

Amisha Gadani

4317 ½ Marmion Way. Los Angeles, CA 90065

www.amishagadani.com | amisha.gadani@gmail.com | (717)-433-0604

Summary:

Amisha Gadani is an artist, illustrator and educator with a history of collaborating with UCLA scientists. She has spent over six years working in institutions like the Exploratorium Museum in San Francisco and UCLA to communicate science through creative and informative graphics and educational programs. She has produced over fifty scientific illustrations for research papers, created graphic identities for science conferences and collaborated with researchers to develop biodiversity outreach. Amisha is a passionate self-motivated learner and an interdisciplinary thinker with strong experience communicating complex ideas into educational programs and graphics that are meaningful to both scientists and the general public.

Education:

Carnegie Mellon University, *School of Art. Pittsburgh, PA*
Bachelors of Fine Arts with honors received, 2007

University of Auckland, *Elam School of Art. Auckland, New Zealand*
Study Abroad, 2006

Current Employment:

UCLA, Department of Communication Studies. Artist SR. November 2015 - current
Work with Professor Thomas Miller to develop multiple graphic projects for the UCLA debate team's endowment campaign.

Teach Play Learn. Education Consultant/Tutor. January 2016 - current
Part of a team of consultants that independently develop and present educational content to local students of various ages and backgrounds.

Published Scientific Illustrations in the Following:

2015. **Method Quarterly.** Issue 2, "Visions". p.34. science journal.

2013. **LIMN.** Issue 3, "Sentinel Devices". cover illustration. science journal.

2013. **J. of Evolutionary Biology.** 26: 1003–1018. "Do habitat shifts..." (F. Santini, M.E. Alfaro, et al).

2013. **PLoS ONE.** 8(6): e65923. "A Phylogenomic Perspective..." (B.C. Faircloth, M.E. Alfaro, et al).

2012. **Am. J. of Primatology.** V74, 4. 299–314. [also cover] "Anointing variation..." (J.W.L. Alfaro, et al).

2012. **PLoS Biology.** 10 (8): e1001381 "Clade Age and Species..." (D.L. Rabosky, M.E. Alfaro, et al).

Employment:

Independent Illustrator and Educator.

2009-current. Los Angeles, CA

Current clients are the Department of Communication Studies at UCLA and Teach Play Learn. Past clients include the Institute for Society and Genetics, the California Nanosystems Institute and the Exploratorium Museum.

Education Specialist.

2013-2015. Exploratorium Museum. San Francisco, CA

Worked in a small team to open and run the Exploratorium Museum's first off-site location called "Helix", a community science center located in downtown Los Altos funded with a one-year grant. Designed, developed and delivered programs, events, and talks on a range of topics including plant and animal anatomy, fractals, DIY electronics and drawing. Promoted events and programs via social media and self-produced graphic work.

Artist Researcher.

2011-2013. Dr. Michael Alfaro Laboratory. UCLA

2011-2013. The Institute for Society and Genetics. UCLA

Created scientific illustrations for papers and journal covers, developed and presented Alfaro lab-related outreach, developed graphic designs to market the Institute's conferences and workshops and managed both the lab's website and social media while developing a body of artwork based on my experiences.

Instructor, Art/Sci Nanolab Summer Course.

July 2012, July 2013, July 2015. California Nanosystems Institute. UCLA

Worked for with a team of six instructors to deliver an intensive two-week interdisciplinary summer course for sixty junior and senior high school students. The course is valued as a full college course.

Artist Research Associate.

2010-2012. STUDIO for Creative Inquiry. Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

Worked in a small team to help run an interdisciplinary arts research lab directed by Golan Levin. Focused primarily on the website to clearly present the twenty-year history of past projects, artist residencies, and events along with the STUDIO's current activities. Helped to organize events, manage undergraduate assistants, support artist-in-residents, produce graphics and run an arts/technology events website called "OMGPGH!".

Illustrator/Researcher/Assistant Developer.

2008-2010. Exploratorium Museum. SF, CA.

Helped develop, design and illustrate educational activities for grades K-8 that relate to the museum's Geometry Playground exhibition. Researched content for the exhibition website, and co-curated a geometry cabinet-of-curiosities exhibit in collaboration with the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in PA.

Field Trip Explainer & Exhibit Support Technician.

2007-2009. Exploratorium Museum. SF, CA.

Worked as a team to present orientations, demonstrations, and dissections. Interacted with museum scientists to better understand the exhibits, and interacted with visitors to answer questions and to actively encourage curiosity and experimentation. Assisted the exhibit developers in the construction of models and exhibits.

Selected Art Exhibitions:

- 2016. **Art|Sci Gallery, UCLA.** "Theoretical Animal Forms". Los Angeles, CA
- 2015. **Wing Luke Museum.** "Tales of Tails". Seattle, WA
- 2014. **Monte Vista Projects.** "Openings". Los Angeles, CA
- 2013. **Wave Hill.** "Tandem Pursuits: Armor and Ichthyology". Bronx, NY
- 2012. **The Dumbo Arts Festival.** Brooklyn, NY
- 2011. **The Andy Warhol Museum.** Pittsburgh Biennial. Pittsburgh, PA
- 2010. **New York Hall of Science.** World Maker Faire NY. Queens, NY
- 2009. **Maker Faire Bay Area.** San Mateo, CA
- 2008. **Exploratorium Museum.** "2nd Skin". San Francisco, CA
- 2007. **Gallery Raku.** Transit Festival. Tokyo, Japan

Selected Press:

- 2013. **The New York Times.** "Where Medieval Armor Meets the Aquatic". article.
- 2012. **Scientific American.** "Self Defense". article.
- 2011. **Fast Company.** "Using Nature In Design: Defensive Cocktail Dresses". article.
- 2010. **Sparkfun Electronics.** "eTextile Fashion". article.
- 2010. **Maomao Publications.** "Future Fashion: Innovative Materials and Technology". book.
- 2007. **CNet.** "Digital clothing takes center stage at S.F. Exploratorium". article.

Public Speaking:

- 2016. **Workshop + LASER, LA.** "*Drawing as a Tool*" and "*Theoretical Animal Forms*". LA, CA
- 2014. **Helix by Exploratorium Museum.** "*Animals in the Dark*". Los Altos, CA
- 2013. **Darwinian Medicine class, UCLA.** *discussed my defensive dresses.* LA, CA
- 2013. **LASER, LA.** *held at UCLA, the topic of the evening was Imagining Nature.* LA, CA
- 2013. **Independence High School.** *guest speaker in a biology class.* Santa Monica, CA
- 2012. **Machine Project.** *Dark Matter Series, about animals that live in darkness.* LA, CA.
- 2012. **Society for Integrative & Comparative Bio Conference.** *on lab outreach.* Charleston, SC.
- 2011. **Institute for Society & Genetics Fellows Meeting.** *at UCLA.* LA, CA.
- 2011. **Mercersburg Academy.** *lecture at private high school.* Mercersburg, PA.
- 2011. **Ignite.** *idea sharing event.* Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2011. **Dorkbot.** *Pittsburgh, PA.*
- 2011. **PechaKucha Night.** *idea sharing event.* Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2009. **Creative Arts Opportunities Conference.** *art's alumni conference at CMU.* Pittsburgh, PA.