

Kate McEntee

design research + strategy

ABOUT ME

I am a passionate, people-oriented social design practitioner and seasoned design researcher. I bring a high level of expertise in participatory and co-design processes, and years of experience from research, consulting, facilitation and project management. I am currently seeking opportunities to work on community-oriented projects that engage across diverse needs and populations. I am at my best working on teams, and helping to translate complex information, needs and research outcomes for collaborators and stakeholders. My strengths include engaging in people-centred research, facilitation processes and communication strategy.

I hold a Masters of Fine Arts in Transdisciplinary Design, a degree focused on project-based design practice, rooted in systems thinking and radical collaboration. In 2023, I completed a PhD in design that researched how practitioners from dominant positionalities can better collaborate across diverse worldviews and communities. Previous to my PhD candidature I worked for 2 years as a lecturer developing and delivering social and co-design courses and research. Prior to my graduate studies, I spent 8 years in design and storytelling consulting for complex litigation in San Francisco and New York.

A selection of my past projects can be found at: www.hellothisiskate.com.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. DESIGN

Monash University / 2023 (expected)

Thesis: *Shifting Ontological Orientations: Wrestling with Dominant Positionalities and Worldviews in Social Design Practice*

M.F.A. TRANSDISCIPLINARY DESIGN

Parsons School of Design / 2016

B.A., RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A., INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

University of Oregon / 2008

THINGS I LOVE IN PROJECTS

Project management	Interview research
Facilitation	Workshop design & facilitation
Research translation	Creative strategy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE*

*See attached page for academic roles and research details from Jan 2017-Dec 2022.

RESEARCHER, CO-DESIGN & EDUCATION

Parsons Research Lab: THRIVING / Jan 2015–Oct 2016 New York

Research assistant for co-design lab at Parsons exploring education models that promote emotional intelligence, social cognition, self-awareness, and holistic leadership

- Design and develop co-design workshops and interviews as part of data collection
- Synthesise findings into published reports and classroom learning activities

SENIOR TRIAL CONSULTANT

The Focal Point / Feb 2009–Dec 2016

New York + San Francisco

Creative consultant for high-end, complex litigation trial teams on trial strategy, story creation and visual presentations for the courtroom

- Guide clients to distill key themes and stories and build overarching case strategy
- Design and develop graphics and visual aids necessary for case presentation
- Lead internal teams of consultants and designers: manage client needs, oversee work flow, create and maintain budgets and production schedules
- Internal office leadership roles:
 - Core leadership team to open East Coast office
 - Create and lead the internal design thinking and creative collaboration think tank
 - Lead consultant on Pro Bono matters
- Clients include: Google, Samsung, Chevron, Comcast, Genentech, Credit Suisse, Oracle, Anadarko

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Focal Point / Feb 2009–Oct 2010 / San Francisco

RESEARCHER: INTERFAITH DIALOG

Track Two Diplomacy / Sep 2008–Jul 2010 / San Francisco

Lead research assistant on interfaith, survey-based project

- Organise research subjects in California, Germany and France
- Survey development, collating data, outreach, presenting work to co-researchers and funding bodies

PHD CANDIDATE

TEACHING ASSOCIATE, DESIGN

Monash University / Jan 2019–Dec 2022 / Melbourne, Australia

TEACHING ASSOCIATE, INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

RMIT University / 2021 / Melbourne, Australia

ASSISTANT LECTURER, DESIGN

Monash University / Jan 2017–Dec 2018 / Melbourne, Australia

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

- 2021 Diatta, Myriam D, Stacy Holman Jones, and Kate McEntee. **'A Place to Meet: Living with Critical Theory as a Mode of Care in Everyday Artistic Practice.'** *Research in Arts and Education*, 23. <https://journal.fi/rae/article/download/119529/71077/236760>.
- 2019 Manuell, Romany, Kate McEntee and Marcus Chester. **'The Equity Collection: Analysis and transformation of the Monash University Design Collection.'** *Art Libraries Journal* 44 (3): 119–23. <https://doi.org/10.1017/alj.2019.16>.
- 2019 Grocott, L., McEntee, K., Coleman, K. & Manix, R. **'The becoming of a designer: An affective pedagogical approach to modelling and scaffolding risk-taking.'** In: *Art, Design & Communication in Higher Education*. 18, 1, p. 99-112

Conferences

- 2021 McEntee, K. **'An abundance of tools: Attention and care with critical theory from the peripheries'**, Pivot 2021 Dismantling/Reassembling Design Research Society Conference. Toronto, Canada. (Online)
- 2021 McEntee, K. **'Communities of Practice: Developing Alternatives to Dominant Design'**, Pivot 2021 Dismantling/Reassembling Design Research Society Conference. Toronto, Canada. (Online)
- 2017 McEntee, K. **'Becoming Woke: Design Research and Embodied Practice'**, Nordes Nordic Design Research Conference, Oslo, Norway.
- 2017 McEntee, K. and Grocott, L. **'Transforming Mindsets: Intrapersonal Skills and the Becoming of a Designer'**, Australian Council of University Art and Design Schools Conference, Canberra, Australia.
- 2017 McEntee, K. **'I Would Like to Have a Conversation About Race.'** Critical Autoethnography Conference. Monash University and RMIT, Melbourne, Australia.

Book chapter

- 2018 Grocott, L. and McEntee, K. **'Unlocking Potential: How Teaching Intrapersonal Development Improves Interpersonal and Intercultural Skillsets.'** In *Public Interest Design Education Guidebook: Curricula, Strategies, and SEED Academic Case Studies*. Abendroth, Lisa M. and Bryan Bell (Ed.) New York, NY: Routledge.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

- 2020 McEntee, K. **'Categorising people: Tensions in critical approaches to design.'** ServDes2020 Melbourne, Australia. (Online). Peer-reviewed.
- 2019 McEntee, K., Ellerton, W., Grocott, L., Korsmeyer, H. **'The Worlds We Live In'**. Melbourne Design Week. Melbourne, Australia.
- 2018 McEntee, K. **'Equity-Centered Design'**. Design and Ethics, Paper Giant, Engineers Without Borders. Melbourne, Australia.
- 2018 McEntee, K., Brandalise, Isabella, Günther Anderson, Jon. **'Feminine Design'**. Design Research Society Conference. Limerick, Ireland. Peer-reviewed.
- 2017 McEntee, K. **'Design for equity'**. Peer Academy Co-Design Symposium. Melbourne, Australia.

COURSES

- Theory: Modernism, Design and the Avant-Garde (2019-2022)
- Theory: Research for Design (2019-2022)
- Studio: Design Thinking, Undergraduate & Masters (2019-2021)
- Studio: Co-design, Communication Design (2017)
- Studio: Work-integrated graduate project: ethnographic research, Industrial Design (2017)
- Studio: Design for Social Impact, Interdisciplinary (2018-2020)
- Design research methods: Design and the Radical Liberation Project (2021)