

**RIVA NAYAJU, M.F.A.**

*Designer, Educator & Architect*

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## **EDUCATION**

- 2021      **Masters in Graphic Design (MFA)**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma
- 2016      **Bachelor in Architecture (B.Arch)**, Purbanchal University, Khwopa Engineering College, Bhaktapur, Nepal

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2025 (Fall)      **Assistant Professor**, Intro to Graphic Design & Image-I, Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- 2025(Spring)      **Assistant Professor**, Graphic Design-II, Drawing Studio-I, & Publication Design, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2024(Fall)      **Assistant Professor**, Graphic Design-II, 2D Concepts, & Typography Studio, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2024(Spring)      **Assistant Professor**, Graphic Design-II, Motion Graphics, & Digital Image Design, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2023(Fall)      **Assistant Professor**, Publication Design & Web and Interactive Design, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2022/23(Winter)      **Assistant Professor**, Classes Teaching: Digital Image Design, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2022(Fall)      **Assistant Professor**, Classes Teaching: Graphic Design-II, 2D Concepts, & Publication Design, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2022(Spring)      **Assistant Professor**, Classes Teaching: Graphic Design-II, Digital Image Design, Web and Interactive Design, Typography, & Graphic Design-I, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2021(Fall)      **Assistant Professor**, Classes Taught: Graphic Design-I & Graphic Design-II, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2020      **Graduate Assistant**, Studio Assistant for Graphic Design-I & Graphic Design Studio, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater

- 2020 **Graduate Assistant**, Studio Assistant for Typography-I & Graphic Design-II, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2019 **Graduate Assistant**, Studio Assistant for Typography-II & Graphic Design-II, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2018 **Watercolor Instructor**, Prairie Art Center, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2018 **Instructor of Record**, Graduate Assistant, Course taught: Typography-1, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2017 **Graduate Assistant**, Studio Assistant for Typography-I, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2010-14 **Fine Art Instructor**, K-10, Springdale English Secondary Boarding School, Nepal
- 2014-16 **Fine Art Instructor**, K-10, Tara Secondary School, Nepal

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2022 **Big River Bigger Love**, Children's Book Illustration and Design, Commissioned by writer Laura Sohl-Cryer (Ongoing), Cedar Falls, Iowa
- 2022 **Advertising Design**, Commissioned by Gum-Dip Theatre, Akron, Ohio
- 2019 **Graphic Design Intern**, Department of Art, Graphic Design and Art History, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2018 **Graphic Design Intern**, Morgan Fine Art Studio
- 2016 **Architect**, Action Aid Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2015 **Architecture Intern**, Nepal Health Sector Support Program, Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2014 **Contributing Writer**, Praxis (Art, Architecture and Environment, Magazine), Kathmandu, Nepal

### **PUBLISHED WORKS**

- 2025 **UCDA Design Education Summit, Co-authored Annual Proceeding, National**  
'Embracing Uncertainty and Play in the Creative Process', Publication
- 2022 **'Creative Quarterly, 100 Best Annual (2022)', International**, Creative Quarterly, Annual Publication
- 2022 **'Ecuador Poster Bienal 2022', International**, 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Ecuador Poster Bienal 2022

- 2015            **'Fiesta and fun for Kids'**, Praxis, Art-Architecture-Environment, January 2015
- 2014            **'A tale of two birds and two fish'**, Praxis, Art-Architecture-Environment, August 2014. 14-16

### **AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2025            **AAF-Cedar Valley, American Advertising Awards**, Bronze Award Winner
- 2025            **ADAI, Art Director's Association of Iowa**, 67th Annual Design Exhibition and Competition
- 2024            **Big Field Fund, Creative Research Grant**, Accepted for the first round of application
- 2024            **ADAI, Art Director's Association of Iowa**, 66th Annual Design Exhibition and Competition
- 2023            **GD USA, American Graphic Design Awards**, 60th Anniversary, **Winner**
- 2023            **'CQ71 2022'**, Creative Quarterly, The Journal of Art and Design no. 71, **International, Honorable Mention and Publication**
- 2022            **Horizon Interactive Awards, Gold, International**, Title: Freedom at all times, Category: Motion Design; Non-Profit/Advocacy
- 2022            **'CQ67 2022'**, Creative Quarterly, The Journal of Art and Design no. 67, **International, Honorable Mention and Publication**
- 2021            **Horizon Interactive Awards, Gold, International**, Title: Personal Portfolio, Category: Web; Self Promotion/Portfolio
- 2021            **The Art Directors Club of Tulsa, Honorable Mention**, The 52nd Annual Regional Design Award Exhibition
- 2021            **OSU Red Pantry, Competition Winner**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2020            **Riata Pre-Seed Fund, Grant Recipient**, Spears School of Business, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2020            **The Art Directors Club of Tulsa, Honorable Mention**, Graphex 51
- 2020            **'Art of Water' Research Week Competition Winner**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2020            **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2019            **Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (CIE) Scholars Program Award**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2019            **Three Minutes Thesis (3MT), Finalist**, College of Art and Sciences, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2018            **Hackathon, Participation Award**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater

- 2017 **Mr. and Miss. International Scholarship Award Winner**, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2016 **Annual Art Competition Winner**, Khwopa Engineering College, Bhaktapur, Nepal
- 2014 **Annual Art Competition Winner**, Khwopa Engineering College, Bhaktapur, Nepal
- 2013 **Bus-Stop Design Competition, Consolation Prize**, Pulchowk Engineering College, Kathmandu, Nepal

## **EXHIBITIONS**

- 2025 **Echoes of Kathmandu Valley, Upcoming Solo Exhibition**, July 1-Nov 2, 2025, Waterloo Center for the Arts, Waterloo, Iowa
- 2025 **Echoes of Kathmandu Valley, Solo Exhibition**, May 2-June 14, 2025, Charles City Art Center, Charles City, Iowa
- 2025 **Paradiso, Riso-Rama's National Juried Exhibition**, Flex Space Gallery, Texas State University, Texas
- 2025 **Spellerberg Projects, Riso Rama Reading Room (RRRR)**, Masur Gallery, Lokhart, Texas
- 2025 **FATE Juried Exhibition**, March 17-April 25, Gillespie Gallery, School of Art, George Mason University, Arlington, Virginia
- 2024 **Diverse Perspectives in Graphic Design**, University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art, Oct 10 - Nov 15, Kamerick Art, Cedar Falls, Iowa
- 2023 **"Chhaupadi', Bringing Awareness on Menstruation Taboo, Using Design Strategy', Solo Exhibition**, Louisiana Tech Moffett Gallery, Oct 24-Nov21, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana
- 2022 **'Ecuador Poster Bienal 2022'**, Centro Cultural Metropolitano, Quito, Ecuador, International show, publication and competition
- 2022 **Convergence and Creation of Design**, University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art, Oct 10-Nov 09, Kamerick Art, Cedar Falls, Iowa
- 2022 **Positive/Negative 37 National Juried Art Exhibition**, Slocumb Galleries, Feb22-Apr01 East Tennessee Department of Art & Design, Johnson City, Tennessee
- 2022 **42nd Rock Island Fine Arts Exhibition**, Figge Art Museum, Feb 26-May 15, 2022 Davenport, Iowa
- 2022 **"I no longer fear death, I fear not living", Virtual Art Show**, Feb 28-Mar 04, 2022, Heart Needs Art (Nonprofit), Creative support for patients and caregivers, San Antonio, Texas, [Heartsneart.org](https://heartsneart.org)

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| 2022    | <b>Work National Juried Graphic Design Show</b> , Hammond Hall Gallery, Jan 20-Feb 17, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama  |
| 2021    | <b>32nd National Drawing and Print Competitive Exhibition</b> , Group Exhibition: March 22 - April 32, Gormley Gallery - Notre Dame of Maryland University, Baltimore MD           |
| 2018-21 | <b>Stillwater Art Guild, Annual Show</b> , Stillwater  |
| 2019/21 | <b>Prism Fest</b> , Oklahoma State University, Stillwater  |
| 2019    | <b>OSU Orange Wall, Group Show</b> , Oklahoma State University, Stillwater   |
| 2018    | <b>Intentional Exposure: Photography from the Permanent Collection</b> , Co-Curated with the class led by Dr. Louise Siddons, Oklahoma State University, Museum of Art, Stillwater |
| 2018    | <b>Cadre Poster Conference, Poster Show</b> , Oklahoma State University, Stillwater  |

#### **EXHIBITION CURATED**

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| 2018 | <b>Intentional Exposure, Group curation of Photography from the permanent collection</b> , Oklahoma State University, Museum of Art, Stillwater |
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#### **PERMANENT COLLECTIONS**

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| 2022 | <b>Figge Art Museum, Permanent Collection</b> , Title: Freedom at all times, Davenport, Iowa                              |
| 2020 | <b>Henry Bellmon Research Center, Permanent Display</b> , Title: The Sea Remembers, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater |

#### **WEBSITE PUBLICATIONS**

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| 2021 | <b>The Sea Remembers, The Markaz Review</b> , publication date: Jan 15, 2021 |
| 2020 | <b>Local Design Circle, Posterjam</b> , publication date: Oct 09, 2020       |

#### **EXHIBITIONS JURIED**

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| 2022 | <b>'Studies in Creativity Exhibit', Student Juried Exhibits</b> , Iowa State University, Fall 2022, Oct 16 – Nov 16, Ames, Iowa |
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## **CONFERENCES**

- 2025      **SECAC National Conference**, 'Design in Flux: Harnessing Diversity in Times of Change', Co-Chair, Upcoming: Oct 22-25, 2025, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio
- 2025      **AIGA Design Educators Conference**, 'Sajha Fulbari: A Common Flower Garden', Research Poster/Visual Essay, Co-Presenter, Upcoming: June 12-13, 2025, Illinois State University, Illinois
- 2025      **UCDA Design Education Summit**, 'Embracing Uncertainty and Play in the Creative Process', Co-Presenter, Upcoming: May 19-21, 2025, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2025      **19th International Conference on Design Principles and Practices**, 'A Common Flower Garden: Reclamation of Diverse Voices through Print Design', Presented Online: Feb 25-27, 2025, Lasalle College of Arts, Singapore
- 2023      **CAA National Conference**, "Chhaupadi", Bringing Awareness on Menstruation Taboo, Using Design Strategy', Selected in Female Ecology Session: Feb 16-19, 2023, New York
- 2023      **FATE National Conference**, 'The significance of Making Process and Iterations in Design', Represented as Co-Chair by Dr. Samantha Goss: Apr 13-15, 2023, Denver, Colorado
- 2022      **SECAC National Conference**, 'The Collage Narrative', Presented: Oct 26-29, 2022, Renaissance Harborplace Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2021      **15th International Conference on Design Principles and Practices**, Presented: March 3-5, 2021, Universidad De Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico

## **PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS**

- 2022      **'Collage on Cardboard', Scholarship Competition Workshop**, Feb-18, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls
- 2021      **Typography Portrait, Visiting Artist Lecture and Workshop**, Eastern New Mexico University, New Mexico, Portales
- 2018-19      **POP-UP Art Shop, Presented**, Prairie Art Center, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
- 2018      **Pechakucha Night, Presented**, Balanced Coffee, Stillwater, Oklahoma

## **ACTIVITIES**

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| 2020 | <b>Robin Baker, Cyanotype Workshop</b> , Prairie Art Center, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater  |
| 2020 | <b>Robert Bubb, Mapping and Texture Workshop</b> , Attended, Department of Art, Graphic Design and Art History, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater |
| 2019 | <b>Tünde Darvay Workshop</b> , Attended, Prairie Art Center, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater  |
| 2018 | <b>Martin Venezky Workshop</b> , Attended, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater  |
| 2018 | <b>Luba Lukova Presentation/Talk</b> , Attended, Tulsa, Oklahoma  |
| 2018 | <b>DSVC Conference</b> , Attended, Dallas, Texas  |