

Atif Akin

Professor of Art & Design

Rutgers University - New Brunswick

Address: EFA Project Space
323 W 39th St. #406
New York, NY 10018
e-mail: atifakin@gmail.com
URL: <http://atifakin.info>
Tel: +1(917)940-2603

Major Projects

2023 - THE UNIVERSITY_A PROJECT

THE UNIVERSITY_A PROJECT is a participatory publication and exhibition project on academia.

2022 - Ptolemy

Commissioned by Michigan State University and Princeton University, *Ptolemy* is a 3D data visualization project culminated as a website and architectural projection.

2022 Mutant Time

Mutant Time, by way of activating the industrial archaeological character of Gazhane, creates a lens into the deep nuclear time. The project contemplates the nuclear as a time-space interface.

2010 - 2020 Mutant Space

Mutant Space is a large scale, research driven visual art and design project that deals with radioactive mobility, nuclear sites, history of radiation, archaeology and geology. Sections of this project are exhibited at various venues.

2015 Apricots from Damascus

Apricots from Damascus is an investigation of art in a state of mobility and exile. This project is presented as an exhibition, reading space and a series of zines.

- 2014 Empire Front
- Empire Front* investigates war, surveillance, social media and the history of photography as it relates to wars and fronts. This project is realized through installations, a book and a website.
- 2011 Cities, Connectivity and Creativity
- Cities, Connectivity and Creativity* is a visual research and art project that addresses post-cold war global trade routes, ports and mobility.
- 2009 Uncharted: User Frames in Media Arts
- Uncharted* is a study of interaction design and multimedia art: a narrative that includes the pioneering activities of a diverse group of artists, scientists, musicians, and theorists.

Exhibitions

- 2026 Social Photography, group exhibition, Carriage Trade, New York, New York
- 2025 Learning Systems/Vienna Art Week, group exhibition, Vienna, Austria
- 2025 Sadomasoqués, group exhibition, Barcelona, Spain
- 2025 Two Crabs Crossing The Canal Street, group exhibition, MANA Contemporary, Jersey City, New Jersey
- 2024 Signals, Pilot Gallery, solo exhibition, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2024 O, Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria
- 2024 Teaching a GAN the Alphabet, Istanbul Modern Museum, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2022 Mutant Time, Istanbul Biennial, Türkiye
- 2020 Mutant Space, solo exhibition, Rosefsky Gallery, SUNY Binghamton, New York, USA
- 2020 Apricots from Damascus Room, solo exhibition, SP/N Gallery, UT Dallas, Texas, USA
- 2019 Tepoto Sud morph Moruroa, solo exhibition, BASE Gallery, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2019 Tepoto Sud morph Moruroa, group exhibition, Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2018 Oceans, group exhibition, Le Fresnoy, Tourcoing, France

- 2018 Oceans, Imagining a Tidalectic Worldview, group exhibition, Dubrovnik, Croatia
- 2018 ArtJog, group exhibition, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2017 The Oceanic, group exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Singapore
- 2017 Tidalectics, group exhibition, TBA 21 - Augarten, Vienna, Austria
- 2016 Unspoken Dialogues, group exhibition, Galeria Millennium BCP, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 Design Biennial, group exhibition, Istanbul Archaeology Museum, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2016 Outside the Sentence There was a City, group exhibition, SALT Ulus, Ankara, Türkiye
- 2015 Apricots from Damascus, group exhibition, SALT Galata, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2015 Mutant Space, Onkalo, solo exhibition, Arteles, Haukijarvi, Finland
- 2015 Mutant Space, Radio City, solo exhibition, Laboratory Spokane, Washington, USA
- 2015 Articulture Biennial, group exhibition, Pennsylvania, USA
- 2015 Mutant Space, Oswego, solo exhibition, Signal Culture, New York, USA
- 2013 Nordes 2013: Nordic Experiments in Design Research Exhibition, group exhibition, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2010 Lives and Works in Istanbul, group exhibition, Istanbul 2010 European Culture Capital, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2008 Political/Minimal, group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, KW, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 Evacuate Istanbul!, solo public screen installation, YAMA Marmara Pera, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2007 Istanbul Collection, group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, Ars Aevi Museum, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 2007 Time Present Time Past, group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, Istanbul Modern, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2005 Der Knochen Der Zunge, group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz, Austria
- 2004 Call Me Istanbul, group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2003 8th Istanbul Biennial", group exhibition, w/xurban_collective, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 2003 Arteonline, Museum of the Essential and Beyond That, group exhibition, Rio, Brazil
- 2002 PASO International Film and New Media Festival, group exhibition, Goethe Institute, Ankara, Türkiye
- 2002 knit++, group show, turbulence.org, online

Select Lectures and Presentations

- 2025 Artist Talk, MICA, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
- 2024 Artist Talk, Art, Culture and Technology, MIT, Massachusetts, USA
- 2023 Artist Talk, Design Biennial, Laboratorio Avanzato - Antoni Muntadas, Galleria Michela Rizzo, Venice, Italy
- 2023 Artist Talk, LASER - Leonardo/ISAST In-Person Rendezvous Event, New York, USA
- 2019 Guest Critique, Elizabeth Foundation of the Arts, New York, USA
- 2019 Keynote Address, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
- 2018 Artist Talk, Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, New Jersey, USA
- 2017 Artist Talk, VizCult, Binghamton University Department Of Art History, New York, USA
- 2016 Panelist, Kochi Muziris Biennale, Kochi, India, online
- 2016 Keynote Address, Empire Front: Networks And The Hermeneutical Dimensions of Disruption, Faculdade de Belas-Artes da Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
- 2016 Artist Talk, New School, New York, USA
- 2016 Artist Talk, "On Modularity and Code in the Context of Mobility", Public Programming of Olafur Eliasson's "Greenlight Project", TBA21, Vienna, Austria

Fellowships, Awards and Residencies

- 2022 Artist in Residence, La Maison de Barbara, Ayvalık, Türkiye
- 2024 Designer in Residence, The Roundhouse Foundation, Oregon, USA
- 2022 Artist in Residence, SAHA Foundation, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 2018 Fellow, Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

- 2016 Fellow, expedition to nuclear test sites in South Pacific Ocean, TBA21 Academy, granted by Francesca von Habsburg and Marcus Reyman, French Polynesia
- 2016 Nominee, United States Artists Award, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2015 Winner of the apexart Franchise exhibition award in New York, \$ 20,000
- 2015 apexart Franchise exhibition award in is matched by SALT Contemporary Art Institute in Istanbul, \$ 20,000
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Modern and Contemporary Art Center, Yerevan, Armenia
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Arteles, Haukijarvi, Finland
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Laboratory! Interactive, Digital, Performance Space, Washington, USA
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Signal Culture, New York, USA
- 2015 Recipient, The Franchise Program Grant, apexart, New York, USA
- 2014 Winner of the Terminal Awards sponsored by the Department of Art and the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts at Austin Peay State University of Tennessee February 2013 to February 2014, \$ 2,000
- 2009 Listed on the Younger Than Jesus artist directory by New Museum, in 2009, New York.

Publications and Press

- 2023 Contributor, *Poetries - Politics*, Rutgers Press
- 2022 Featured artist, *Climates. Habitats. Environments.*, MIT Press
- 2021 Featured artist, *Ocean Archive*, TBA21-Academy, online at <https://ocean-archive.org>
- 2020 Featured artist and contributing author, *Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary The Commissions Book*, Sternberg Press
- 2018 Featured artist, *Tidalectics, Imagining an Oceanic Worldview through Art and Science*, MIT Press
- 2018 Featured artist, *Sanat Dünyamız* (in Turkish), Yapı Kredi Press
- 2017 Contributing author, TBA21 Collection Catalogue, *All Science is Fiction*,

Sternberg Press

2017 Contributing author, Olafur Eliasson, *Green Light - An Artistic Workshop*, Sternberg Press

2017 Designer and Producer, *Dildilians*, photography exhibition, Columbia University

2016 Featured artist, *Are We Human? The Design of the Species*, Sternberg Press

2016 Featured artist, *Empire Front*, Shift: Graduate Journal of Visual and Material Culture, CUNY

Education

2002 – 2005 MSc., Industrial Design, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye

2002 – 2003 MS, Gender and Women Studies, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye (not completed)

1997 – 2001 BS, Chemical Engineering, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye

Faculty and Teaching Appointments

2025 - present Professor, Art & Design Department
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

2017 - 2025 Associate Professor, Art & Design Department
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

2011 - 2017 Assistant Professor, Art & Design Department
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

2006 - 2011 Assistant Professor, Visual Communication Design Department of
Bilgi University, Istanbul, Türkiye

Administrative Appointments

2026 - Graduate Program Director, Art & Design Department, Mason Gross
School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

2024 - 2025 Interim Undergraduate Program Director, Art & Design Department,
Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

2007 - 2011 Director of the MFA in Visual Communication Design Program,
Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, Türkiye.

Professional Appointments

2009 - 2012 Consultant to WordPress

2006 - 2009 Owner, Pagan Studio, Ankara, Türkiye

2003 - 2006 Art Director and Designer, Atölye M, Ankara, Türkiye

Courses Taught

Applied Media Aesthetics, Undergraduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Byne First Year Seminar - Data Visualization, Undergraduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Concept Development, Undergraduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Cyberculture, Undergraduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Design for the Digital Realm, Undergraduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Design Practicum, Undergraduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Design Studio - Visualization, Graduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Design Thesis, Graduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Experimental Computation in Design, Undergraduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Global to Gaia, Graduate, Art History - Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Independent Studies, Graduate / Undergraduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Process and Portfolio, Graduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Research Methods, Graduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Seminar in Media, Graduate, Art & Design, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Senior Project, Undergraduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

Video Production, Undergraduate, Visual Communication Design, Istanbul Bilgi University

MFA Graduate Advising

Ali Emre Dogramaci, School of Visual Arts

Alican Akturk, Istanbul Bilgi University

Baris Gursel, Istanbul Bilgi University

Bethany Robertson, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Can Pekdemir, Istanbul Bilgi University

Christian Hincapie, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Engin Gercek, Istanbul Bilgi University

Eric Gottshall, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Fahri Ozkaramanli, Istanbul Bilgi University

Kerriane Fallat, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Leona Cheung, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Refik Anadol, Istanbul Bilgi University

Ryan Lilienthal, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Ryan Woodring, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Sabri Akin, School of Visual Arts

Sanaz Feizi Khankandi, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Thomas Forkin, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Thompson Harris, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Uygur Vural, Istanbul Bilgi University

Wenjun Chen, The City College of New York

Yasin Baran, Istanbul Bilgi University

Service at Rutgers University

2024 - ongoing	The Rutgers Climate and Energy Institute Area Lead
2023 - 2024	Member of the Discovery Advantage: Curriculum Steering Committee
2022 - 2023	RCN Mentor for Institute for a Study of Global Racial Justice Fellow
2020 - 2023	Member of the New Brunswick Faculty Council
2020 - ongoing	Member of the Steering Committee, Critical AI Initiative
2020 - 2021	Member of the Core Requirements Committee
2019 - 2021	Member of the Executive Committee, Center for Cultural Analysis
2021 - ongoing	Academic Integrity Facilitator
2019 - 2021	Member of the committee that is formed for the application to Chancellor's Office Strategic Funding in collaboration with Bloustein School of Urban Planning
2019 - 2021	Member of the committee that is formed for the application to Chancellor's Office Strategic Funding in collaboration with Landscape Architecture
2019 - 2020	The Fulbright Program committee advisory for Art & Design
2019 - 2020	Interdisciplinary Honors Thesis student advisory
2018 - 2021	Member of the Rutgers Design Task Force Committee
2018 - 2019	Member of the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Big Idea Committee
2015 - 2016	Advisor to Aresty Byrne Seminar students, Rutgers University, New Brunswick
2013	Advisor to Rutgers University Center for African Studies conference, Writing Through the Visual Virtual on online presence and social interaction.
2013	Contributor to departmental document on the strategic planning process of Rutgers University.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2012 | Jury member for the final panel critic session of the course, Art and City Design, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University |
| 2012 | Attended New Brunswick 101: Faculty Seminar on local project development opportunities and procedures. |

Search Committees Served

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2023 - 2024 | Assistant Professor of Design, Tenure Track, co-chair, ongoing |
| 2022 - 2023 | Assistant Professor of Expanded Foundations, Tenure Track, cancelled |
| 2021 - 2022 | Director Rutgers Arts Online, hired Kevin Bott |
| 2020 - 2021 | Area Tech for Media and Design, Staff, hired Igor Nachevnik |
| 2018 - 2019 | Assistant Professor of Design, Tenure Track, hired Mindy Seu |
| 2017 - 2018 | Area Tech for Media and Design, Staff, hired Greyory Blake |
| 2016 - 2017 | Assistant Professor of Media, Tenure Track, hired Steffani Jemison |
| 2015 - 2016 | Head of Film Bureau, hired Danielle Lessovitz, Assistant Professor of Film |
| 2013 - 2014 | Assistant Professor of Media, Tenure Track, hired Natalie Bookchin |

Collaborations, Events and Initiatives

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2023 | Developed and co-taught an interdisciplinary class with the Art & History Department titled Global to Gaia Vision |
| 2022 | Initiated the STEM accreditation of the Design MFA program of the Art & Design Department |
| 2021 | Organized an inaugural event of the Critical AI Initiative featured Mimi Onuoha moderated by Asst. Prof. Mindy Seu of Art & Design |
| 2020 - 2021 | Coordinator and contact person of Mason Gross School of the Arts for the New Brunswick Libraries undergraduate exhibition |
| 2020 | Organized the screening of Political Advertisement X 1952-2020 with Zimmerli Museum, Bloustein School of Urban Planning and Eagleton Institute of Politics |

2019-2020	Collaboration with the Zimmerli Museum for the Dimensionism Exhibition, hosted on http://dimensionism.space
2019-2020	Organized student participation to digi.logue, digital arts festival, Istanbul, Türkiye
2019	Organized the artist talk titled God Has Failed All My Tests in honor of retiring faculty Ardele Lister
2016 - 2017	Cross-disciplinary teaching collaboration with French Literature Department, with Professor Mary Show titled Poetries - Politics, the study concluded with an extensive poetry poster exhibition in campus
2017-2018	organized case studies with Art & Design students for the New Museum on interface design and internet archives
2016	organized Mason Gross Presents panel, titled Art in a State of Mobility and Exile University Wide Appearances
2019 - 2020	Speaker at the Honors College Forum, SAS, Rutgers, New Brunswick
2019 - 2020	Speaker at Rutgers chapter of STEAM (STEM + Arts) as the Science x Arts Student organization
2019	Artist Talk, Landscape Architecture
2018 - 2019	Research Fellow, Center for Cultural Analysis
2016 Artist Talk,	Landscape Architecture

Department and Program Development

MFA in Design Program, Art & Design Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Designed and wrote curriculum for the Design MFA program and worked along with the department chair and the program director for the development of the program.

Graphic Design and Photography, Department of Cengiz Topel College, Nicosia, Cyprus

Designed and wrote curriculum, trained lecturers in digital media.

doc: LAB, ECTS accredited Summer School on Computation and Design, Istanbul, Türkiye

Designed and wrote curriculum, trained lecturers in digital media.

Departmental Committees

2023 - 2024	Academic Standing, Discipline & Curricular Expansion
2022 - 2023	Academic Standing, Discipline & Curricular Expansion
2021 - 2022	Academic Standing, Discipline & Curricular Expansion Mentorship Committee Digital
2021	Faculty Compensation Program Committee, elected by the faculty
2020 - 2021	Curricular Expansion Academic Integrity Facilitator Digital (Chair) Academic Standing, Discipline & Curri. Gallery Advisory Committee
2019 - 2020	Digital (Chair) Executive Curricular Expansion Academic Integrity Facilitator Academic Standing, Discipline & Curricular Expansion Gallery Advisory Committee
2018 - 2019	Art History & Library Liaison Academic Standing, Discipline & Curriculum Digital
2011 - 2018	available upon request

Annual Review Committees

BFA Sophomore Review

BFA Junior Review

BFA Admissions Review

MFA First Year Exhibition Review

MFA Second-Year Studio Review

MFA Admissions Review

MFA in Design Semester Reviews

MFA Admissions Review

MFA in Design Admissions Review

Recruitment Activities

2021 - 2023 Portfolio Days, Javits Center, New York

2022 Portfolio Days, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2020 - 2023 Online Portfolio Reviews

2017 - 2019 Portfolio review at Open House, Art & Design, Rutgers, New Brunswick

Service to the Profession

2021 - 2024 Paper review, Journal of Critical AI, Duke University Press

2022 Tenure dossier review and letter writing for Parsons School of Design, New School, New York

2021 Tenure dossier review and letter writing for Shenkar College of Engineering and Design, Tel Aviv, Israel

2021 Tenure dossier review and letter writing for Izmir Economy University, Izmir, Türkiye

2016- Consultant to Oceans Pavilion at Chiesa San Lorenzo of Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy.

2016 - 2019 apexart, International Franchise Program Juror, New York, USA.

- 2013- 2015 Paper reviewer for the art section of SIGGRAPH 2013, The 40th International Conference and Exhibition on Computer Graphics and Interactive Technologies, California, USA.
- 2012 - Member of New Media Caucus, an international non-profit association formed to promote the development and understanding of new media art.
- 2008- Member of Cumulus, the International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media.