

## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Dynamic and visionary leader with over two decades of experience in shaping the cultural landscape through innovative programming, strategic partnerships, and community engagement. Proven track record of success in executive roles within renowned arts organizations, driving growth, fostering inclusivity, and amplifying social impact. Expertise in fundraising, financial management, institutional development, and curatorial practice. Adept at leading diverse teams, cultivating talent, and fostering collaborative environments. Passionate advocate for the arts with a commitment to advancing social justice, equity, and sustainability.

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Executive Director & Chief Curator

*Pro Arts Gallery & COMMONS – Oakland, CA (2015 – 2023)*

**Longevity and Leadership:** Provided strategic direction and secured substantial funding, totaling over \$1M annually, from diverse sources including government grants, corporate sponsors, and individual patrons, ensuring the organization's sustained operation and growth.

**Expanded Institutional Programming:** Diversified institutional programming to encompass contemporary art in various forms, reflecting the vibrant arts landscape of Oakland and beyond.

**Community Engagement:** Orchestrated flagship programs such as the East Bay Open Studios and the Art Education program, fostering community engagement and artistic expression.

**Established Innovative Artistic Platforms:** Developed and pioneered the Pro Arts COMMONS, establishing it as the first global solidarity network and art commons model in Oakland, California. Launched various open knowledge platforms and international exchange programs, such as The Common Knowledge Platform Artist Residency, The Teaching Institute for Art & Law, and the Pro Arts' Social Impact Projects Incubator.

**Focused on Demographic and Access/Engagement Shifts:** Developed and orchestrated strategies with impact on the demographics and access/engagement points, prioritizing inclusivity and accessibility, and propagating for a more vibrant and equitable arts ecosystem in the region.

**Collaborated with Diverse Roster of Artists:** Worked closely with a diverse roster of artists and culture producers to curate and orchestrate 12 visual art exhibitions and interdisciplinary projects, new media and sound series, public and education programs, and public art collaborations.

**Brand Visibility and Strategic Partnerships:** Elevated Pro Arts' brand visibility through strategic programming, partnerships, and media engagement, positioning the organization at the forefront of international discourse surrounding solidarity economy. Cultivated and managed strategic partnerships with public and private partners, fostering a creative coalition to support local, regional, and international artistic endeavors.

**Fiscal Oversight:** Acted as the chief finance and HR manager, overseeing Pro Arts' financial operations, budgeting processes, and compliance with legal and reporting requirements. Managed the organization's fiscal sponsorship program, which contributed substantially to the budget bottom line.

### **Director of External Affairs**

*The Clocktower – New York, NY (2010 - 2014)*

**Event Production and Strategic Partnerships:** Produced events and initiated strategic partnerships with various stakeholders, including media outlets, press agencies, funders, art patrons, collectors, artists, cultural workers, audience members, and other art institutions.

**Fundraising and Marketing Campaign:** In 2012, spearheaded an ambitious end-of-year fundraising and marketing campaign that resulted in securing major support from foundations, corporations, and individual donors. This initiative significantly boosted Clocktower's annual income, surpassing the projected campaign goal and reaching 800K in total.

**Research and Archive Management:** In 2013, served as the Associate Director of Research & Archive for the *Dale Henry Estate*, overseeing archival activities and contributing to the planning and execution of the *Dale Henry: The Artist Who Left New York* retrospective exhibition at Pioneer Works, Center for Art and Innovation in Brooklyn, NY.

**Collaborations with Renowned Artists and Curators:** Collaborated with a diverse range of national and international artists and curators to realize exhibitions, new work commissions, experimental music programs, radio programs, and artist residency projects.

### **Executive Director & Chief Curator**

*Redhouse Arts Center – Syracuse, NY (2006 – 2010)*

**Longevity & Leadership:** Through strategic planning and visionary leadership, I expanded the reach and impact of the Redhouse Arts Center within the community, proactively diversified funding streams, expanded staff and Board of Directors, and amplified social media presence to increase visibility and reach.

**Artistic Vision:** Shaped the artistic vision of the organization by establishing innovative programs and initiatives, including the development of a commissioning program, the *Redhouse Artist Residency*, and *Redhouse Art Radio*. By curating and producing 12 exhibitions and interdisciplinary art projects annually, sought to challenge conventional notions of art and culture, while also celebrating the legacy of avant-garde movements in shaping contemporary artistic practice.

**Fundraising & Financial Management:** Successfully raised and managed an annual organizational budget of 800k, ensuring financial stability and sustainability for Redhouse Arts Center. Researched, wrote, and managed grants and fundraising campaigns, ensuring compliance with funding agencies and cultivating relationships with new donors. Cultivated and closed individual donations and corporate gifts in the six figures.

**Collaborative Partnerships:** Elevated the profile of the Redhouse Theater by forging partnerships with esteemed NYC-based theater companies such as Soho Rep, LAByrnth Theater Company, and The Public Theater, among others.

**Cultural Initiatives:** Pioneered *Redhouse Art Radio*, the first radio station in Central New York dedicated exclusively to programming in the arts. Additionally, co-founded the *Upstate/Downstate Theater & Presenting Programs Initiative* with NYSCA, promoting collaborations between small and mid-sized NYC-based organizations and their upstate counterparts, thereby fostering a more inclusive and interconnected arts ecosystem. Initiated *FARMWORKS Residency*, the first artist residency in the Upstate region of New York that explored the link between art and farming.

**Curation and Programming:** Curated and facilitated 12 solo and group exhibitions annually and managed the selection of artists in residence with *Redhouse Artist Residency*. Curated and produced theater works, literary and film series, public and education programs, directly supporting over 100 artists, musicians, writers, cultural practitioners, and educators annually. Initiated, curated, and realized new projects such as the *Leading Edge Series: New Music for Small Audiences*, showcasing avant-garde and experimental music performances by acclaimed artists from around the world.

**Staff and Volunteer Management:** Responsible for hiring and managing a full-time staff of 7 people, 50 contracted and temporary theater and media arts production staff, a 12 members body comprising the Redboard Arts Center Board, and 20 volunteers and student-interns.

### **Founder & Executive Director**

*Flux Digital Art Space – New York, NY (2000 – 2006)*

**Founding Vision and Nonprofit Status:** As the founder, I developed the vision and mission of the organization, guiding its establishment as a nonprofit entity with 501(c)(3) status.

**Strategic Leadership:** Through long-term partnerships with international entities, I facilitated cultural exchange and expanded Flux's global reach, enriching the digital art community with diverse perspectives and practices.

**Branding, Marketing, and Audience Development:** Spearheaded original branding, marketing, and publicity campaigns to raise awareness and attract new audiences and patrons for the arts.

**Community Engagement and Art Education:** Partnered with museums, community organizations, public schools, and grassroots initiatives on special projects and art education programs. Developed an innovative art education curriculum in partnership with public education institutions in New York City's five boroughs. Partnered with Harlem Children's Zone and the Children's Aid Society on programs and initiatives that addressed the digital divide.

**Raised Annual Budget and Implemented Capital Campaign:** Demonstrated exceptional fundraising skills by raising an annual organizational budget of 500k and executing successful capital campaigns. Leading a small team of 3, developed and executed fundraising strategies, including grant writing, donor cultivation, and fundraising events.

**Artistic Vision:** Oversaw the implementation of all curated programs, ensuring they are aligned with Flux's mission and objectives. This involved coordinating with artists, venues, and funding partners to bring exhibitions and events to fruition.

**Innovative Art Projects:** Collaborated closely with US-based and international artists to realize innovative projects, such as *FLUX InternetTV*, *The Ferry Digital Film Festival*, and *Exquisite Corpse*—an international exchange residency program for youth.

**Team Management and Volunteer Engagement:** Hired and managed a dedicated staff of five and a large body of volunteers and interns, ensuring the smooth operation of the organization's programs and activities, and cultivating a supportive, collaborative work environment.

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## CONSULTING POSITIONS

- Ram + Leo Art Agency – New York, U.S. & Berlin, DE (2023 - 2024)
  - Baseera Khan Studio – New York, U.S. (2023)
  - Alanna Heiss Studio – New York, U.S. (2023)
  - Big Deal Arts – New York, U.S. (2013 - 2014)
  - Ruby Slippers Fundraising – New York, U.S. (2013 - 2014)
  - Residency Unlimited – New York, U.S. (2010 - 2011)
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## **RESIDENCIES**

- Curator-in-Residence, Scope BLN – Berlin, DE (2023 - 2024)
  - Curator-in-Residence, Mothership NYC – Brooklyn, NY (2022-2023)
  - Writer-in-Residence, Franconia Sculpture Park – Minnesota, U.S. (2021)
  - Visiting Expert, IASPIS – Stockholm/Gothenburg/Malmö, Sweden (2021)
  - Panelist to the NYSCA's Theatre Program - New York City (2007-2010)
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## **PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES**

- Presented at numerous international conferences, festivals, and universities, including Disruption Network Lab, University of Kentucky, UR Music & Arts, and more.
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## **PUBLISHED WORK**

- Authored essays, articles, and books, contributing to the discourse on art, culture, and social change.
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## **EDUCATION**

- Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Media Management, Metropolitan College of New York – New York, U.S.
  - Master of Arts in Art Market (MA), Fashion Institute of Technology – New York, U.S.
  - Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice – New York, U.S.
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**References available upon request**