

Dr. Tegan Bristow

Curriculum Vitae: 2020

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 Date of Birth: 1st February 1977
 Gender: Female
 Nationality: South African
 Languages: English (fluent), Vhenda (intermediate read and conversational)

Introduction: Dr. Tegan Bristow Senior Lecturer at the Wits School of Arts at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg South Africa. In this role she has been Director of the *Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival* (<https://fakugesi.co.za/>) since 2016, Senior Lecturer in *Interactive Digital Media at the Wits School of the Arts* - with a specialisation on Art, Culture and Technology and is Editor in Chief and Digital Editor of the *Ellipses Journal for Creative Research* (<http://www.ellipses.org.za/>). Bristow is additionally a developer of interactive digital media in installation, performance, screen-based and online media.

In 2017 Bristow completed her PhD on *Decoloniality and Actional Methodologies in Art and Cultural Practices in African Cultures of Technology*, which she wrote with the Planetary Collegium at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Arts at Plymouth University in the U.K.

In Bristow's Directorial role for Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival, which is a collaborative project of the Wits School of Arts and the Tshimologong Innovation Precinct, she works annually with local partners and international organisation to support the Festival and its implementation. Alongside fundraising, annual curation and program development, Bristow leads a small annually engaged group of producers and project managers to develop and manage multiple content producers and creative partners across the African continent and internationally. The Festival supports: VR / AR, Animation, Gaming, Critical Digital Arts Practices and questions of the digital in Creative Economies. Under Bristow's directorship, the Festival has grown into an internationally recognised IP that not only critically supports the development of culture and technology in Africa, but has become an important market place for new work with in these industries in the region.

In her role as Senior Lecturer at the Wits School of Arts, Bristow developed and ran the Masters programme in Interactive Media in the Digital Arts Department from 2007 to 2017. And further developed programs in Internet Art, Creative Interactive Coding, Data Visualisation and most recently a theory programme in Decolonising Culture and Technology. Bristow continues to supervise Masters and PhD research in these areas.

As curator (outside of Fak'ugesi Festival) Bristow's curatorial highlights include in 2018, *Digital Imaginaries* with Afro Pixel (Senegal), Wits Art Museum (South Africa) and the ZKM (Germany). In 2017 with the 2nd Season of the Centre for the Less Good Idea with William Kentridge. In

2015, *Post African Futures* with the Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg. Outside of her curatorial and development work within culture and technology in Africa, Bristow has exhibited her own practice widely and regularly publishes her research in the field. Please see Bristow's website (www.teganbristow.co.za) for more detail than is available in the following CV.

EMPLOYMENT / ASSIGNMENTS

- 2016 – 20 **Senior Lecturer**, Digital Arts Division, Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.
- 2016 – 20 **Director of the Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2019 – 20 **Editor in Chief & Digital Editor**, Ellipses Journal of Creative Research, Arts Research Africa, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.
- 2018 - 19 **Advisor and Mentor**, for HiVOS, Digital Earth Research Fellowship and African Crossroads Program, Africa.
- 2017- 18 **Digital Editor**, Ellipses Journal of Creative Research, Arts Research Africa, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.
Advisor and Mentor, for British Council Southern African Arts, Mentor for ColabNowNow Facilitators.
- 2007-16 **Lecturer and Masters Co-ordinator**, Digital Arts, Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand.
- 2004-06 **Project Facilitation and Project Management**, Trinity Session, Johannesburg, South Africa.

EDUCATION

- 2017 **Doctor of Philosophy**, Planetary Collegium, Plymouth University, UK
- 2007 **Master of Arts**, Interactive Digital Media, University of the Witwatersrand, SA
- 2003 **Bachelor of Arts**, Fine Arts, Rhodes University, SA

PRIZES / GRANTS

- 2019 African Crossroads Knowledge Exchange Grant (Hivos)
- 2016 Creative Disturbances Fellowship (MIT)
- 2014 Melon Mentorship Grant
NRF Thuthuka PhD Grant
Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Grant
- 2013 Melon Mentorship Grant
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Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Grant
- 2012 Melon Mentorship Grant
Anderson Capelli, Sabbatical Research Grant
NRF Thuthuka PhD Grant
Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Grant
- 2011 Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Grant
- 2007 Spier Contemporary Merit Prize
- 1999 Rowney Prize for Fine Art

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT FOCII

- 2017 - 2020 **Sociedad de Rayo.** Global South Society Supporting and Developing Arts, Science and Technology in the Global South. Hosted with Plataforma Bogota.
- 2019 **Digital Creative Economies Development.** Diplomatic & Industry Development with Flanders, Belgium
- 2017 **Focus VR.** Diplomatic & Industry Development with France
- 2013 **EU Cooperation in Science and Technology.** Art & Technology White Paper Development Workshop. Zagreb, Croatia.

PUBLICATIONS / KEYNOTES / CONFERENCES: 2019 – 2014 only

- 2019 ***Fak'ugesi Arcade: Futures & Networking.*** Industry Report for South & East African Gaming Industry. Published with Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival. November 2019.
- Games Research Roundtable Report.*** Industry Report for South & East African Gaming Industry. Published with Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival. November 2019.
- Getting Ready for the 4th Industrial Revolution.** Panel Discussion. SEAfrica – Showbiz Entertainment Conference. Soweto Theatre. September 2019.
- Vernacular Algorithms.** Research Paper. Creativate, National Arts Festival, South Africa. June 2019.
- Vernacular Algorithms.** Research Paper & Workshop. AfroPixel #7, Digital Earth Symposium, Dakar, Senegal. June 2019.
- Vernacular Algorithm.** Research Paper & Development. Vertical Atlas, Netherlands. April 2019
- Art in the Digital Age.** Panel Chair. Cape Town International Art Fair. South Africa. February 2019.
- 4th Industrial Revolution in Arts and Culture.** University of Johannesburg. Keynote invitation to inform the planning and strategy meeting of the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture (FADA). January 2019.
- 2018 **Vernacular Algorithm.** Research Paper & Workshop. African Crossroads, Morocco, November, 2018

Vernacular Algorithms. Research Paper & Workshop. International Society of Electronic Arts Symposium, Durban, South Africa, July, 2018

Jacaranda Time: Diagrams for Collaboration. Creative Research Article. [...] Ellipses Journal for Creative Research. Issue II. 2017 – 2018. Co-authored with Mwenya Kabwe and Cameron Harris.

2017 **Post African Futures: positioning the globalized digital within contemporary African cultural and decolonizing practices.** Critical African Studies. Vol 9. Issue. 3. 2017

With objects that speak: the force of interaction in historical African artefacts and contemporary art. International Journal of Art and Technology. Vol 10. No. 2. 2017

2016 **Access to Ghosts.** African Futures. Kerber Verlag. Germany. 2016

2015 **Public Art / Private Lives: Making of Hotel Yeoville.** Museum Transformations (The International Handbooks of Museum Studies). Co. Authored: Kurgan. T & Oppen. A. 2015. Wiley Blackwell.

Editorial for Special Issue of Technoetic Arts: Journal of Speculative Research Vol. 12. No. 2 & 3. 2015. Editorial: **From Afro-Futurism to Post African Futures**, pg 167.

Technology Arts Education in South Africa: Mutant collaborations, Co-Authored: Bristow, T & Doherty, C. Technoetic Arts: Journal of Speculative Research Vol. 12. No. 2 & 3. 2015. pg 237.

Socio-cultural Techni Aesthetics and Digital Art in Sub-Sahara Africa. Goethe Institute. Keynote invitation to inform the international planning and strategy meeting of Goethe Institute, which is being hosted in Johannesburg. March 2015.

Post African Futures: Tegan Bristow on the Fak'ugesi Conference. Art Africa. Vol. 13. Issue 3. March 2015. pg. 76.

2014 **Post African Futures.** Keynote of the Fak'ugesi Digital Africa Conference. Johannesburg, South Africa. Dec. 2014.

Finding Flow in Rebellion. 4th Computer Art Congress / Hiperorganicos 5. Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, June 2014.

Digital Art: Tunis to Joburg. Innovation and New Tech leading Futurist African Arts Practice. Tech 4 Africa Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa. Oct. 2014.

Culture of Technology: Digital Technology and New Aesthetics in African Digital

Art. Presented at ACASA Triennial , Brooklyn Museum, New York
Critical Interventions: Journal of African Art. Vol 10. Issue 3. (Routledge)

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT / ART / PERFORMANCE / CURATION: 2019 – 2013 only

- 2021 Upcoming - **School for Vernacular Algorithms**. *Extended research, installation and performance*. Le Lelie Unique, Nantes, France. April 2021
- 2020 **Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**. *PowerToThePixel*. Director and Curatorial Lead. Braamfontien Johannesburg. October - November, 2020
- 2019 **Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**. *Own Our Force*. Director and Curatorial Lead. Braamfontien Johannesburg. September, 2019
- 2018 **Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**. *Tap your Afro Source Code*. Director and Curatorial Lead. Braamfontien Johannesburg. September, 2018
- Vernacular Algorithms**. Artist / Researcher. Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg & ZKM | Center for Art and Media. June - November 2018
- Digital Imaginaries: Premonition**. Curator. Wits Art Museum. Johannesburg. June - September 2018
- Ghosted**. Curatorial. Akademie Schloss Solitude and ZKM | Center for Art and Media. April, 2018
- 2017 **Season2: Centre for the Less Good Idea**. Curator and Digital Artist. Johannesburg. October, 2017.
- Jacaranda Time**. Interactive Digital Performance, co-produced with Cameron Harris and Mwenya Kabwe. Season 2, Center for the Less Good Idea. October, 2017.
- Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**. *Brave Tech Hearts Beat as One*. Director and Curatorial. Braamfontien Johannesburg. September, 2017
- 2016 **Fak'ugesi African Digital Innovation Festival**. *Afro Tech Riot*. Director and Curatorial. Braamfontien Johannesburg. September, 2016
- 2015 **Post African Futures** at the Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg. Large scale curatorial exhibition developed in extension of PhD research.
- Fak'ugesi Digital Africa Residency, Futures of Creative Technology in Johannesburg**. Curatorial for the Fak'ugesi African Innovation Festival.

- 2014 **Digital Africa Residency, Yuri Suzuki, Bogosi Sekhukhuni, Nathan Gates.**
Curatorial for the Fak’ugesi African Innovation Festival.
- 2013 **Hotel Yeoville: *Pose Votre Question*.** “Sharp Sharp Johannesburg”, at Le Gaité Lyric, Paris, France. October, 2013.
- Coming and Going But Never Leaving.*** “Working Title 2013” at the Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg., Interactive Video Installation. August, 2013
- Digital Afrique Exhibition with Planete Emergences & MCD, Marseille, France:***
Curatorial Consolation of South African and Nigerian based Digital Artists. May – July 2013.