

Dear Applicant,

In collaboration with the Danish Arts Foundation the Otis MFA Graphic Design Program will host a Danish Designer in Residence for two weeks in the Summer of 2019. The commitment for this opportunity is:

- Host a 4-day workshop with a group of 12 to 15 MFA students in the second week of the residency during Design Week.
- Work on your own projects as a Designer in Residence at Otis –
 - the resident will be given a desk within a Visual Arts studio space with access to all labs at the college (riso, printmaking, woodshop, bookmaking, photo lab, rapid prototype).
- At the end of the residency, present to the department a brief review of the outcome of the residency so that we can share in the accomplishment.
- Present a brief and inspiring ten-minute lecture at our Annual Otis MFA GD Art Book Fair

The 1st week of the residency is studio time.

The Danish Designer in Resident will be using the first week to generate their own projects using their studio at Otis College as a studio away from Denmark.

The 2nd week of the residency

Design Week is an annual event in the department. It is a four-day workshop that is a collaboration with a Los Angeles-based non-profit organization. Once the Danish Designer in Resident (DIR) is selected, he/she will be asked to identify areas of interest, such as environmental issues, political or cultural issues.

Before the selected resident arrives at Otis College we would connect him/her with an inspiring organization that is aligned with his/her interests. There will be minimal contact before the resident's arrival and once here a couple points of contact with the match organization. The resident will have total creative freedom to use methods of problem solving combined with the needs of the resident's new partner.

Example: Last year, visiting artists Rejane dal Bello and Chrys Naselos worked with Black Lives Matter. They proposed a series of systems for creating protest posters available to any community tapping into the Black Lives Matter. The results were received well by Black Lives Matter and put into use. Other workshops over the years have partnered with: Spirit Awakening serving incarcerated youth, The Holocaust Museum, Santa Monica Mountain National Park, Venice Community Housing (homeless families who have suffered from Domestic Abuse).

The outcomes of the workshops are often speculative but sometimes the workshop proposals become an organization's reality. The purpose is for our students to work with the Danish DIR to explore methodologies for research and development, formal exploration, and professional presentation. They are to realize that their position in the world as designers is one that begins with an opinion, a concern, a critical voice and action.

OTIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

We conclude the Designer in Residence and Design Week Programs with our annual Art Book Fair. There will also be a series of very short public lectures in the days of the book fair and we will ask the Danish Resident and all Visiting Artists to speak on one of the two days for roughly 10 minutes.

We request that the Danish DIR host a table at our annual art book fair. We anticipate over 60+ participants and hundreds of visitors. During the residency, the resident might generate materials that could be sold at the art book fair, however that is not required.

The highlight of the DIR program is the relationships that develop among the visiting artists as well as with our faculty and students. Los Angeles will welcome the Danish resident warmly and I hope he/she is able to join us in this capacity for our summer session 2019.

The following page includes dates, schedule, and specifics for this summer. If the final applicant confirm that he/she can attend, we will begin the process of booking your flight and arranging housing.

Please see #otismfagd and @otismfabookfair for more information on the program as well as evidence of previous summer sessions.

Warm regards,

Kali Nikitas
Chair, MFA Graphic Design @knikitas

* MFA Graphic Design at OTIS College of Art and Design in Los Angeles is a 14-month accelerated program. The summer sessions have historically hosted a large number of visiting artists and unique initiatives that distinguish it from other institutions. Social responsibility and alternative practices run throughout the curriculum.

SCHEDULE:

ASAP: Confirm your attendance

ASAP: We arrange and your flight and housing

End of April:

Let us know what topic or organization you would ideally like to engage. We will begin the process of finding the ideal partner for your four-day workshop.

Let us know what resources you will be needing for the four-day workshop.

Workshops and Residency: June 23 – July 8

Arrival: Arrive in Los Angeles on or before the evening of June 23rd.
Welcome Dinner for Designers in Residence – Evening of June 23

Housing: Check-in on or before the evening of June 23rd.

Residency: June 24- June 29 –

DIR Studio work - this time is all you.

Workshop: June 30 – July 3

June 30: Meet the organization and students in your workshop
(roughly 8 students). Begin brainstorming

July 1 + 2: Work on proposal. On the 3rd day,
check in with organization for one/two hours. Are you on the right track?

July 3: Final production + critique

July 4: Independence Day Holiday

Art Book Fair: July 5, 6 + 7

- Set up your table for the fair on the evening of the 5th
- Give one 10-minute lecture on the 6th or 7th
- Host a table at the Art Book Fair

Please note: The residency does not include a meal plan however occasional meals will be provided.