

Issues in Social Media for the Arts 2019

Blueskying a Social Media Platform for the Arts

Hosted by
the Social Media Narratives Class
Art and Technology Studies
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Facebook and Google Groups, November 7-12

Facebook Transcript: Ellen Sandor
Includes responses to her Google Doc Statement

Ellen Sandor
November 7 at 1:26 PM

At (art)n, we have an early 1990s history of creating one of the first virtual galleries of our portfolio and web-based exhibitions that juxtaposed relevant art historical pieces with our growing body of work. We also used the web for many of our PHSCologram collaborations and commissioned installations, pre-social media, to log our research, visually chart our progress, and communicate with our clients/collaborators involved with the project. It was one of the few ways we could've done and continue to do cutting edge work.

For me personally, social media has been beneficial for enhancing connections with family, friends, colleagues and members of the arts community. I always strive to post positive, encouraging content to inspire meaningful connections between artists and our community at large. Because I wear many hats as an artist, non-for-profit board leader & member, wife/mother/grandmother, etc.–time management becomes a challenge. I found that social media has seriously helped me in this area even though there are other challenges. The future of art depends upon more engagement between artists, patrons, curators, educators, and the general public, especially intergenerational dialogues. Using social media as a framework for collaboration that supports tolerance, diversity, and inclusion helps us all to be more receptive to each other's authenticity, to lean in, to find resonance with each other, and uncover new ways to be engaged in a better world of our own co-creating.

Social media has an ephemeral, in the moment nature that generates excitement and audience, but also needs to organically find its own staying power. The present moment in which something is posted rapidly

becomes part of the immediate past. There still remains a vast untapped potential to richly engage with our shared cultural heritage, in which artists (and scientists) can still be the trailblazers of the future within a rich, art historical context across millennia.

In today's culture, anyone can curate their own gallery of their images, but to do it in such a way that makes an impactful, socially conscious statement, inspires inner growth, builds a bridge for deeper connection, harnesses historical contexts, or breaks open a whole new world of transformative ideas—these are a few trails for the arts community to tread with social media.

-Ellen Sandor

Founding Artist & Director, (art)n

Co-Editor and Contributor, *New Media Futures: The Rise of Women in the Digital Arts*

[Judy Malloy](#) Hi [Ellen Sandor](#),

Welcome to the 2019 Issues in Social Media for the Arts panel!

In addition to your history of working in art, science, and technology including early web work, the book you co-authored, *New Media Futures: The Rise of Women in the Digital Arts*,

<https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/33yyg4qe9780252041549.html> is an important contribution to the field!

Here is Ellen's bio: Ellen Sandor is a new media artist and Founding Director of (art)n. Sandor's PHSCologram sculptures and installations with (art)n have been exhibited internationally and are in the permanent collection of the Art Institute of Chicago, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, International Center of Photography, Victoria & Albert Museum, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art—The University of Oklahoma, and others. Commissions include Museum of Jewish Heritage-A Living Memorial to the Holocaust; Smithsonian Institution; City of Chicago Public Art Program; and State of Illinois Art-in-Architecture Program. As a Visiting Scholar of Culture and Society, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she co-edited and contributed to *New Media Futures: The Rise of Women in the Digital Arts*. Sandor also co-authored U.S. and international patents awarded for the PHSCologram process, and related papers published in *Computers & Graphics*, *IEEE*, and *SPIE*.

For more information, visit her bio for the panel at <http://www.narrabase.net/socmedianar2019.html#ellen>



Ellen Sandor Judy Malloy thank you for carrying the touch and doing it so well. Beyond appreciated.

Comments and responses on the Google Doc version



Isobel Harbison
8:48 AM Nov 11

I'm fascinated to know more about the archiving process of this curatorial material/ interfaces, as well as processes of maintenance and/or restoration... of this and the PHS Cologram works...



Deanne Achong
12:11 PM Nov 11

I'm also curious about this archive.



Ellen Sandor
1:24 PM Nov 11

Thank you for your interest in our work. (art)n's early web content is preserved in our internal digital archives, and was cited in *New Media Futures: The Rise of Women in the Digital Arts*, Cox, Sandor, Fron, Ed., UIPress, 2018. For more information about PHSColograms, please visit our direct link and let me know what questions you have:

<https://www.artn.com/phscolograms>.

We are also currently working on VR and Sculpture Installations related to the PHSCologram process. As new media artists, we all tend to wear many hats, and preservation is one of them. Working across media and platforms has been a real journey that will continue to be a challenge beyond the plateau of social media.

Continued Comments and responses on the Facebook version



Lora Roberts : i love how your creativity has evolved through the years, youre truly an inspiration for women in the arts !! .. ❤️



Dian Dai Trabulsy Very well said Ellen!

[Judy Malloy](#)

[Ellen Sandor](#) writes:

"Social media has an ephemeral, in the moment nature that generates excitement and audience, but also needs to organically find its own staying power. The present moment in which something is posted rapidly becomes part of the immediate past. There still remains a vast untapped potential to richly engage with our shared cultural heritage, in which artists (and scientists) can still be the trailblazers of the future within a rich, art historical context across millennia."

What a wonderful vision! We are virtually surrounded, it seems, with an ever changing social media infosphere. As long as it is possible to come and go, personally I enjoy this jazz-like immersion in contemporary culture, but at the same time if we look at this with artist's eyes, the tapestry of our shared artists' vision should be more permanently available. Particularly in places where as [Dal Yong Jin](#) reports in his statement. "Young people equipped with social media mainly use these platforms to enjoy contemporary arts anytime and anyplace"

Contingently, we would like to think that there are works that remain accessible in one way or other because of their strength. I'm thinking for example of [Chindu Sreedharan's](#) Twitter told Epic-Retold. Epic-Retold has been published as a book by Harper Collins India, but I just looked at his statement (he was in the 2016 panel) and saw that the link to the online excerpts from Epic_Retold is broken. [Chindu](#) is there somewhere else where Epic Retold is still available online?



Chindu Sreedharan Judy Malloy I had to delete the tweets because of the publication in print. I do have archives, which I can send you. Also, i begin tweeting later this month the sequel to ER, titled Autobiography of a villain. This is the antagonist's perspective. I am also putting together a web site that collates some of the scholarship around Twitterfiction, including your own journal articles, and the critiques of ER.



Chindu Sreedharan In the meantime, here are two excerpts:
<https://link.medium.com/keuxKcft1>
<https://link.medium.com/HKDIgwnft1>



CHINDU.CO.UK
The Next Day



Judy Malloy Hi **Chindu Sreedharan** Great to hear that you are working on a website on Twitterfiction scholarship, and thanks for the excerpts! Here is Chindu's statement from the 2016 Issues in Social Media for the Arts panel
<http://www.narrabase.net/chindu.html>



NARRABASE.NET
**Rutgers Camden DSC: Issues in
Contmporary Social Media...**

