

## Phil Renato

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### education

**MFA | Metal Design - University of Washington - Seattle**

Teaching Fellow, Research Assistant, Merit Scholar, Foundation TA, Adjunct Faculty

**BFA | Metalsmithing | Painting | Creative Writing - Eastern Michigan University - Ypsilanti**

### teaching

2002 - Present

**Professor | Product Design**

**Kendall College of Art and Design - Grand Rapids, MI**

Founded and developed the curriculum for the Allesee Metals/Jewelry Design program and served as chair from 2002-2021. Oversaw the construction and continue to maintain a contemporary jewelry design education facility, to assist in the hiring and training of faculty and technical staff within the program, invite and host visiting artists and lead regular program evaluations for internal and external reviews as well as actively participate in college and university accreditation reporting and visits. Teach six classes per year between the industrial design, metals/jewelry design and foundation curriculum, with experience teaching in teams and developing interprogram thesis courses. Helped to lead Kendall's college-wide laptop initiative, have led two overseas study-away programs to the United Kingdom, helped to develop the curriculum for the MArch program, regularly help with college recruitment portfolio evaluations, past member of numerous faculty and staff search committees, served as a member of the 2021/2022 Ferris State University presidential search, two KCAD presidential searches as well as a co-chair of two searches for a Dean of Academic Affairs, and chaired KCAD Strategic Planning and Resource Council through the completion of our first strategic planning process since merging with Ferris State University in the late 1990s. Earned tenure and a promotion to associate professor in 2008 and the rank of full professor in 2012. Received faculty merit awards in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2020 and 2021 - with combined teaching, research, and service peer evaluation rankings in the 'exemplary' category each year. Awarded sabbatical leaves in 2009 to do research into fluid dynamics in jewelry design and in 2015 to study source material and produce essays on design and culture that were published as *Crafting Error* in Feb of 2017. Past member of KCAD's NASAD reaccreditation steering committee and enrollment task force. Helped to develop and implement KCAD's interdisciplinary product design major in academic year 2020 and coordinate the metals/jewelry design courses and concentration in addition to teaching courses across the major. Member of the board of directors for the Kendall Faculty Association, 2021-present.

2009 **Associate Professor**, visiting faculty | **Winthrop University - Rock Hill, SC**

Taught a 3 credit early summer intensive course called "All that Glitters Isn't Gold; a History of Jewelry" to a full group of interdisciplinary students while on sabbatical from KCAD. Taught the same class at KCAD in the spring of 2010.

### co-curricular leadership

2019 - 2021

**Chair | All College Senate**

Served as the chair of KCAD's senate, presided over all senate meetings, the executive committee, served on the curriculum committee, led a significant shift in scheduling and the organization of meetings, and helped to transition from in person meetings to online during the COVID pandemic.

2004 - 2018

**Director** | Dow Center for Art, Design and Technology

**FlexLab | KCAD**

Conceived of, built support for and lead Kendall's interdisciplinary digital fabrication lab - bringing CNC machining, 3D printing, laser scanning and cutting, vinyl cutting, wide format inkjet printing, large format CNC milling, CNC plasma cutting, screen printing and other technologies and associated software into a common lab for the benefit of the entire college community, bringing these under the umbrella of the Dow Center in the fall of 2012. Professional technicians, along with student employees, help faculty, staff and students learn to use more than a quarter of a million dollars in hardware assets with an annual total budget of more than \$90k. The director researched new technologies related to art and design, conferred with the president, dean, and CFO on how to bring appropriate systems online at the college level, managed the conceptual aspects of the lab (in addition to technical aspects as needed,) recommended the hiring of and managed staffing, coordinated special projects with the wider community and facilitated the integration of this lab into our curriculum. In 2017 we began transitioning away from a part time faculty director to a full time lead technician, now manager, in order for the project to continue growing independently. Now serving as an informal advisor to that area.

## **exhibitions** (abridged)

2021

### **Of Age**

Showed one collaborative piece in Rebecca Strzelec's solo exhibition at the Cecelia Coker Bell Gallery in South Carolina

2020

### **JV Collective In School Suspension**

Exhibited curated collaborative work in Philadelphia that yielded printed catalog

### **Faculty Pop-Up**

Exhibited a bracelet in conjunction with the Scholastic Art Awards at KCAD's Fed Galleries

2019

### **Form.Print**

Exhibited a series of 3D printed bracelets curated from a dynamic cloth simulation

Towson University

Curated by Josh DeMonte

### **Adorned Spaces**

Exhibited a pair of objects at the SNAG conference in Chicago related to a mid-career residency from 2015

2018

### **Cast**

Exhibited a pendant in an exhibition from the book Cast at the Wayne Art Center

curated by Renee Zettle Sterling and Jen Townsend

### **NY Jewelry Week**

Exhibited a bracelet in a juried exhibition about 3D printed jewelry

Curated by Lizz Hill

### **3D Printed Jewelry**

Exhibited a number of bracelets at the Reinstein | Ross Gallery in NYC Jan-Feb 2018

Curated by Bella Neyman and Doug Bucci

### **Faculty Exhibition**

KCAD Federal Galleries

2017

#### **Imagine Peace Now**

Invited artist for traveling gun violence related exhibition curated by Boris Bally

**Midwest Metals Exhibition** Exhibited work in an academic metalsmithing exhibition in the spring of 2017 at Eastern Michigan University

2016

#### **Crafting Error**

Exhibited source material, work in progress, and finished work in the Decorative Arts Corridor/Fed Galleries at Kendall College of Art and Design. Filled 7 cases with artifacts from a study collection, recent failures and tests, more than 20 finished jewelry and flatware designs from recent years, and paper and interactive proofs of an essay collection on these materials called Crafting Error. Shown during ArtPrize, Sept-Oct 2016

#### **Digitized – The Jeweler’s Approach to Digital Fabrication**

Invited to exhibit 5 bracelets at Lillstreet Arts Center in Chicago in May, 2016

#### **Advance Retreat**

Exhibition work at the Zoom conference in May of 2016 related to a mid-career retreat at Arrowmont during the summer of 2015

#### **Imagine Peace Now** (Traveling, starting in 2016)

Invited artist for traveling gun violence related exhibition curated by Boris Bally

2015

#### **Icebreaker**

Exhibited Schema mask in the KCAD Fed Galleries in a DisArt (disabilities in the arts) related exhibition, curated by photographer Tom Wagner

#### **Evolution of the Artist**

Exhibited Peti comb and Volta necklace in the semi-annual faculty exhibition in the KCAD Fed Galleries, as well as evidence of drawing, modeling, and production process

#### **Four Hands are Better than Two**

Invited to show collaborative work with Teresa Faris, Matthew Hollern, and Courtney Starrett at East Carolina University’s Metal Symposium

2014

#### **Materialize**

Invited to show a comb, brush, and a scrubber in this multidisciplinary 3D exhibition at the Shemer Center for the Arts, in Phoenix, AZ. Curated by Dan Collins

#### **Be-Longing**

Collaborated with artist Nick Dong in the design of an installation at Gallery Flux in San

Francisco, on display April-May

**The Digital Hand**

Exhibited two objects in this exhibition at Kent State University, curated by Kathleen Browne. Invited.

2013

**ArtPrize***Digital Relics* - Lead artist for a collaboratively designed project exhibited at SiteLab's 54Jeff exhibition

2012

**Kendall Faculty exhibition**

Historic Federal Building

Exhibited 3 individual pieces and collaborations with Matthew Hollern and Teresa Faris

**TEDx Labs Collaboration Exhibition**

Curated, organized, and setup exhibition of contemporary jewelers from across the country using 3D printing techniques in their work

**The ART of Seduction: Exquisitely Crafted Temptations**

Horowitz Center of Visual and Performing Arts

Howard Community College, Columbia, MD January 12- March 18

Curated by Gail M. Brown, invited artist

2011

**Digital Mettle**

National Ornamental Metals Museum

Memphis TN

Summer 2011

Invited to exhibit 333 spatter pins, a brush, and a collaborative necklace with Richard Elaver

**Cooperation Tableware**

Society of North American Goldsmiths conference

Seattle, WA

Spring 2011

Exhibited collaborative cup and spoon with Jun Suk Min

Juried artist, juror Brigitte Martin

**Detroit Dream Cruise**

Pontiac Oakland Press Car Show

Summer 2011

Exhibited 1 restored Trans Am GTA with custom fluid graphics

Juried (panel)

**Grand Rapids Metro Cruise**

28<sup>th</sup> Street

Summer 2011

Exhibited 1 restored Trans Am GTA with custom fluid graphics

**Jewelry+Objects**

Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art  
Michigan Silversmiths Guild exhibition  
Summer 2011  
Exhibited one bracelet  
Juried artist, juror Marilyn DaSilva

**Fashion, Photography, and Jewelry**

Exhibition in Print  
2011, Spanish  
Pages 162-165 (included)

2010

**“Faculty Exhibition”**

Kendall College of Art and Design Fall 2010  
Exhibited 1 piece of jewelry

**ACJ Conference Exhibition**

West Dean College, West Sussex England July 2010  
Exhibited 1 piece in collaboration with Courtney Starrett

**Future Forward**

BECA International Center for Art and Design – Albuquerque NM May 2010  
Exhibited 2 pieces in collaboration with Richard Elaver

**Dimensions 2010**

Fourth Street Gallery, Winston-Salem NC May 2010  
Exhibited 1 piece in collaboration with Richard Elaver

**Green: Art with the Earth in Mind**

Annamarie Garden Sculpture Park & Arts Center – Solomons, MD July 2010  
Exhibited 2 pieces in collaboration with Richard Elaver

**“Flow|State”**

Kendall College of Art and Design sabbatical exhibition, main gallery January 10-Feb 6 2010

**“Faculty Exhibition”**

Ferris State University Winter 2010

## **Publications**

(Abridged citations of my artwork in print, things I have written, & things that have been written about my work)

### **Crafting Error**

Phil Renato

Published a magazine form-factor book on source material, short fictional sketches and idiosyncratic design theory in February of 2017. [www.craftingerror.com](http://www.craftingerror.com)

### **Participate: Designing with User Generated Content**

Helen Armstrong

Published a collaborative neckpiece design with Richard Elaver

### **Jewelry Compendium** - Book

2 pages in large book about international jewelry produced by Darling Publications

### **"Art Jewelry Today"** - Book

3 pieces included in a full color book on modern jewelry by author Dona Meilach

Published Fall 2002

### **"500 Pendants and Locketts"** - Book

"Beacon" Necklace/Pendant juried by Elizabeth Shypertt and Mike Holmes

Edited by Marthe Le Van

Lark Books, Asheville, NC

### **"500 Necklaces"** - Book

"Coldtorque" and "Welterque" neckpieces juried by Marjorie Schick

Edited by Marthe Le Van

Lark Books, Asheville, NC

Published Fall 2006

### **"500 Wedding Rings"** - Book

"Engage/Wed" Stainless Ring Set

Edited by Marthe Le Van

Lark Books, Asheville, NC

### **"The Art of Plastic Jewelry"** - Book

"Tab" Pendant

Edited by Marthe Le Van

Lark Books, Asheville, NC

### **"500 Knives"** - Book

"Strato" Collaborative knife with David Cronin

Curated by John Jensen

Lark Books, Asheville, NC

### **"Metalsmith"** Magazine

Full page image of "Syn" Bracelet as well as excerpts of an interview included in "Influence of the Digital" article by Doug Bucci and Matt Hollern in the Fall 2005

### **"Metalsmith" Magazine**

Appeared in the 2002 Exhibition in Print with 2 torque neckpieces, and was featured on the cover and inside of the 2005 Exhibition in Print with the "Verge" flatware set, work was mentioned in the juror's statement

### **"Lapidary Journal"**

3 images of recent CAD work and interview excerpts - included in an article about contemporary jewelry made using CAD/CAM technologies - Jan 2006

1 image and half a page of comments in an article about "successful selling" of Production work - March 2006

One of the subjects of an article written by Sharon Elaine Thompson on the future of Craft in December of 2006

### **"ArtJewelry" Magazine**

"Bride's Crown" appeared in "Beyond Jewelry" section in the Fall of 2006 "Tab Pendant" Article published Winter 2009

### **Virtual And Rapid Prototyping – Advanced Research – Book**

Edited by Paulo Bartolo et al

Article: "Whither One of A Kind?" VRAP conference, Portugal

Co-wrote an article with Rebecca Strzelec on the use of CAD and additive manufacturing in the arts for the publication of record for a semi annual European conference on Rapid Prototyping. Fall 2007

### **"Metalsmith" Magazine**

Review of jewelry exhibition at WMU published Summer 2010 issue

### **"Metalsmith" Magazine**

Wrote/curated *Look* article winter 2012/2013

### **"Metalsmith" Magazine**

Conducted an Interview/Studio Visit with Stanley Lechtzin and Daniella Kerner of Philadelphia, for an article on their collaboratively designed artwork published in the Summer of 2006

### **"Metalsmith" Magazine**

Wrote a review of David Huang's solo exhibition at Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, MI for the Summer 2007 issue

**Jun Suk Min Catalog** Wrote a critical/colleague statement for the catalog of artist Jun Suk Min's solo exhibition in Chicago opening in September of 2011. Reprinted as a part of another solo exhibition in Seoul in 2014.

### **"Jewelry Artist" Magazine**

3 images of work and portions of an interview about the 'best class you've ever taken' published in April of 2015

## **skills**

### **Teaching and Leadership**

Course and program development at the undergraduate and graduate levels, teaching at all undergraduate levels in both skill and concept development courses as well as in college wide professional practices curriculum and team-teaching experience in multiple formats. More than fifteen years of program chair responsibilities including development, construction and management of academic studios, development and management of interdisciplinary labs, experience successfully leading ad hoc and standing committees of faculty senate, chaired the development of an all college strategic planning process, have been a chair and active member of many search committees for staff, faculty, and executive positions - helping to ensure fairness from a diverse and competitive pool of candidates.

### **Digital**

Expertise using Rhinoceros and Keyshot to develop concept and production models and photographic quality renderings along with form development in mesh modelers such as Maya, Grasshopper, Zbrush, Sculptris, and Meshmixer. Specialization in producing speculative and bespoke physical designs using 3D printing, CNC machining, and laser cutting. Professional experience designing print and static electronic media using Adobe products; primarily Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign, and interactive web design using Dreamweaver (along with proficiency in HMTL.)

### **Analog**

Expert in silver and gold casting, metalsmithing, fabrication, and finishing at a jewelry scale using traditional and contemporary processes and equipment - including basic stone setting and associated processes. Have considerable experience with stainless and titanium using machine tools and laser welders, vitreous enameling, powder coating, polyurethane and silicone mold making and casting, as well as base-clear automotive urethane paint processes at medium and small scales with related post cure surface refinement.



## lectures / presentations / workshops / other

Buffalo State College – artist lecture - Spring 2002  
Kendall College of Art and Design – artist lecture - Summer 2002  
Kendall College of Art and Design – New faculty lecture Fall 2002  
Bowling Green State University – artist lecture - Spring 2003  
SNAG Conference (Educator's Dialogue Presenter) - San Francisco - Summer 2003  
University of the Arts (Philadelphia) - Fall 2004  
Tyler School of Art (lecture) - Fall 2004  
SIGGRAPH 2005 (artist lecture) – Guerrilla Studio - 3D Area 2005  
Michigan Silversmiths Guild (keynote lecture) – Fall 2005  
SOFA - Chicago - (panelist/presenter) Fall 2005  
Cleveland Institute of Art - (lecture, workshop) Fall 2005  
Moore College of Art and Design – lecture and demo Fall 2005  
SNAG Conference (Annual Student Slide Show Presenter) - Chicago - May 2006  
SNAG Conference (Education Dialogue Organizer) - Chicago - May 2006  
Kent State University - (Plastics Workshop Blossom Summer Program) - Summer 2006  
Winthrop University - Public Lecture - Winter 2006  
SIGGRAPH 2006 – Guerrilla Studio - Lecture on CAD in Jewelry Design  
Buffalo State College - Taught Plastics Workshop (Fall 2006)  
SIGGRAPH 2007 – Guerrilla Studio - Resident Artist Director  
CadLabOration 2006 - Cleveland and Philadelphia - Organizer and Demonstrator/Presenter  
CadLabOration 2007 - Philadelphia - CoOrganizer and Demonstrated 3D scanning  
CadLabOration 2008 - Philadelphia - Demonstrated 3D Rendering  
Grand Valley State University - Artist lecture - Fall 2007  
Zayed University - Dubai U.A.E. - Public Lecture - Summer 2007  
VRAP Conference - Leiria Portugal - Public Lectures (2) - Fall 2007  
University of Kansas - "Hallmark" Public Lecture - Winter 2008  
Savannah College of Art and Design - Public lecture - Fall 2008  
Penn State Altoona - Public Lecture in conjunction with solo show - Spring 2008  
Tyler School of Art - Plastics lecture - Fall 2008  
Moderated "Design and Computation" panel at SIGGRAPH 2008 Conference  
Winthrop University - Public Lecture - Fall 2008  
UNC Asheville – Meet the Maker Public Lecture - Fall 2008  
Winthrop University - Public Lecture - Summer 2009  
University of Wisconsin, Madison - Spring 2009  
Center for Craft, Creativity and Design Think Tank participant, Hendersonville NC - Spring 2009  
East Carolina University – Artist lecture - Spring 2009  
Western Michigan University - Public lecture - Fall 2009 Grand Valley State University - Artist lecture, demo  
Fall 2009  
Kendall College of Art and Design – Artist lecture in conjunction with sabbatical exhibition  
Mass College of Art - Artist lecture, demonstrations Winter 2009  
SNAG Conference (Education Dialogue Presenter) – Houston – March 2010  
Penland – 2 Week Instructor, “Polymer Chain Reactions,” Presenter - June 2010  
Association for Contemporary Jewelry Conference – “Remote Resources” lecture with Courtney Starrett –  
July 2010 – West Dean College, England  
State of the Art – organized and moderated panel on contemporary jewelry in conjunction with the Calder  
Jewelry exhibition at the Grand Rapids Art Museum March 2010  
Shanghai University – Group lecture in the context of American Jewelry – Sept 2010  
China Academy of Art- Group lecture on the context of American Jewelry Sept 2010  
Cleveland Institute of Art – artist lecture and lecture on Miao jewelry/China Fall 2010  
RAPID - Society of Manufacturing Engineers conference Minn, MN – on “*Truth in Materials: Layer Based  
Artifacts as Integral Process and Surface*” with Rebecca Strzelec – juried presenter – May 2011  
Great Lakes Conference on Teaching and Learning – Lecture: “The End of the World; Digitally Augmented,  
User-Centric 'Handicrafts’” - juried presenter – May 2011

Scholastic Art Awards juror - 2004, 2008, 2011, 2015  
 University of the Arts – China trip lecture, abbreviated artist lecture  
 SUNY New Paltz – short form artist lecture – January, 2011  
 University of Wisconsin Whitewater – artist lecture/CAD workshop – February 2011  
 Bowling Green State University – artist lecture/CAD demo – March 2011  
 Wildacres, North Carolina - Modern Masters workshop for the Florida Society of Goldsmiths - 2011  
 Cleveland Institute of Art - Consultant - College Wide Presentation on Program Review  
 TEDx Labs Grand Rapids - Coordinated Digital Fabrication Lab demonstrations  
 Moderated “Space is the Place” panel at SIGGRAPH 2012 Conference  
 MACAA Conference, Detroit - invited panelist re: the presumed deskilling of arts curriculum  
 Bowling Green State University artist presentation and workshop spring 2013  
 Cleveland Institute of Art - artist presentation fall 2013  
 Michigan Silversmiths Guild - Keynote presentation at annual meeting, Ypsilanti, MI - Fall 2013  
 Syd Mead Exhibition, KCAD - facilitated the invitation of this renowned artist and introduced he and his work to our community at the opening reception  
 SIGGRAPH Anaheim - Dailies (and Studio) presentation - Summer 2013 - juried  
 StartGarden - 3D printing panelist  
 AimWest - Maker movement panelist  
 SIGGRAPH - Arts Area Program Review author  
 SIGGRAPH Vancouver - Dailies (and Dailies Preview) presentation - Summer 2014 - juried  
 Shemer Center for the Arts - Phoenix, AZ - panel, Oct 2014  
 Arizona State University - critiques and visiting artist presentations, Oct 2014  
 Scholastic Art Awards regional awards presenter - Feb 2015  
 Cleveland Institute of Art - alternative processes workshop - type A, void free polyurethane casting  
 Designed and produced a suite of centerpieces for an alumni recruitment event at KCAD, 2013  
 Designed and produced a set of sterling silver cufflinks and a pendant for retiring KCAD administrators - 2012, 2014  
 Designed and produced medals of office for the president of FSU the president of KCAD, 2003, 2004  
 Designed and oversaw production of subsurface LASER engraved Wege Prize – 5-piece trophy for a ‘wicked problems’ student design competition. Original in 2014, redesigned in 2015  
 Designed and assisted with the production of 300 stainless steel bookmarks for KCAD and FSU to be given as gifts during a celebration of university affiliated authors  
 Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts - Gatlinville, TN - participated in the Mid Career Metals Retreat and exhibition with 14 other academics from the field of Metals/Jewelry Design in August, 2015  
 Earlham College - gave a two day CAD and 3D printing demo to a course of crafts majors during the fall of 2015  
 Attended the National Council of Arts Administrators conference in Boston, Sept 2015  
 Penland School of Crafts - was a student in Boris Bally and Seliena Coyle’s two-week summer course *Artful Eating Utensils*, June and July 2016  
 Attended the National Council of Arts Administrators conference in Philadelphia, Sept 2016  
 Lectured to seniors and graduate students at Tyler School of Art, Sept 2016  
 Penland – 2 Week Instructor, “Entangled,” Presenter - Aug 2018  
 Attended the National Council of Arts Administrators conference in Grand Rapids, Sept 2018  
 Lectured to students from across Tyler School of Art, Nov 2018  
 SIGGRAPH - member at large Conference Advisory Group (CAG), 2018-2020