




# J. Benjamin Burney

Assistant Curator

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 Denver, CO 80220

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

J. Benjamin Burney has received a dual masters degree: and MFA in mixed media and an MBA in Arts Administration. He has worked as a curatorial consultant, art critic, and research assistant for artists and art businesses. He has a proven track record in organizational structuring, strategic planning, art historical research and exhibition planning. He is a dependable worker with knowledge of budgeting, project management, business administration, and marketing. Versed in modern and contemporary art history, label writing, and sourcing artworks from new and emerging artists he is ready to further his career in the arts industry.

## SKILLS

Arts Organization Administration

Art Direction

Exhibition planning

Microsoft Office

Adobe Creative Suite

Sketch Up and Rhino AutoCAD

Contract Management

Client Engagement

Public Art Programming

Budgeting and finance

Project management

Art handling

Collection management

## EXPERIENCE

### CURATOR / PROJECT MANAGER, Denver, CO

1919 Gallery, August 2023–Present

- Designed and Produced art exhibitions for new art gallery
- researched artworks to develop wall text and prepared artworks for travel
- Organized special events related to specific exhibitions or permanent collections.
- Created in-depth cash flow and accounting spreadsheets for gallery owner while also managing and scheduling gift shop staff.
- Grew the revenue of the gallery by 600% with programming, marketing, and network connections.
- Researched, wrote, edited, and proofread interpretive materials used in exhibitions and educational programming.
- Created and managed budgets for multiple projects, ensuring financial accountability.

### HELLEMS PROJECT ARTS COMMITTEE, Boulder, Colorado

University of Colorado, August 2023–Present

- Managed budgets for exhibitions and developed fundraising campaigns to support projects.
- Developed and implemented strategies to promote the exhibition of artwork in various public venues.

- Created detailed plans for the installation, display, and conservation of artworks for the Hellems Rebuild Project
- Worked with Architects, Engineers, and developers to draft and RFQ's and select artists for the new building

### **ART WRITER & CRITIC, Denver, CO**

Daria Art Magazine, April 2022–Present

- Created imaginative concepts and ideas to frame stories and boost readership.
- Liaised with subject matter experts to develop and refine content.
- Drafted compelling and informative content for newsletters and websites.

### **CURATOR / ART DIRECTOR, Denver, CO**

Zoid Art Haus, May 2013–Present

- Created and maintained company's vision, mission, and values statement while also creating strategic plans for exhibitions and arts programs for local and international clients.
- Leveraged network of artists, arts institutions, galleries and collectors to create opportunities and programming that benefits the community.
- Developed calls for art with Callforentry.org software while also managing clients Artsy and Artnet pages.
- Assisted in the acquisition, shipping, care, deaccession and provenance research for museums, galleries, and collectors.
- Built an effective marketing and sales strategy leveraging social media platforms to successfully drive growth and attendance at art openings.
- Developed comprehensive strategic plans for negotiating contracts, scheduling art exhibitions, and fundraising for arts organizations.
- Researched and wrote grants for artists and arts institutions

### **GRADUATE PART TIME INSTRUCTOR, Boulder, CO**

University of Colorado Boulder, August 2021–Present

- Developed curriculum for: Digital Photography, Digital Art, Contemporary Art history, and Arts and Business.
- Helped students understand difficult concepts with hands-on learning and group projects.
- Collaborated with other educators to develop innovative approaches to instruction.
- Developed in depth curriculum using visual slide decks and presentations.
- Worked with artists and arts institutions to create opportunities for art students in the professional arts industry

### **ASSISTANT CURATOR, Denver, CO**

Denver Arts and Venues (McNichols Building), February 2022–November 2022

- Designed compelling visual displays to showcase artwork in galleries or museums.
- Initiated relationships with local cultural institutions to expand outreach efforts.
- Reviewed artist applications and allocated government funds to artists and artist teams
- Assisted in developing budgets and fundraising initiatives related to exhibitions.
- Collaborated with other staff members to create engaging exhibitions for visitors.
- Produced Videography and Photography for marketing and archiving of exhibitions and events.

### **CU ART MUSEUM COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE, Boulder, Colorado**

University of Colorado Art Museum, October 2021–May 2022

- Researched artworks via museum database system and developed wall text for art.
- Developed and implemented effective strategies to improve collections process efficiency.

- Identified areas where improvement was needed in the collections process.
- Aided with the deaccessioning of artworks in the collection

### **CURATORIAL INTERN, Boulder, Colorado**

Artnauts Global Collective, August 2021–December 2021

- Designed exhibition layout for art shows with 60 + artists
- Coordinated shipping, hanging, and repackaging of artwork for artists dispersed around the globe
- Produced catalogs and created photos and videos from events surrounding exhibitions
- Researched grant opportunities that could be used to finance projects or programs.
- Analyzed visitor feedback surveys to evaluate impact of exhibits on guests' experience.

### **SALES REP / EVENT PLANNER, Denver, CO**

Moonrock Colorado, January 2017–March 2019

- Demonstrated excellent customer service skills when dealing with client inquiries.
- Communicated product features, advantages, and benefits to customers.
- Developed and maintained relationships with customers to ensure repeat business.
- Analyzed financial statements associated with existing contracts to identify potential areas of improvement or cost savings opportunities.
- Advised senior management on best practices for managing third party vendors and contractors.

### **CURATOR / CONTENT MANAGER, Eden, Utah**

Summit Series, March 2011–January 2013

- Worked with Architects, Commerical Real Estate Developers, Interior Designers and High Net Worth individuals to sell real estate and create a burgeoning community of creatives and start up companies
- Facilitated partnerships between art institutions, Summit Series, corporations, and local community organizations to create mutually beneficial projects.
- Collaborated with staff to develop exhibition plans that addressed the mission of the project and showcase artworks.
- Produced and managed content of photography, videography, and marketing copy for website and client slide decks.
- Coordinated with outside vendors to arrange shipping, transportation services for artwork loans between museums, institutions.
- Managed a team of interns in the design of promotional materials for exhibitions and events.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **MASTER OF ARTS (M.F.A.) IN DIGITAL MEDIA CANDIDATE , Boulder, CO, US**

University of Colorado Boulder, Expected graduation December 2024

**GPA 4.0**

Relevant Coursework

- Sketch Up and Rhino Auto Cad
- Museums and History
- Curatorial Practices
- Arts and Engineering
- Contemporary Art History
- Public Art Programming

Extracurricular Activities

- Director of Social Events for Graduate Student Government
- Member of Communications Board for CU
- Committee Member for DEI

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (M.B.A.) IN ARTS ADMINISTRATION AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT, Boulder, CO, US

University of Colorado Boulder, January 2024

GPA 3.74

Relevant Coursework

- Sales and Digital Marketing
- Leadership and Arts Management
- Negotiations and Conflict Management
- Investments and Portfolio Analysis
- Project Management
- Sustainable Arts Organizations

Extracurricular Activities

- Vice President of Justice Equity and Inclusion
- MBAA Board of Directors

CERTIFICATIONS

- Google SEO Certification
- Arts Administration Certification
- Certificate in College Teaching