

# Meghan Elizabeth Trainor

[meghanelizabethtrainor.com](http://meghanelizabethtrainor.com)

Meghan Elizabeth Trainor is a Seattle-based artist, writer, lecturer, performer, and curator. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, from Seattle, New York, Copenhagen, and Barcelona. Her most recent solo exhibition was *Let Us Not Confuse Zero with The Stillness of Electrons* at the Center On Contemporary Art (COCA). She has been featured in *Once Upon an Instant* at HTW Berlin, *Goodwitch/Badwitch* at the Museum of Museums; the Frye Art Museum's interview series, *Virtual Visits* hosted by Negarra A. Kudumu; and as a guest on Critical Bound Podcast's series *Art, AI, and Technology*. She completed her master's at Tisch School of the Arts/New York University; and has been an artist-in-residence at the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Digital Performance Institute, and the Janie & James Washington Foundation.



Trainor's practice centers her scholarship on the throughlines between computer science, technology, and esoterica. She frames this through storytelling around bogs, hedge witchery, digital witchcraft, and the use and histories of electronics and electricity. The range of her storytelling includes everything from essays on speculative histories to impressive installations to spoken word pieces and cunningly worded memes and graphic imagery. Her material practice includes creating low-voltage batteries from organic materials, the Venn diagrams that express logic gates but also echo phases of the moon and mandorla, and the creation of masks that point at a mythic conception of computer hardware.

She frequently guest lectures, most recently for the courses *Considering Religious Robots* at ITP/NYU and *Utopia* at The Danish Academy for Creative Writing. Her work has been cited by publications ranging from *The Politics of Possibility* to a solo exhibition *Bog Memory, Computer Memory, Risk, and Security Beyond Probability*, by Louise Amoore, *The Women Who Disappeared from Computer History* by Lone Kofoed Hansen, and *The Feminist Data Manifest-No Playlist Compiled* by T.L. Cowan with Marika Cifor and Jessica Lapp.

Trainor is the Curator of the M. Rosetta Hunter Art Gallery at Seattle Central College. The ArtsWA Board of Commissioners has appointed her to the 2022 ArtsWA Curator Roster for a four-year term.

Her next show is a collaboration with author and writer Sarah Lippek/Lypstk entitled *Sphagnum: Ink & Logic*, a meditation on gravity, electromagnetism, bog ecosystems and sigil-making that explores logic symbols, Green River mythos, predation, living outside,

space-time travel, ink making, digital witchcraft, bog rituals, adventure, and transformation; Gravity's Rainbow for Girls.

Most recently, she has been invited to be an artist-in-residence at Captive Portal in Copenhagen, Denmark. The residency will culminate in a solo exhibition *Bog Memory*, *Computer Memory*.

## SELECTED SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

Bog Memory, Computer Memory, Captive Portal, Copenhagen, Denmark, July 2024

Sphagnum: Ink & Logic, Frontier Home, Seattle, WA, June 2023

Let Us Not Confuse Zero with the Stillness of Electrons, Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA), Seattle, WA, July -August 2021

Witancraeftlic, M. Rosetta Hunter Gallery, Seattle, WA, January 2019

Enter the Grim-War (36 Portals), Equinox Studios, Seattle, WA, December 8th, 2018

Computational Witchcraft, AURA Gallery, Seattle, WA, September 2018

Hedgewitch Portals, Equinox Studios, Seattle, WA, December, 2017

Lotus Root & Barnacle, Makerhaus, Seattle, WA, 2014

Ex-Voto Machina, Bush Hotel, Storefronts Seattle, 2013

Residency Open Studio Show, James and Janie Washington Foundation , Seattle, WA, August, 2010

Northern Electronic Research Division, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council , New York, NY, August-September, 2006

Negative Geography, The Pound Gallery, Seattle, WA , February, 2002

## SELECTED PERFORMANCES

Witch Science on the Moon at The Salish Sea Anti-Space Symposium, Pipsqueak Gallery, Seattle, WA, July 20th, 2019

More Serenades for Science, The Grocery, Seattle, WA, July 2018

Ask the Robot presents: Robot Revival, Frying Pan, New York, NY, June 4, 2006

Ask the Robot presents: Mechanized Labor Day, Frying Pan, New York, NY, August 31, 2005

Ask the Robot presents: Turn Me On, Frying Pan, New York, NY, May 25, 2005

Ask the Robot presents: Robot Nautical Convention, Frying Pan, New York, NY, September 13, 2004

## SELECTED WRITINGS

### **The Familiar Algorhythm**

The Familiar Algorhythm is a small and-bound booklet of writing by interdisciplinary artist Meghan Elizabeth Trainor focusing on syncretic tension, alchemy, and object-oriented witchcraft. This publication was originally one part of the curated box set, SIGIL, also featuring the work of Jazz Brown and Guy Merrill. SIGIL was created by Bridge Productions in March 2016.

## Robot Philter

Following the opening of Robots Building Robots in September 2016, the Hedreen Gallery at Seattle University commissioned artist Meghan Elizabeth Trainor to create a text-based or performative response to the exhibition. The result is an evocative sound piece called Robot Philter, which interweaves references to works in the exhibition and allusions to Trainor's own work with reflections on the "haunted screen" and the digital expansion of "the membrane of personhood."

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

Art + Flight, Museum of Flight, Seattle, WA, 2023

Once Upon an Instant, HTW Berlin - University of Applied Sciences, Berlin, Germany, September 6-20, 2022

Safety, Fresh Mochi, Seattle, WA, September 2022

Off the Wall, J. Rinehart Gallery, Seattle, WA, December 2021

Goodwitch / Badwitch, Malone Gallery at Museum of Museums, Seattle, WA, October 2020 - April 2021

THE BUBBLE: Safety By Ritual and Design, The Alice, Seattle, WA, November 2016

Embedding Absence, Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Seattle, WA, February 2012

Fabrication Laboratory, Disseny Hub, Barcelona, Spain, June 15, 2010 - May 29, 2011

Passages, Inscape, Seattle, WA, October 16-17, 2010

The Fab Show, The Esther M. Klein Art Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, May 15 - July 3, 2009

Targeted Publics: Arts and Technologies of the Security City, CCCB: Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain, October 2-3, 2008

People Doing Strange Things with Electricity, 911 Media Art Center, Seattle, WA, December 2007- January 2008

Wood Metal Water, Redhead arts space of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York, NY, September 29 - November 5, 2005



Elektron Mask:  
To Observe Electricity

Core Memory Mask: To  
Weave Electricity

