Shadow,” appearing at the Tampa International Fringe Festival.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou collaborated with 21st Century in bringing a community-based theatre project to Coile Middle School.
- Jason Woodworth Hou collaborated as an interactive animator with Brazilian Director, Alberto Tibaji on the UGA devised piece “Always Knew,” an LGBTQ+ performance event.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou served on an animation team for the UGA production of “The Last Witch,” directed by Ray Paolino.

ICE graduate research assistants worked collectively on the following projects and tasks:

- Administration of Idea Lab, a UGA student organization committed to providing an open, interdisciplinary platform for engagement with topics in arts.

- Administration of the Idea Lab Mini Grants program, including development of criteria, call for proposals, public information sessions, formation of selection committee, and administration of awards.
- Arts funding research. Review local, national, and international funding sources for research in the arts, expansion of ICE Internet resources for those seeking funding, study reports of organizations and projects that receive funding nationally, alerting individual faculty of potential funding opportunities.
- Assistance with publicity for ICE events (press releases, campus flyers, and departmental announcements).
- Planning, facilitation, and logistical support for the ICE Conversation Series public events.
- Content development for ICE Announcements and social media outlets. ICE operates a website, Facebook, Twitter, and weekly listserv program that highlights interdisciplinary events and opportunities for the UGA community.
- ICE project digital archive (2000-present). Ongoing effort to digitize and maintain database of documentation materials from ICE-supported projects. Organization of archival materials, video capture and rendering, creation of document files to navigate archive, research equipment and software needs for maintenance of archive.
- Orientation for new ICE graduate research assistants, including technical demonstration of ICE office equipment (media software, HD video and sound production).

Individual Accomplishments

- Carla Cao and Rebecca Jackson received Graduate Research awards from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts.
- Carla Cao was granted the Osborne Fellowship for her merit as a composer, music student, and interdisciplinary arts collaborator.
- Carla Cao was accepted to the MPhil degree program in the Center for Music and Science at Cambridge University.
- Ciyadh Wells was accepted to the UGA Institute for African American Studies Graduate Certificate Program.
- Ciyadh Wells was awarded a community fellowship by the Young People for Community Foundation.
- Ciyadh Wells was awarded a fellowship and participated in the 2018 Leadership Development Cohort led by The Reformation Project.
- Ciyadh Wells was awarded at merit-based scholarship to attend the 2018 Brevard Summer Music Institute.
- Ciyadh Wells was awarded the Young Artist Merit award to attend the 2018 Eastern Music Festival summer institute.
- Jason Woodworth-Hou attended the the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) conference focusing on “Extraordinary Bodies” in Atlanta, GA.
- AC Carter performed as Lambda Celcius at the Bigs Ears Festival in Knoxville, TN.
- AC Carter was selected for the upcoming southern edition of New American Painting (issue 136).
- AC Carter performed as Lambda Celcius with Of Montreal Nashville, TN and Birmingham, AL.

- AC Carter designed and fabricated costumes for the Of Montreal’s music video “Plateau Phase-No Careerism No Corruption.”
- AC Carter designed and fabricated costumes for a performance by Jennifer Vanilla at the PS1 Spring Performance Festival in New York City.
- AC Carter and Matthew Flores were selected to have work featured in the Lamar Dodd School of Art MFA exhibition Bitforms gallery in New York City.
- AC Carter collaborated with Washington Street Square and Atomic to create costumes for *New Material*, a fashion and drag show during the Athens Boybutante Ball.
- AC Carter was invited to give a class lecture at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga.
- AC Carter was selected to have music featured on the compilation *IN THE EYES OF VIOLENCE IRIS LIES IN SILKS* produced by Fraternity as Vanity.
- Matthew Flores attended the Society for Photographic Education (SPE) Southeast Regional Conference at Penland School of Crafts, Bakersville, NC.
- Matthew Flores attended the Society for Photographic Education (SPE) National Conference in Philadelphia, PA.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *Joke’s on You* exhibition at the Foundry Art Center, St. Louis, MO.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *A Laugh, A Smirk, or a Snicker* exhibition at the Florence Quater Gallery, Tuscon, AZ.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *9th Annual Making Masters* exhibition at the Madison Museum of Fine Arts, Madison, GA.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *Overshadowed* exhibition at the Cressman Center, Louisville, KY.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *43rd Juried Exhibition* at Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens, GA.
- Matthew Flores was featured in the *Trifecta Juried Exhibition* at Trio Contemporary Art Gallery, Athens, GA.
- Matthew Flores delivered a public artist talk in junction with the Lyndon House *43rd Juried Exhibition*.

Outcomes Assessment

“Receiving the Ideas for Creative Exploration Research Assistantship was one of the biggest factors for me in choosing to attend UGA. Ultimately, I decided that the opportunity to work in an environment where my creative, interdisciplinary ideas would be supported was what led me to UGA. As a doctorate student, my goal is to do work that is collaborative and unique in some ways. My first year as an ICE research assistant has allowed me to explore and nurture many of the ideas that I have been interested in producing for some time. UGA has an amazing amount of resources, many of which I feel as though I would not know of had I not received this position as a research assistant. This research position has also provided me with the time and freedom that I need in order to produce high quality work. I believe that being supported in this way has only encouraged me to be more creative and to think outside of my discipline for opportunities.”
[Ciyadh Wells]

“Through my assistantship with ICE, I have refined my communication skills, especially in regards to grant writing and formal presentations. Before ICE, I had never written a grant. Since I started with ICE I have written or been a principal writer on four grants and was awarded three out of the four. I have gained knowledge on how to address granting bodies and how to distill and organize the key ideas behind a project in a narrative format, as well as how to effectively design and layout a budget. I have also become much more confident at communicating my ideas at formal presentations. I have become better at structuring my talks while still tapping into my natural ability for improvisatory speaking. I am also much better at engaging my audience as well as tailoring my presentation depending on my audience.” [Carla Cao]

“Through ICE I learned how to effectively organize and visualize information, have efficiency in constructing communication between collaborators, and engage in the larger community both in relation to UGA, the Lamar Dodd School of Art, and Athens, GA. I collaborated with Monique Osorio in Music to produce *Surround*, an exhibition that brought together the art school, music school, and creative scene in Athens to create an interdisciplinary event. I developed the ability to confront production instability with courage, punctuality, and flexibility, such as when the project *Perfect Pantry* had to be moved from Mammal Gallery to The Bakery in Atlanta with ease and confidence. It has helped me grow professionalism in and outside of school, providing me the tools I need to be a successful creative person in pursuing art or music.” [AC Carter]

“One of the most exciting opportunities, afforded me through ICE, was attending the a2ru student summit at Louisiana State University. I was able to collaborate with other graduate students across the country. My particular group included a photographer from South Dakota, a theatre director from Arkansas, a chemical engineer born in Albania and a music conductor from Korea. Though we had the challenge of creating a spectacle that would speak to each of our school populations, our backgrounds were so diverse we immediately saw the need to create a common vocabulary even before considering any possible spectacle. That struggle sparked an idea: why not treat our differences as an asset to the creation process itself? This was the birth of our project “Makin’ Rain’: Brainstorming for Diverse Populations.” a2ru saw the project as worthy of a grant and we will soon be taking our workshop to multiple conferences across the country.” [Jason Woodworth-Hou]

“The Ideas for Creative Exploration research assistantship is the reason I selected UGA over other universities. I have been elated with the projects and opportunities ICE has brought to me over these past two years. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the program, I have been able to work with several different professors in varying departments. My ICE project, *Alternative Monuments*, transformed my professional development in such a way that I decided to officially change my dissertation topic. I will continue my research developing this exhibition in conjunction with the dissertation process. This would have never happened had I not been encouraged to look beyond my department and to collaborate with others.” [Rebecca Jackson]

“When re-thinking how we approached the Idea Lab Mini Grant program this year, we decided to frame ourselves less as a blank check and more as a group of producers, guiding projects from idea to completion using our toolbox of expertise. This shift of perspective has been incredibly influential on my own research and position as a student and artist. It’s allowed me to think of my research and making in a more holistic, complete way. Interacting with artists, environmentalists, musicians, lawyers, advocates, actors, and the entire orbit of individuals that ICE brings together really highlights the fact that as an artist, my

job is less to try and communicate dense theoretical ideas or specific references in my work, but to create memorable experiences for my audience – exactly the kind of experience and conversation so often created by ICE projects. As an artist, it's too easy to get stuck in the rut of your own research, and live only in the bubble that forms around being in the studio. ICE has in many ways allowed me to break out of this mindset and recalibrate how I think about art making. Not only is it about the hands-on creating of stuff, but it's as much about being an engaged member of your community, making connections and building relationships that are mutually beneficial." [Matthew Flores]

"I found that my assistantship made my experience highly different from that of my peers in the composition program. As a composer, I was inspired by a wide range of influences that are not part of the education or circle of influence among composers at UGA. My involvement with ICE meant that I was constantly introduced to inspiring approaches and innovations in a large variety of fields, including visual arts, dance, philosophy, environmental science and law, and social and environmental justice movements. I believe I benefited immensely from expanding my scope of influence. I found my work this past year was able to engage a greater diversity of people while still maintaining aesthetic integrity, and was able to achieve a greater relevancy and significance in the context of our society at large." [Carla Cao]

"I have been able to meet so many more like-minded individuals because of this position as a research assistant. For example, I had the opportunity to travel to the a2ru 2018 Emerging Creative Student Summit at the Louisiana State University. Attending this summit meant that I was able to engage with students at different universities who are interested in interdisciplinary, creative work. I find that having had the opportunity to collaborate with students who attend different universities and who are doing similar work was crucial to thinking and how I have begun to approach my creative work and research." [Ciyadh Wells]

"As an ICE graduate assistant, I established myself as a point person in the Athens creative scene. ICE's reputation for putting together challenging and exciting events has helped as an introduction, therefore allowing me to book shows at Go Bar and Flicker. It has also led me to meet the founders of Kindercore Vinyl who look forward to collaborating with ICE on a project the upcoming year. ICE has given me the opportunity to meet other thinkers and activists in the scene." [AC Carter]

"My assistantship at Ideas for Creative Exploration is one of the primary reasons I chose UGA as my final graduate experience. As a community and educational theatre practitioner for the last two decades I have been used to collaborating with engineers, scientists, technicians, businesspersons in order to ply my art. ICE did not disappoint in supporting and providing the opportunities to collaborate with individuals and institutions, such as the Office of Sustainability, a2ru, and The Rabbit Box. It is one thing to reach out to others outside of your discipline while conducting research, it is entirely another experience when you come with the endorsement of a group whose end goal is creating the synergy that occurs through meaningful cooperation. Even more important, the contacts I make here will assure that my personal research is unique with implications far beyond my narrow discipline." [Jason Woodworth-Hou]

"One of the more exciting things about the last year of my assistantship, and ICE more generally, is the degree to which we can set the conversation about what's important in the world of arts research and interdisciplinary work – much like we had a part in examining the relationship between arts and the environment, which will really bloom with the a2ru conference at UGA this fall, our current

work and thinking about arts policy will, I think, lead to ICE and UGA being leaders in promoting positive change and research in this field moving forward.” [Matthew Flores]

“The ICE graduate research assistantship catalyzed a tremendous intellectual and ethical growth spurt in me. Through the ICE assistantship, I was given an unprecedented opportunity to thoroughly and successfully carry out an original, creative idea that I conceived and, then, developed through interdisciplinary collaboration. The idea was to explore the paradigm of nature as bearing inherent rights and to engage the artistic and civil community in this line of inquiry. Through the partnerships that ICE facilitated (a2ru, Watershed UGA, and Willson Center for Humanities and Arts a2ru Research Cluster), ICE mentorship under Mark Callahan, and ICE-funded travel opportunities (a2ru emerging creatives summit), I was able to transform this idea into a year-long, grant-funded project with an interdisciplinary team of four students and alumni from the arts and science disciplines. Furthermore, the ICE assistantship has opened up doors to incredible opportunities post-graduation. I am convinced that my success as an ICE research assistant played an indispensable role in my admission offer into the prestigious interdisciplinary Music and Science” graduate program at Cambridge University.” [Carla Cao]

“I was incredibly fortunate enough to be able to choose from a handful of graduate programs, but it was the opportunity to augment my experience with ICE that tipped my decision to UGA and the Lamar Dodd School of Art. The ICE Assistantship provided an aspect of real world experience and activity that otherwise would be missing from my education – I’m proud to say that because of ICE, I (in practice, if not on paper) received a degree that’s totally different than what most of my peers and colleagues received. The opportunities that this assistantship provided – as producer, collaborator, teammate, researcher, and artist – pushed my personal research to grow in ways that I couldn’t possibly have predicted at the start of my graduate studies. ICE has allowed me to become a much more well-rounded artist and citizen.” [Matthew Flores]

“Over the past year, I have collaborated with students and professors in computer science, art and design, forestry, English, romance languages, veterinary sciences, mass media, education and music departments. In the near future I will have the opportunity to assist Dr. David Saltz (UGA) and Dr. Sarah Bey Cheng (Bowdoin) as part of my summer assistantship duties in a NEH summer seminar. Over the next school year, I will have opportunities for national exposure and collaboration with projects that have the potential for making significant contributions to my discipline. This never would have been possible without the resources an ICE assistantship provides. Alumni, professors, community members and other ICE members create a network that keeps me in multiple research loops all year long.” [Jason Woodworth-Hou]

“During the past year, I have gained invaluable project management skills through my ICE-sponsored project, *North Oconee River Project*. Our small team of four students and alumni had several ambitious goals to accomplish in the span of our grant year. I served as project lead and quickly found myself in a management position. Throughout the year, I became better at engaging, inspiring, and relating to teammates, identifying my limits in regards to my work load and my abilities, distributing tasks, being flexible and adaptive when desirable or necessary for the project’s success, incorporating and supporting the ideas of other teammates, planning ahead and anticipating complications in the planning stages. I also appreciate now more than ever the importance of quality over quantity of work. I am better at factoring in the amount of time and dedication required for a successful endeavor before agreeing

to an endeavor. I found that by being realistic in my endeavors and objectives, I do not curtail the ambitiousness of a project, but rather allow for the project's ambitious goals to be realized successfully and professionally." [Carla Cao]