

CV

Zsófia Szonja Illés

*MDes in Design Innovation and Environmental Design  
MRes in Design Research  
The Glasgow School of Art, Innovation School*

*DLA (Phd / Doctor of Liberal Arts) in Design  
MOME - Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design*

*zsofiasonia@gmail.com*



*Sensory Mapping, Glasgow, 2020*

# Zsófia Szonja Illés

*MRes, Design Research*

*MDes, Design Innovation and Environmental Design*

*Innovation School, The Glasgow School of Art*

*DLA (Phd / Doctor of Liberal Arts) in Design*

*MOME - Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design*

Creative facilitator and multidisciplinary designer with an environmentally and socially engaged practice. Completed a master's degree (MDes) in Design Innovation and Environmental Design at the Innovation School of The Glasgow School of Art. Zsófia Illés is a visiting lecturer on Interior Design, Design Innovation and Landscape Architecture at the The Glasgow School of Art, The Open University and the [LED2LEAP Landscape Education for Democracy](#) programme, where she teaches creative methods for place-based engagement.

She is currently undertaking a Masters of Design Research (MRes) programme with Highlands and Islands Innovation Scholarship at the Innovation School of The Glasgow School of Art. In 2021 she has started her Phd (DLA) at the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design. Both her MRes and Phd research explores and speculates methods towards 'More-than-human Placemaking', in order to think beyond human-centered, anthropocentric notions of design and bring in other possible viewpoints.

Having delivered a diverse body of collaborative work internationally Zsófia Illés has worked with experts across art, design, architecture and science to create work that is socially and environmentally driven. This includes public installations, research and engagement projects for [TATE Britain](#), London Design Week, [Center for Civic Innovation](#) (Glasgow), Scottish Land Commission, Hello Wood Architecture Summer Schools, KÉK - Center of Contemporary Architecture and Istanbul Biennale. She was awarded I-Portunus European Union artist mobility grant to work with CCA: Center of Contemporary Art in Glasgow - as part of their '[School for Civic Imagination](#)' programme and received a Creative Europe grant to deliver an urban sound mapping project in Barcelona ([IDENSITAT 'Sound of our Cities'](#) programme).

# CV

## SELECTED ART/DESIGN PROJECTS, CONFERENCES and TEACHING

2021

'Making Sense of the Anthropocene'

Performance Lecture and Sensory Walk, The Open University

Project Coordinator and Exhibiting Project (Collaborative Futures)

[Speculative and Critical Design Exhibition](#), Tsinghua University, Academy of Art and Design

['Unheard and Unseen'](#) - ['Sound of our Cities'](#), Urban Sound art project, [IDENSITAT](#)  
Creative Europe grant, Barcelona

2020 -

Visiting Lecturer on Design Innovation and Landscape/Architecture  
Innovation School, The Glasgow School of Art

2020 -

Visiting Lecturer and Artistic Engagement Consultant , The Open University

2020 -

Lecturer - 'Placemaking Engagement'

LED2LEAP - [Landscape Education for Democracy](#)

LE:NOTRE Institute, Nürtingen-Geislingen University, Szent István University,  
University of Bologna, Uppsala University

2020

Design Researcher, [Collaborative Futures - Speculative Design Project](#)

The Glasgow School of Art and Center for Civic Innovation

Conference Speaker: Paper on 'Ecocreativity and Sensory Innovation'

Eco-Creativity Conference, The Open University

Conference speaker: Paper on 'Engagement and Participatory Design'

['Research and Covid 19: Virtual Community and Activism'](#) , The Open University

2020

Vacant and Derelict Land Public Engagement with young people  
MyLandScotLand project - [Scottish Land Commission](#), [Ice Cream Architecture](#)

Conference Speaker: '[Sensory Mapping for Diversity](#)'  
After the Pandemic Architectural Conference, Glasgow

'Sensory Walks' - [COP26](#), Finalist project  
After the Pandemic Architectural Festival, Glasgow

2019 - 2020

Artist in residence at the '[School for Civic Imagination](#)'  
[CCA: Center of Contemporary Art](#), public engagement programme

2019

Conference Speaker - Paper on 'Art and Engagement'  
[Inside Festival Cultures - Fields, Bodies, Ecologies](#), Birmingham University

2018 – 2019

Curator and Program Coordinator at Budapest, [KÉK - Contemporary Architecture Center](#)

Artist-lecturer, Facilitator

[DemoLab](#), A non-hierarchical educational and Co-design project with highschool students, UNDEF (Budapest)

2015

[Urban Series Istanbul](#) - Urban mapping workshop, Conference speaker  
[Istanbul Biennale](#) and Photo Istanbul - 'Family Cookbook' Exhibition  
and Research

'Collective Plant' - [Lumen Station #3: Reap and Sow](#), Off Biennale, Budapest

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

[Link to further exhibitions and art/design projects](#)

2021 - ['Sound of our Cities'](#) Urban Sound Mapping and Installation, Barcelona

2021 - ['Collaborative Futures'](#) - [International Speculative Design Exhibition](#)  
Tsinghua University of Design, Beijing

2019 - [Utopia Shopping Center](#) - Exhibition on the future of education  
[DemoLab](#), UNDEF, Budapest

2018 - [BEES/WAX](#) Installation and Performance Lecture  
Design Week Budapest, [TRAFÓ House](#)

2018 - ['A Common Ground'](#) Installation, [TATE Britain](#)  
A project with Architects [Something and Son](#)

2018 - 'Collective Plant' Exhibition  
London Design Festival, Brixton Village

2016 - ['FOREST'](#) Installation (Budapest)  
Platan Gallery and Art Placc Festival

2015 - 2019  
[Hello Wood](#) - Summer School Tutor and Designer  
Installation Projects: TeaTotem (2015), FireNest (2016), HelloPizza (2017),  
Carnival Table (2019)

2015 - 'Family Cookbook' Exhibition  
[Istanbul Biennale](#) and Photo Istanbul

2015 - 'Collective Plant' - [Lumen Station #3: Reap and Sow](#),  
Off Biennale, Budapest

2013 - 'Collective Plant' - Labor, Budapest

2012 - 'Travellers'  
Dunaujvaros Photo Biennale (Hungary)

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Illés, Zs. Sz. Nita, M. (2021). 'Artistic Engagement and Engineering Cultural Innovation at Festivals', Chapter 5 in [Festival Cultures: Mapping New Fields in the Arts and Social Sciences](#), Palgrave Macmillan

## GRANTS

2020 - ['Sound of our Cities'](#), [IDENSITAT](#) Creative Europe grant (Barcelona)

2020 - Highlands and Islands Innovation Scholarship, Innovation School (GSA)

2019 - [I-Portunus](#) EU artist mobility grant

2019 - ['School for Civic Imagination'](#) for Socially Engaged Art, CCA: Glasgow

2015 - Artist in residence, [Galerias Municipais, Lisbon](#)

2015 - [Budapest Gallery Artist Exchange Residency](#) programme

2015 - [Re\\_Act Residency - Contemporary Art Laboratory](#), Terceira Island (Azores)

2006 - Leonardo Scholarship, Cultural Anthropology Field Research (Lisbon)

## MEMBERSHIP

Creative Carbon Scotland - [Green Tease Network](#) member

Scottish Contemporary Art Network - [SCAN membership](#)

### Contact and Further Details

[LinkedIn](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Portfolio](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Vimeo](#)