

Randy Sarafan

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www.randysarafan.com

Professional Experience

2019 - 2007, Instructables / Autodesk, Brooklyn, NY

As of 2018, I'm Sr. Community Manager for Instructables.com and oversee everything non-technical related to website operations (including editorial and social strategies).

Starting 2016, I created online introductory curriculum for teaching Electronics, Robotics, Circuit Board Design, Motors, and Metalworking.

In 2013 I founded the Instructables Design Studio at Autodesk's Pier 9 Technology Center. I led a team of artists, designers and engineers in the production of how-to content. Clients included RadioShack, Home Depot, Ford, Black and Decker, and Little Bits.

Prior to 2013 I was Sales Support, Technology Editor, and Community Manager.

Education

2015, San Francisco State University, M.F.A in Studio Art - Digital Media Arts concentration

2005, Parsons School of Design, B.F.A in Design and Technology (cum laude)

Teaching

2018 Part-Time Faculty, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY (Disobedient Electronics)

2017 Part-Time Faculty, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY (Evil Robots)

2014 Teaching Assistant, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA (media arts)

2007 Instructor, Parsons Pre-College Program, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY (robotics)

Workshops / Lectures

2016 Simple Bots Workshop, SF State, Introduction to Media Arts Class (San Francisco, CA) 2015 "Objects Behaving Badly" Graduate Lecture, CSU East Bay (Hayward, CA)

2013 Simple Bots Workshop, Design Night: Robots, Autodesk Gallery (San Francisco, CA)

2009 Wearable Gaming Controllers, Noisebridge, as part of Arse Electronica, (San Francisco, CA)

2008 DIY Breathalyzer Microphone, The Lab, as part of Subversive Complicity, (San Francisco, CA)

2007 LED Picture Frames, Eyebeam Atelier, as part of The Holiday Hackshop (New York, NY) 2006

Hacking a USB Keyboard, San Mateo Fair Grounds, Maker Faire 2006 (San Mateo, CA)

Affiliations

2018, NYC Resistor (Brooklyn, NY)

Member: Part of a community producing innovative technology and art.

2015 - 2008, F.A.T. (Free Art and Technology Lab)

Fellow: Explored the boundaries of open-source technologies, viral media, and popular culture.

2007, Eyebeam Atelier (New York, NY)

Resident: Development of open-source electronic art projects.

Exhibitions

- 2018 Self-Driving Carbs, NYC Resistor (Brooklyn, NY)
- 2017 World Maker Faire 2017, New York Hall of Science (Queens, NY)
- 2015 Technophilia, Embark Gallery (San Francisco, CA)
FAT Gold San Francisco, Grey Area Foundation for the Arts, (San Francisco CA)
2015 MFA Exhibition, SFSU Fine Arts Gallery (San Francisco, CA)
- 2013 The 26th Annual Leo D. Stillwell Student Exhibition, SFSU Fine Arts Gallery (San Francisco, CA)
Autodesk Design Night: Rock N Roll, Autodesk Gallery (San Francisco, CA)
FAT Gold Europe, MU (Eindhoven, Netherlands)
17th Annual New Generations Student Showcase, De Young Museum (San Francisco, CA)
FAT Gold: 5 Years of FAT, Eyebeam (New York, NY)
Autodesk Design Night: Making It, Autodesk Gallery (San Francisco, CA)
- 2012 Maker Fair @ The Tech, The Tech Museum of Innovation (San Jose, CA)
Robots, Land Sharks & The Polish Ambassador, Cal. Academy of Sciences (San Francisco, CA)
Machinations: Kinetic Sculpture in the Age of Open-source, Glass Curtain Gallery (Chicago, IL)
- 2011 Arse Elektronika 2011, Sex, Tech, and the Lulz, Noisebridge (San Francisco, CA)
Maker Faire 2011, San Mateo Fair Grounds (San Mateo, CA)
World Maker Faire 2011, New York Hall of Science (Queens, NY)
- 2010 Fuck Google @ Transmediale (w/F.A.T. Lab), Haus Der Kulteren Der Welt (Berlin, DE)
Maker Faire 2010, San Mateo Fair Grounds (San Mateo, CA)
World Maker Faire 2010, New York Hall of Science (Queens, NY)
- 2009 Dorkbot SF, Monkey Brains (San Francisco, CA)
40% Off: An art show for the new economy, ABCO (Oakland, CA)
Maker Faire 2009, San Mateo Fair Grounds (San Mateo, CA)
Arse Elektronika 2009: Of Intercourse and Intracourse, The Roxie Theatre (San Francisco, CA)
- 2008 Maker Faire 2008, San Mateo Fair Grounds (San Mateo, CA)
Subversive Complicity, The Lab (San Francisco, CA)
- 2007 Maker Faire 2007, San Mateo Fair Grounds (San Mateo, CA)
- 2005 Design and Technology Thesis Exhibition, Parsons School of Design (New York, NY)
10th Floor Second Edition, Chelsea Museum (New York, NY)
- 2004 The Voting Booth Project, 2 W. 13.th St. Gallery (New York, NY)

Recognition

- Maker Faire Editor's Choice Award 2017
Honorable Mention Core77 Design Award (DIY Category) - Simple Bots
Maker Faire Education Award 2011

Books Published

(Untitled Robots Book), No Starch Publishing (Expected 2019)
Simple Bots (eBook), Instructables Publishing, (2012)
62 Projects to Make with a Dead Computer, Workman Publishing, (2010) [translated German, Mandarin]

Articles Published

"Awl Good" (p.197), Make Magazine, Issue 13, Toolbox, O'Reilly Media Inc.
"Clap Off Bra", Extraordinary Project for Ordinary People, Skyhorse Publishing
"Craft" Chapter Introduction (p.176), The Best of Instructables: Volume 1
"Make a Vibrobot", How to Do Absolutely Everything, Skyhorse Publishing
"Media Artist Contingency Plan" (p.134), The F.A.T. Manual, Link Editions
"Flamethrowing Jack-O-Lantern", Extraordinary Project for Ordinary People, Skyhorse Publishing
"Light Up Holiday Shadow Box", Smore Magazine, Nov/Dec 2018 issue
"Lost and Found" (p.92-97), The F.A.T. Manual, Link Editions
"Lunchtime Clock", Extraordinary Project for Ordinary People, Skyhorse Publishing
"OCCU(PI) Bot" (p.149-151), The F.A.T. Manual, Link Editions
"The Breathalyzer Microphone" (p.47), The F.A.T. Manual, Link Editions
"The Googler" (p.142-145), The F.A.T. Manual, Link Editions
"The Joydick" (p.136), Of Intercourse and Intracourse, Re/Search Publications

Print Bibliography

Allan Chochinov, "Simple Bots," Designing Here/Now: A global selection of objects, concepts, and spaces for the future, Thames and Hudson, New York, NY, 2014
Anna Kaziunas France, "Five Fully Functional 3D Printed Cameras," Make, Vol. 38, April/May 2014 (p.59)
Aram Bartholl, "How to Build a Fake Google Streetview Car" The Speed Book, Gestalten, Berlin, DE, 2012 (p. 42 - 45)
Diana Pozo, "Countergaming's porn parodies, hard-core and soft," Rated M for Mature: Sex and Sexuality in Video Games," Mathew Wysocki & Evan Lauteria (editors), Bloombury, New York, NY, 2015
Glenn Derene, "The Robots are Coming... (to mow my lawn)," Popular Mechanics, Vol. 190, No. 7, July/August 2013 (p.81 - 84)
Hope Reeves, "Bra-pocalypse Now," New York Times Magazine, November 3, 2013. (p.13)
Jim Dawson, "My Chair is Telling Everyone I Stink," Did Somebody Step on a Duck?: A Natural History of the Fart, Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, CA, 2010. (p.20 - 22)
Katharine Schwab, "Design Nights inspire thinking and partying," S.F. Chronicle, August 23, 2013
Lauren Murrow, "Peek Inside the Robot-Powered, 3-D-Printed, Luminescent Future at Autodesk's Pier 9 Workshop", San Francisco Magazine, The New Rules of Design, October 2015
National Examiner, "Bra Can Be Removed with Simple Clap," August 12, 2013. (p.40)
Nick Dragotta, "Howtoons: Let's Make a Wobbler," Make, Vol. 27, July/August 2013 (p.156 - 157)
Pau Waelder Laso, "Games of Pain: Pain as Haptic Stimulation in Computer Game Based Media Art," Leonardo Journal of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology, Vol. 40, No. 3, 2007. (p.238 - 242)
Rene A. Guzman, "Crafts to geek out about," S.F. Chronicle, September 26, 2011
The Daily Telegraph, "Engineer Randy Sarafan Has Invented a Bra That Comes Off With a Clap," February 13, 2011
The Voting Booth Project (exhibition catalog), 2004
Violet Blue, "Pervy Kinetic Art: Joysticks just got a lot sexier," S.F. Chronicle, February 19, 2009

Television / Radio / Podcasts

[ABC \(World News - The Mix\)](#), [BBC \(podcast\)](#), CBS (The Jeff Probst Show), Comedy Central (The Joselink Offensive), [Craftsman Radio](#), Discovery Canada (Daily Planet), E! (Chelsea Lately), ITV - UK (Lorraine), G4 (Attack of the Show), NBC ([Today Show](#)), NBC ([The Tonight Show](#)), [News5 Everywhere - Philippines](#), [The New York Times](#), [NPR](#), Playboy Radio, [Publika MD - Romania](#), Radio Netherlands Worldwide, [Tv9 Kannada - Bangalore](#)

Selected Online Mentions

[Mother Jones](#), [Slate](#), [Make](#), [The Daily Telegraph](#), [Daily Mail](#), [DNA India](#) [Hindustan Times](#), [Huffington Post](#), [Heise Online](#), [Metro](#), [Popular Science](#), [Cosmopolitan](#), [EE Web](#), [Boing Boing](#), [Inhabitat](#), [Gizmodo](#), [Jezebel](#), [CNET](#), [Laughing Squid](#), [Perez Hilton](#), [Thrillist](#), [Lifehacker](#), [The Creators Project](#), [io9](#), [Core77](#), [Treehugger](#), [Nerve](#), [PC World](#), [Peta Pixel](#), [Wired](#), [We Make Money Not Art](#), [Animal New York](#), [PC Mag](#), [Notcot](#), [Engadget](#), [3Ders](#), [KQED Arts](#)