

RACHEL ROSENKRANTZ rosenkr@risd.edu

EDUCATION

2011-2013: Apprenticeship with Master luthier Daniel Collins and mentor Otto d'Ambrosio.

2002-2004: European Master 1 level and equivalent of Master 2 (similar to Arch1 and Arch2 structure at RISD), Interior Architecture at ESAG Met de Penninghen (École Supérieure d'Arts Graphiques et Architecture Intérieure, also known historically as the Académie Julian).

Spring 2003: Erasmus Exchange Program with the Grad program of the Interior Architecture Department of RISD (Rhode Island School of Design) and Independent Studies in the Furniture Design (welding) and Sculpture departments (bronze casting).

1999-2002: Diplôme de "Licence en Arts Appliqués", equivalent of the American Bachelor of Art, at ESAG Met de Penninghen (académie Julian).

1996-1999: Baccalauréat with honors in Economics and Social Sciences at L'Alliance Israélite Française des Pavillons sous Bois.

Additional classes outside of school system:

Enamel techniques in jewelry, lithography and woodblock printing, 3D printing, laser cutting, CNC machining, circuit board etching and soldering, and empirical extensive knowledge of biomaterials.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2018-Spring 2021: RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence

Assistant Professor, Term Appointment, Division of Experimental and Foundation Studies. Including Spring 2021 in Furniture Design, co-teaching sophomore year..

Spring 2015-now, RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence

Adjunct professor, Spatial Dynamics (also Drawing and Design occasionally), Division of Experimental and Foundation Studies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 2012-now: Owner and Master Luthier at [Atelier Rosenkrantz](#), sustainable high end handcrafted one of a kind fine stringed instruments, including customers such as MacArthur Fellow [Mary Halvorson](#), guitarist [Kaki King](#), [Anthony Bourdain](#) and [Andy Rourke](#) of The Smiths. And rare restoration work, including the world's largest [Hurdy Gurdy](#), based on the one depicted in Hieronymus Bosch's Garden of Earthly Delights triptych over 500 years ago.

Graphic design, including for the Jazz [ESP Disk'](#) Record Label, The PlagueSong by Azure Carter and Alan Sondheim. Recording engineer, including the [New York Review of Books](#), the audible version of "Calling Grandma" by Marisa Mazria Katz.

January 2008 - September 2012: PHILIPS ELECTRONICS – Fall River, Boston, and New York city. Industrial Design responsibilities include: Industrial design development of [innovation lighting](#), track lighting, task lighting and architectural decorative lighting, including with sister company [ColorKinetics](#); from initiation of concepts, 3D modeling, mock-ups, prototyping to verification of accuracy of design along manufacturing process. Creating new lines of fixtures while maintaining a consistent visual identity across the offering. Design consulting in LED lighting with [R.A.M.Stern](#) and [Gensler](#) offices.

July 2003 - January 2008: WOODING DESIGN, LTD – Providence.

Furniture, cabinetry, millwork, interior and lighting design responsibilities include: initial concepts, developing CAD sets for contactors, verification of accuracy of design instructions, material research, implementation of presentation boards. Projects include hospitality, work and residential spaces. Cutlery design for [Dansk](#), and chair designs for Jofco (now [JSI](#)) and desk design for [Bernhardt](#).

Bibliography, publications

October 2021: Premier Guitar, in [“Why I built this”](#) interview.

June 2021: The Fretboard Journal (print, issue 48), author of the column Voicings, [“Sustainable Futures”](#), on the potential of biomaterials on substituting endangered woods.

June 2021: The Boutique Guitar Showcase’s Tour Magazine, author of [En Inspiration](#) article on sustainable materials in acoustics.

June 2021: [Acoustic Guitar Magazine](#), on the Passerelle guitar accessory, a collaboration between Kaki King and myself.

December 2020: A.M.I.S (American Musical Instrument Society), an organology and music anthropology publishing platform. [“Notes on the Harvard panel discussion: Innovative Design in Modern Guitar Making”](#) by Dan Krugman.

April 2020: The Fretboard Journal podcast ([episode 283](#)): Rachel Rosenkrantz (Atelier Rosenkrantz), pandemic tour shop, by Jason Verlinde.

January 2020: Acoustic Guitar Magazine, [“How I learn to make guitars: Eight modern luthiers on the origin of their craft”](#), and online version published more recently [here](#).

December 2019: SheShreds Magazine, [50 Women Builders](#), by Mamie Minch.

August 2019: Fretboard Journal #45, [portrait of a luthier, Rachel Rosenkrantz](#)

October 2018: [Autodesk’s](#) Redshift episode: Luthier Rachel Rosenkrantz Embraces New Tech to Innovate a Centuries-Old Craft

June 2017: Uproxx article on my practice, by Zach Johnston, [“Meet The Designer Who Ditched Her Day Job To Build Beautiful Guitars”](#)

June 2017: [SheShreds](#) Feminist musician magazine: Sleuthing out lutherie

October 2016: Anthony Bourdain’s Rawcraft [episode 9](#): Atelier Rosenkrantz.

May 2016: The Fretboard Journal [“workbench” interview](#): Atelier Rosenkrantz.

October 2014: Stereophile magazine [“5th element” article](#): The guitars of Rachel Rosenkrantz.

June 2002: French television interview, Journal de France2, my piece at t

May 2002: French Newspaper Liberation, mentioned in the Sunday paper as one of the emerging young designers.

LECTURES, PANELS, SYMPOSIUM, AND SHOWS

September 2021: Worcester Polytechnic Institute, [Guitar Innovation Lab](#) (Graduate studies and research with music and engineering students), talk on acoustics of biomaterials from empirical experimentations.

August 2021: [Ellnora](#) Festival at the Krannert Center for the arts, University of Illinois. Running a live online panel discussion on “Lutherie family businesses and passed down traditions”, including Kathrin Hauser (Germany), Pepe Romero Jr (Spain), Joshie de Jonge (Canada), and Elizabeth Henderson (USA).

Summer 2021: [18 cities international tour](#), with The Boutique Guitar Showcase.

December 2020: Peoria Riverfront Museum, virtual talk on [Modern Lutherie](#), Peoria, IL.

December 2020: Panel discussion at [Harvard Graduate School of Design's Fabrication Lab](#) on Innovative Design in Modern Guitar Making, Cambridge, MA.

August 2020: Online panel discussion run by the [TSM Kolkata School](#), with luthier Karan Singh, luthier Arnab Bhattacharya, and myself, on the Artisans of Sound, a Masterclass series.

May 2020: Autodesk short interview series on pivoting business habits and workflow at the start of the pandemic. "[Luthier Rachel Rosenkrantz's Quarantine Daily Routine Keeps Her Strumming Along](#)".

September 2019: Lecture and workshop about voicing guitars at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, [Play it Loud](#) exhibit, New York, NY.

September 2019: Lecture and workshop at the [University of Illinois](#), about Innovation in lutherie for the Krannert Center for the Arts, Champaign, IL

March 2019: Lecture, workshop, and symposium on [Post Genre Instrument Design](#), Parsons School of Design, The New School, New York.

October 2018: Woodstock International Invitational Luthier Showcase, [celebrating women in the industry](#), exhibitor.

April 2017: [Panel discussion](#), New York Guitar Festival, Parsons School of Design, New York.

AWARDS AND HONORS

January 2016: Providence [Design Catalyst](#) Program Grantee.

September 2015: Accepted as part of the Guild of American Luthiers.

July 2014: Rhode Island Council of the Arts grantee 2015 for Folk Art in woodworking.

February 2012: "Best product of the year" Award by LD+A Magazine and by Interior Design Magazine (print).

October 2011: "Product Innovation" Awards by Architectural SSL Magazine (print).

November 2004: Hype Gallery pop-up, group show in London, Paris, and Berlin. Exhibited at [Palais de Tokyo in Paris](#), photographic work on polychrome architecture.

May 2002: Carrousel du Musée du Louvre for the Société des Artistes Décorateurs show, "[The European way\(s\) of life](#)" exhibit. Showcased for tableware design. Shown as well a month later part of the same traveling exhibit at Hagaram Modern Art Museum, Seoul, Korea. Page 145 of the exhibit catalog, out of print but still circulating. But also in the Liberation, French newspaper, in an June 2002, qualifying my exhibited design of "[extra-terrestre](#)".

PERFORMANCES

2011-now: Contrabass and accordion player on movie score of [As I Lay Dying](#), a Faulkner's novel adaptation to cinema ([except](#) of my playing).

Vocalist in Gucci's "[Dionysus](#)" tryptic featured in Vice Magazine.

Contrabass and bouzouki playing in a Marfa and Brooklyn musicians collaboration under the direction of Ryan Rooney, with [Paz Lenchantin](#) of the Pixies, for the Marfa movie festival in 2015, recording of [The Eyes of The Moon](#) soundtrack.

Contrabass and singer on [solo projects](#) and in the following bands, Providence Research Ensemble, Two Selkies, leader of Beberequin, original member of [The Huntress and Holder of Hands](#) on P-bass (including opening for Buffy St Mary, Avalon album), and [Entropy](#) (spoken word poet Christopher Jophnson and contemporary dancer Sokeo Ros and myself), upright bass on Sianna Plavin's [Go On Now](#) album.

Saron and Kethuk instruments playing at the Brown University Gamelan Orchestra, traditional Indonesian music, Java style.

Electronic music as LaRoche and founder of the Providence all female DJ group *Union St Collective*.

LANGUAGES

Native: French

Fluent: English and Spanish

Notion: Arabic (3 years in high school)

Dead languages: Latin (2 years in middle school), ancient Hebrew (7 years middle school and high school), and Arameic (3 years in high school)

OTHER INTERESTS

Fencing (3 years pre-pandemic), archeology (volunteered on the site of Susya in the Negev desert, digging and dusting late Roman and Byzantine mosaics). Theater, two summer programs at [Le Cours Simon](#) in Paris.