

Born in Riga, Latvia

Education

- 2000 - 2004 **Doctor of Philosophy** (2005)
London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London, UK
Practice based PhD in relation to biological and intelligent textile design systems, new materials and technologies 'Skin Stories: Charting and Mapping the Skin'
- 1998 - 2000 **European MA in Textile and Fashion Design**
University of Southampton, UK. Studies at the University of the Arts, Berlin, Germany; Winchester School of Art, UK and Institut Français de la Mode, Paris, France
- 1995 - 1999 **Industrial Designer Diploma**
Institute for Experimental Fashion and Textile Design, University of the Arts, Berlin, Germany
- 1994 - 1995 **Guest Student**
Textile Department, The University of Arts and Design in Helsinki, Finland
- 1990 - 1997 **BA in Arts** (1994), **Artist Diploma** (1997)
Textile Department, Latvian Academy of Arts, Riga, Latvia
- 1982 - 1989 Janis Rozentals Fine Art School in Riga, Latvia

Solo Exhibitions

- 2009 **E-Static Shadows**
Dana Centre, Science Museum, London, UK, together with Jackson Tan
- 2006 **Skin Stories II - Archaeology of Skin**
Foreign Art Museum, Riga, Latvia (catalogue)
- 2003 **Skin Stories :: Charting and Mapping the Skin**
Fashion Space Gallery, University of the Arts London, UK
- 2002 **Topography of Skin**
Gallery ACUD, Berlin, Germany
- 2000 **Skin Stories**
Gallery Ciris, Riga, Latvia
- 2000 **Skin Stories**
Kulturforum, stilwerk, Berlin, Germany
- 1999 **Another Reality**
Kommunale Galerie, Berlin, Germany, together with R. Mantovani (catal.)
- 1997 **Rauschen / Die Boten des Himmels**
Gallery Designtransfer, Berlin, Germany
- 1997 **Divine Company**
Gallery Ciris, Riga, Latvia
- 1993 **Momentary Impressions**
Rozentals Society, Helsinki, Finland
- 1993 **Tattoos**
Gallery Fenikss in Jurmala, Latvia

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2010 **Visual Voltage Amplified**, Nordische Botschaften, Berlin, Germany
- 2010 **Narrative Sequences**, The Center for Book Arts, NY, USA
- 2009 **Sk-interfaces**, Casino Luxembourg - Forum d'art contemporain, Luxembourg
- 2009 **Natural History** Central Booking, NY, USA
- 2008 **Cloth and Culture Now**, The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK (catalogue)
- 2008 **Inspired Design**, Center for Craft, Creativity and Design, North Carolina, USA
- 2008 **Sk-interfaces**, FACT – Foundation for Art and Creative Technology, Liverpool, UK (catal.) An interactive public space installation 'Touch Me Wall' and design of a touch sensitive cover for the exhibition catalogue
- 2008 **Cloth and Culture Now**, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich, UK (catalogue)

2007 **Our Cyborg Future: Me or Machine**, Science Museum, Newcastle, UK
 2006 **Look at Me**, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK
 2005 **Touch Me**, Victoria & Albert Museum, Contemporary Space, London, UK
 2004 **Designers` Saturday**, Création Baumann, Langenthal, Switzerland
 2004 **Insane about the Membrane**, Gallery of the University of Brighton, UK
 2003 **Artists at Work: New Technology in Textile and Fibre Art**, Textile Museum of Prato, Italy (catalogue)
 2002 **Adaptation – Contemporary Latvian Art Now**, National Art Museum, Estonia, Tallinn (catalogue)
 2002 **International Biennial Design**, Saint-Etienne, France (catalogue)
 2001 **Contemporary Latvian Textile Art**, State Art Museum, Moscow, Russia
 2001 **Tradition and Innovation**, State Gallery Arsenals, Riga, Latvia (catalogue)
 1999 **Gate to Berlin**, Zionskirche, Berlin, Germany (catalogue)
 1998 **Textile and Text**, Doom of Brandenburg, Germany
 1998 **Tresa** – Latvian Textile Associations' Exhibition, State Gallery Arsenals, Riga, Latvia
 1997 **Otra** – Latvian Textile Associations' Exhibition, State Gallery Arsenals, Riga, Latvia
 1995 **Pirma** – Latvian Textile Associations' Exhibition, State Gallery Arsenals, Riga, Latvia
 1994 **Three Latvian Artists' show**, Z. Berzina, V. Kaulaca, R. Mezavilka, Turku, Finland
 1994 **Latvian Young Artists' show**. Contemporary Art Museum, Panevezys and Gallery Lietuvos Aidas, Lithuania (tour)

Awards

2009 'Eurolecture - European Programme for Innovative Academic Teaching' award by the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung for the project e-MOTION at the University of the Arts Berlin (UdK), Institute for Experimental Fashion and Textile Design, Germany
 2009 Arts Council and The National Lottery, Grant for the Arts, UK
 2007 - 2009 Arts and Humanities Research Council large research award for the project E-Static Shadows in collaboration with the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles, UK (Main Investigator - Prof. Jefferies, Main Researcher - Dr. Berzina)
 2006 Goldsmiths, University of London, Visual Arts Department, Research Award, UK
 2002 - 2004 The Textile Institute bursary, UK
 2000 - 2003 ORS – The Overseas Research Students Award, UK
 2000 - 2004 The London Institute Research Students Scholarship, UK
 2000 Lucky Strike Junior Designer Award, Raymond Loewy Foundation, Germany
 1999 Artist grant from the Soros Center for Contemporary Art, Riga, Latvia
 1998 - 1999 Scholarship from the Foundation Kulturkapitala Fonds in Latvia
 1995 UIAH Scholarship, Finland
 1995 CIMO - Nordic Council of Ministers Scholarship, Finland

Professional Employment

2008 - Present Professorship for Conceptual Development of Materials and Surface Systems at the Art College Weißensee-Berlin, Department of Textile and Surface Design, Berlin, Germany
 2007 - 2009 0.5 Research Fellow at the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles, Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK
 2006 - Present Co-Founder and Co-Art Director of the E-Text+Textiles Society, Riga, Latvia
 2004 - 2006 0.5 Lecturer at Goldsmiths, University of London, Visual Arts Department, London, UK
 2000 - 2004 Lecturer at the University of the Arts in Berlin, Faculty of Design and Architecture, Institute for Experimental Fashion and Textile Design, Germany
 1997 Design assistant at the company 'Krawattenzwang' in Berlin, Germany
 1995 Textiles assistant to fashion designer Ulla Koskinen in Helsinki, Finland
 1993 - 1994 Art Director, Advertising company 'Dizaina Darbnica', Riga, Latvia
 1992 - 1993 Designer of TV commercials (3DS programmes) for 'Consums' advertising company, Riga, Latvia
 1991 - 1992 Drawing Instructor, Youth Club in Riga, Latvia

Consultancies, Teaching and Guest Lectureships

- 2010 Member of The Nordic Textile Journal's editorial board. The journal is published by Center for Textile Research CTF.
- 2008 - 2009 Guest Lecturer at the University of the Arts in Berlin, Faculty of Design and Architecture, Institute for Experimental Fashion and Textile Design, Germany. Projects 'Fashionable Technologies' and 'E-Motion' (Fashion and Product Design)
- 2008 External Tutor, MA Textile Design, The Swedish School of Textiles, University College of Borås, Sweden
- 2008 Masterclass 'Surface and Experiment' at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich, UK
- 2008 Consultant for an event 'Dutch Design Days' for the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Latvia
- 2008 Conference 'Ambience 08' Scientific Program Committee member. The Swedish School of Textiles, University College of Borås, Sweden and the Tampere University of Technology, Finland.
- 2008 External Examiner/Opponent, MA Textile Design, The Swedish School of Textiles, University College of Borås, Sweden
- 2007 Guest Lecturer at the Academy of Media Arts of Cologne, Germany
- 2007 Guest Lecturer at the Swedish School of Textiles, University College of Borås, Sweden
- 2007 Guest Lecturer at the Estonian Academy of Arts in Tallinn, Department of Textiles, Estonia
- 2007 Consultancy on smart textiles and skin for the project 'SKIN', PHILIPS DESIGN, Eindhoven, The Netherlands
- 2006 - Present Associate Researcher of the Goldsmiths Digital Studios, Goldsmiths University of London
- 2005 Guest Lecturer at the University of the Arts in Berlin, Germany
- 2003 - 2008 Consultancies and Masterclasses on smart textiles, Zijdelings, Tilburg, The Netherlands
- 2001 - 2003 Guest Lecturer at the Latvian Academy of Arts, Riga

Research Collaborations

- 2007 - 2009 Research collaboration with the Textile Research Institute Thuringia-Vogtland, Germany. Development of responsive textiles for architecture by utilising electrostatic energy and using flexible electronics, sensors and audio-visual outputs
- 2005 - 2008 Research collaboration with the Textile Research Institute Thuringia-Vogtland, Germany. Development of flexible electronics for colour change textiles applications
- 2004 - 2006 Commission to develop and produce site specific textile installations for a new office building Hessische Zentrale für Datenverarbeitung (HZD) Wiesbaden in Germany together with Strigl+Kramm Architects, Germany
- 2002 Research collaboration with the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Polymer Research, Golm, Germany. Micro-encapsulation of aromatic oils for textile applications
- 2001 Collaboration with the University of Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany
Bio-mimetic Project, Institute for Zoology, Faculty of Biological Engineering and Design
- 2000 - 2003 Research collaboration with the Freie Universität, Institute for Zoology and Biology, Berlin, Germany

Academic Papers at Conferences

- 2010 Key-note speaker at 'Social Street' - the 7th Urban and Landscape Days
Estonian Academy of Arts, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2010 Paper at the conference 'Potenziale für HighTech-Textilien'
TITV Annual Conference, Germany
Paper: 'Is This Textiles? - An Overview Of Some Non-Conventional Smart Textile Development Strategies'
- 2009 ISEA '09 – International Symposium on Electronic Art

- University of Ulster, North Ireland. Paper: 'E-Static Shadows - an Interactive E-Textile Membrane'.
- 2008 Paper at the conference 'Ambience 08'. The Swedish School of Textiles, University College of Borås, Sweden and the Tampere University of Technology, Finland. Paper: 'E-Static Shadows'
- 2008 Key-note speaker at the 'The Challenge of Smart Textiles' conference, Riga Technical University, Riga, Latvia. Paper: 'Science Fiction or Future?'
- 2007 Key-note speaker at the 'Touch, Textiles, Technology: Collaborations Across Europe' conference, Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles, Goldsmiths College, University of London. Paper: 'Touch, Textiles, Technology - Collaborative Practice'
- 2006 Paper at the 'Textile Narratives + Conversations' Conference, Textile Society of America, Toronto, Canada. Paper: 'Designing for Future Textiles – Challenges of Hybrid Practices'
- 2005 Paper at the 'Emergent Systems, Cognitive Environments' Conference, Society for Literature, Science and Arts, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
- 2005 Paper at the 'Re:search In and Through the Arts' Conference, University of the Arts Berlin, Germany
- 2005 Wearable Futures: Hybrid Culture in the Design and Development of Soft Technology Conference, University of Wales. Paper: 'Charting and Mapping the Skin'
- 2004 Presentation at the conference 'Tradition & Innovation', Textiles Society, London
- 2004 International Textile Conference 'Creativity: Designer Meets Technology' Philadelphia University, USA. Paper: 'Development and Outcomes of Interactive Textile Design Concept Based on Living Skin 'Technology''
- 2003 Poster presentation 'Skin Stories :: Charting and Mapping the Skin' at the Material_Vision conference, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- 2003 Paper 'Development of the Professional Latvian Textile Art', Latvian Welfare Fund, London
- 2002 Evaluation of the European MA Programme in Fashion and Textile Design, for The Berlin University of the Arts, Germany
- 2002 Paper at the 'Paris Study Experiences' Seminar, Premiere Vision, Paris, France
- 2002 Paper at the Research Symposium, London Institute, UK
- 2001 11th European Textile Network Conference 'Tradition and Innovation' Paper 'Textile Design Education at The University of Arts in Berlin (UdK), Germany Presentation of the European MA Programme and the Bio-mimetic Project'

Gallery Talks and Lectures

- August 2009 Talk 'E-Static Shadows or Weaving an Electrostatic Mirror', electronic-text+textiles, Riga, Latvia
- March 2009 Artist talk and panel discussion at the 'Static Shadows' event, in conversation with architect Jackson Tan and materials scientist Dr. Mark Miodownik (Materials Library, Kings College London). Dana Centre, Science Museum, London, UK.
- April 2008 Artist talk 'Surface and Experiment' at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich, UK
- Oct. 2006 Artist talk and panel discussion at the 'Art and Science' seminar, in conversation with Dr. Ken Arnold (Wellcome Trust, London) and Dr. Mark Miodownik (Materials Library, Kings College London). British Council, Riga, Latvia.
- Nov. 2005 Research visit and artists' talk at Hexagram, Institute for Research and Creation in Media Arts and Technologies, Concordia University in Montreal, Canada
- Sept. 2005 Artist talk at the seminar 'Materials, Fashion & Design' at Queen Mary University of London, Department of Materials
- Jan. 2005 Artist talk at the 'Fashion Science Workshop', London College of Fashion in collaboration with IMI, The Intelligent Media Institute
- 2004 - 08 Artists' talks at Zijdelings Textile Centre, Tilburg, The Netherlands