
"One danger of not knowing the history of art instruction [...] is that what happens in art classes begins to appear as timeless and natural. History allows us to begin to see the kinds of choices we have made for ourselves, and the particular biases and possibilities of our kinds of instruction."

My belief that there was a problem and my determination to fix it had propelled my MA research on craft education, but soon I had followed tangents to such a degree that I had lost sight of how I wanted my work to be used as a tool for fixing. This statement by Elkins clarified to me that the most significant tool for fixing is information: knowledge of one's own history and evolution in order to view policies and traditions with healthy criticality. Fixing to me means means taking the initiative to affect positive change—I used history."

Kara Bargmann
Featured Librarian
November


"Feminist theorist Donna Haraway is the figure to turn to when we don’t know how to act in a troubled world. With Haraway we stay with the trouble and learn how to act responsibly. Her brilliant and radical thinking helps deprogramme any vestiges of anthropocentric thought we may still harbour, because anthropocentric thinking is deadly for the planet. 'How can we think in terms of urgencies without the self-indulgent and self-fulfilling myths of apocalypse when every fiber of our being is complicit, in the webs of processes that must somehow be engaged and repatterned?' This, her latest book, is the most relevant so far for the fixers of the world. Collect up the trash of the anthropocene to build still possible futures and still liveable worlds, she says. Read all the Haraway you can and tell her stories to all your kin."

Jonnet Middleton
Featured Librarian
December