



City of Richmond, Virginia  
Public Art Commission

(Please Print or Type)

<b>Title:</b> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
<b>Last Name:</b>	<b>First Name:</b>
<b>Home Street Address:</b>	<b>Home Telephone:</b>
<b>Home City, Zip Code:</b>	<b>Home Fax:</b>
<b>Personal E-Mail Address:</b>	
<b>Employer:</b>	
<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>How Long?</b>
<b>Business Street Address:</b>	<b>Business Telephone:</b>
<b>Business City, Zip Code:</b>	<b>Business Fax:</b>
<b>Business E-Mail Address:</b>	
<b>Is your place of employment located in the city of Richmond?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Is your place of employment located in the county?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <b>If yes, which county?</b>	
<b>Are you a city resident?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Number of years?</b>
<b>Do you or your employer have a contract, other than a contract of employment, either with the city of Richmond or with the entity to which you are seeking appointment?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>If yes, please provide information on the nature of the contract.</b>	
<b>Please list your educational background and/or other expertise or qualifications you will bring to the Public Art Commission:</b>	

**NOTE: This application is a public document.**



City of Richmond, Virginia  
Public Art Commission

List other city of Richmond authorities, boards, commissions or task forces you currently or have previously served on. Please give date(s) and office(s) held, if applicable.

Entity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date(s) Served: \_\_\_\_\_ Office(s) Held: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date(s) Served: \_\_\_\_\_ Office(s) Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Entity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date(s) Served: \_\_\_\_\_ Office(s) Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Other community involvement:

**OPTIONAL**

Please list additional information you would like considered, or you may attach your resume or other information.

Check this box if your resume is attached.

How did you hear about or who referred you to apply for appointment to the Public Art Commission?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(By signing, forwarding or otherwise transmitting this form, you certify that all information submitted for consideration is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge)*

**NOTE: This application is a public document.**

Personal work  
<https://www.spahr-molnar.com/personalwork>

Student work  
<https://www.spahr-molnar.com/studentwork>

**MATT SPAHR**

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### **EDUCATION**

- 2007 MFA Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond VA  
(Sculpture and Extended Media)
- 2003 BFA (Cum Laude) California State University of Long Beach, Long Beach CA  
(Sculpture)
- 2000 AA Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa CA

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2019-17 Visiting Lecturer in Art, University of Richmond
- 2019 Sculpture Instructor, Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired
- 2014-17 Assistant Professor, Art Foundation/Sculpture and Extended Media, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2014 Adjunct Instructor/Shop Coordinator, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2013-07 Adjunct Instructor/Shop Coordinator, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2012 Professorial Lecturer in Sculpture, George Washington University
- 2007-05 Adjunct Instructor (as MFA Candidate), Virginia Commonwealth University  
Graduate teaching assistant, Virginia Commonwealth University

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

- ARTF 133 Space Research  
3 credits. Open only to first-year fine arts and design majors in the School of the Arts. Space Research is a comprehensive investigation of three-dimensional phenomena in fine art and design. Will cultivate a student's ability to think, perceive, visualize, design and build in three dimensions. Issues of understanding and envisioning space, objects, scale and the relationship of the body to the built environment are subjects of the course. Students will acquire a broad skill set of fabrication techniques and an inquiry into the possibility of 21st-century materials.
- ARTF 134 Time Studio  
3 credits. Open only to first-year fine arts and design majors in the School of the Arts. Brings together tenets of contemporary practice that have extended the fields of fine art and design. Time-based media such as film, video and sound are included in this mix. The historically underrepresented impulses of theatrically and performance will be explored. Students will use video as a primary tool, but

will address larger issues of ephemerality, duration and the possibilities of the moving image.

- ARTF 139      Visual Arts Project  
1 credit. Open only to first-year fine arts and design majors in the School of the Arts. A seminar or studio focusing on issues and skills in the fields of fine art and design.
- ARTF 191      Honors Topics: Art Worlds  
3 credits. Seminar offered to selected Arts Honors College Students. Focusing on first person experience, this course facilitated interaction between students and working artists and designers within the setting of their profession.
- SCPT 209      Introduction to Sculpture for Non-Majors (studio portion)  
3 credits. Open to non-art majors only. The course will offer an opportunity for students to work with some of the ideas and materials of sculpture through slides, lecture and studio involvement.
- SCPT 212      Basic Sculpture II  
4 credits. The primary goal of this course is the effective expression of ideas. The student uses advanced techniques that build upon the basic skills taught in Basic Sculpture I with attention given to problem-solving.
- SCPT 311      Intermediate Sculpture  
4 credits. The emphasis in this course is on creative independence. The student is encouraged to utilize a variety of materials in order to express his ideas.
- SCPT 312      Intermediate Sculpture  
4 credits. The emphasis in this course is on creative independence. The student is encouraged to utilize a variety of materials in order to express his ideas.
- SCPT 411      Advanced Sculpture  
4 credits. The majority of the student's activities occur in the studio with emphasis on the development of a personal style.
- SCPT 412      Advanced Sculpture  
4 credits. The majority of the student's activities occur in the studio with emphasis on the development of a personal style.
- SCPT 491      Topics in Sculpture: Introduction to Computer Controlled Robotics  
4 credits. A seminar or workshop on a selected issue or topic in the field of sculpture. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.
- SCPT 491      Topics in Sculpture: Introduction to Electro-Mechanical Systems  
4 credits. A seminar or workshop on a selected issue or topic in the field of sculpture. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.
- VMAP 211      Foundation (sculpture module)  
Explores the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and sculpture in three distinct modules. In addition to producing artwork, introduces the history and theory surrounding these media as well as their significance within contemporary art practice. Each module will educate students on health and safety issues and procedures that are applicable to these media and our facilities.

- VMAP 254      Sculpture Methods: Materials and Processes  
Intermediate-level course engaging students in the material exploration of a variety of sculptural media and processes within the context of contemporary art. Emphasis upon wood fabrication, metal fabrication, mold making and casting, and mixed-media objects and installation. Lectures, presentations, and critiques that address problems dealing with perception, the conceptualization of space, and objects in space.
- VMAP304      Sculpture Media Studio  
Constructive and critical framework to develop independently conceived projects in a wide spectrum of sculptural media. Emphasis on the production of works that bridge material processes in wood, metal, and various forms of casting with contemporary tools such as 3D printing, laser cutting, and CNC routing. The production of multi-media installations that incorporate or extend into areas such as painting, printmaking, photography, and digital or electronic media is both supported and encouraged. Prepares students for the advanced and thesis levels of our curriculum where working across media is common practice.
- VMAP 375      Contextual Practice  
Interdisciplinary context, changing each year according to the instructor's expertise and creative interests, as a framework to inform the research and production of independent student projects. Possible areas of focus include relational aesthetics and participatory art, public interventions and installations, or environmentally and politically engaged art. Emphasis on media exploration and experimentation, and the development of artworks that cross boundaries of what is commonly considered "art." Advanced-level course, a junior-level requirement for all VMAP majors.
- VMAP 114      Introduction to Sculpture  
Basic three-dimensional design and contemporary sculptural practices. Fundamental skills and knowledge required for further study within the field as well as insight into the realm of sculpture at a general and theoretical level. Through hands-on studio assignments, lectures, presentations, seminar discussions, and museum visits, students gain technical and conceptual skills applicable to art, architecture, and all other forms of three-dimensional design and sculpture.
- FA 1017      Sculpture I  
Beginning study of design and fabrication of sculpture. Basic sculptural techniques for various media, including clay, plaster, stone, and wood.
- KINE 691      Independent Study  
4 credits. Students will pursue advanced, individually directed study under the guidance of a faculty adviser. Includes project research, creative execution and presentation.

#### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- Sculpture and Extended Media Faculty Search committee
- Faculty mentor
- Woodshop coordinator
- Development of woodshop safety protocol
- Video Festival organization
- Caving excursion development and coordination in collaboration with OAP
- Student NY excursion travel development, coordination and chaperoning
- AFO Regatta development and coordination

- Student exhibition development and coordination
- Design and fabrication of Art Foundation exhibition spaces
- Recruiting, including National portfolio reviews, Performing and visual arts fairs, and High School Visits
- Admissions committee for undergraduate VCUarts applications, art foundation
- Development, coordination and Chaperoning of Inclusion Infusion Initiative trip to the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art in New York City for students in the VCUarts Art Foundation program. Students were introduced to practicing LBGTQIA artists in a professional setting.

#### **WORKSHOPS, LECTURE, PRESENTATIONS:**

2018	On the Matrix-Gallery talk, Crate Project Space, Hendersonville NC University of Denver, Artist Lecture, Denver CO
2017	The Arts in Society Conference: Gestures that Matter, "Expanded Classrooms and Constructing Cross-curricular Communities" Paris, France Foundations in Art: Theory and Education Conference: Beyond the Core, Local Geography as Tool for Learning co-presenter, Kansas City, MO
2016	Assembler, a public and critical discourse examining the content of Doug Rieger's exhibition "Character Armour", co-hosted with selected current VCU Sculpture students, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA ADA Exhibition Artist lecture, Richmond, VA ThinkTank9 workshop participant, Bozeman, MT
2014	Rapid Design Pivot: Innovation Arts Research Symposium, lecturer/participant, co-sponsored by the McKetta Department of Chemical Engineering and the Department of Art and Art History in the College of Fine Arts, University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX
2013	Food As Interface: workshop co-presenter, Design Inquiry, Vinalhaven, MN Kitchen as Station: workshop leader, Tasmem Design Conference, Doha, Qatar FATE Conference, Loud, Expensive and Potentially Dangerous panel co-presenter, in Savannah, GA
2010	ThinkTank5: workshop participant, Four Minds Of the Future, Athens, GA
2007	Civilian Art Projects; Artist lecture, Washington DC

#### **RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE:**

Current-2013	1708 Gallery Board of Directors, Current President Elect, Service on Art matters, Annual Auction and Inlight committees. 1708 Gallery is committed to providing opportunities for artistic innovation for emerging and established artists and to expanding the understanding and appreciation of new art for the public.
2007-09	Artist assistant, Elizabeth King, assisting in lighting, de-installation, and packing of "The Sizes of Things in the Mind's Eye, at Visual Arts Center of Richmond VA, The David Winton Bell Gallery at Brown University Providence RI, and the Telfair Museum of Art in Savannah, GA
2007	Studio assistant, Michael Jones Mckean, full time assistance in professional artist's studio including design, fabrication, painting, cleaning and organization of the studio.
2006	Artist assistant, Nathaniel Rackow, assisting in the design and fabrication and maintenance of kinetic installation for the Anderson gallery, Richmond VA
2003	Assistant fabricator for Florian Claar, assisting in fabrication, casting and chasing of large scale aluminum public artwork

## AWARDS

- 2016 Virginia Museum of Fine Art Professional Visual Arts Fellowship Award  
Trawick Prize Semi Finalist
- 2010 Think Tank 5 Fellowship, Athens, GA
- 2007 Graduate Teaching Assistantship Award, VCU
- 2006 Graduate Research Grant VCU  
Graduate Teaching Assistantship Award, VCU  
School of the Arts Travel Grant, VCU
- 2005 Graduate Teaching Assistantship Award, VCU
- 2002 Fine Arts Affiliates Scholarship CSULB
- 1999 Larry Lebrane Scholarship, OCC

## EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Welcome to Miami, The Neon Heater Art Gallery, Finley OH  
On the Matrix, Crate Project, Hendersonville, NC
- 2017 Blame it on the Rain, Art Space, Baltimore MD  
Current Art Fair, ADA Gallery, Richmond VA  
Plush, Art & Cultural Center, Hollywood FL  
Charismatic Chroma Bronx Art Space, Bronx, NY
- 2016 Up all night (expect a miracle) ADA Gallery, Richmond VA  
People Via Plants, WavePool Gallery Cincinnati, OH  
First Look, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton VA  
Bling It Out, Iridian Gallery, Richmond VA  
Cabin Fever, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA
- 2015 People Via Plants, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA  
Cabin Fever, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA
- 2014 Space Jam, FAB Gallery, Richmond VA  
Radio Galaxy, Ruffin Gallery, UVA, Charlottesville VA  
35 Candles, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA
- 2013 The Secret Life Of The Tomatodendron, Nobile & Amundsen, Norfolk VA  
Radius 250, Art Space Gallery, Richmond, VA
- 2012 Faculty Show, 201 Gallery, Washington DC  
Catch 22, 1708 Gallery, Richmond VA
- 2011 Hanky Panky, Brooklyn Comics and Graphics Festival, Brooklyn, NY  
Exquisite corpse, McGuffey Art Center, Charlottesville, VA
- 2010 Splice, FAB Gallery, VCU Richmond, VA
- 2008 The skate show, ADA, Richmond, VA  
Quart, Civilian Art Projects, Washington DC  
They are all going to laugh at you, ADA, Richmond, VA  
Big Gun or a Man Cannot Live Like a Man, Sculpture Key West, Key West, FL
- 2007 Big Guns, Hollow Shields and Other Buoyant Desires, Civilian Art Projects, DC  
More Fresh Meat, Kim Foster Gallery, New York, NY  
Breadfruit Fantasies, Anderson Gallery, Richmond, VA  
We and Us, Playspace gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2006 Scope Miami, ADA Gallery, Miami, FL  
Scope London, ADA Gallery, London, England  
Debate Team, Fab Gallery, VCU Richmond, VA  
Sweetness, ADA Gallery, Richmond, VA  
Scope Hamptons, ADA Gallery, Hampton, NY  
AAF, ADA Gallery, NY, NY  
Like Dowsing, Corrugated Box, Richmond, VA  
Tin Cans With Strings, Accident Gallery, Eureka, CA  
Fast Cheap and Out of Control, Flat International Gallery, Richmond, VA

## RESIDENCIES

- 2018 Lazuli Residency, East Corinth, VT  
Azule Residency Program, Hot Springs NC
- 2017 Studios at MassMOCA, North Adams MA
- 2016 Wave Pool, Art Space Is Your Space Program, Cincinnati OH
- 2015 Mountain Lake Biological Station, Artlab Residency Program, Pembroke VA

## ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

- 2017 Fulton, Rowan. Bmoreart "The Impossible Dream" November 2017
- 2016 Rosen, Steve. City Beat "Caring for Plants Is An Art Form" July 2016  
Roxanna Swift. WCPO "People Via Plants Art Exhibition Nurtures Your Soul –  
And Heals Your Plants" July 2016  
Foretek Jared. RVA MAG "Local artists Valerie Molnar and Matthew Spahr on  
the art of rehabilitating plants" June 2016
- 2015 Karen Newton, Style Weekly "Outside of the Box" June 2015  
Lenzi, Nicole. <http://expandeddrawingpractices.blogspot.com/> August 2015  
Graham, Anne. No. 11 <http://www.artrevealmagazine.com/> December 2015
- 2008 Sculpture Magazine, September, 2008
- 2007 Ron Johnson, New York Arts Magazine, "Art is like a box of chocolates"  
March /April Style Weekly, May 6
- 2006 Style Weekly, Sept. 13  
The Brick, Sept.6

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 Ashley Kistler, Editor and Project Director, Anderson Gallery: 45 Years of Art on  
the Edge, VCUarts, Richmond, 2016
- 2011 Anthony Meloro, Hanky Panky, Anthony Meloro, Richmond, 2011  
Anthony Meloro, Busted, Anthony Meloro, Richmond, 2011
- 2008 Introduction by Mary Ceruti, Sculpture Key West Catalog, Key West, 2008
- 2007 VCU Sculpture and Extended Media, Curious, VCUarts, Richmond, 2007