

Lee Wilkins

Tel: 514 717 9700

Email: [lee.wilkins@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:lee.wilkins@mail.utoronto.ca)

Website: <http://leecyb.org>

I am an artist and scholar with a focus on alternative forms of technology. My research is focused on how the body and technology intersect through exploring media theory and e-textiles. I teach classes on wearable technology, electronics, physical computing, and feminist media theory.

### **Education**

**DEC** Visual Arts, **Dawson College**, 2006-2008

**BFA** Computation Arts Specialization, **Concordia University** 2009-2011

**MFA** Digital Futures, **OCAD University** 2012-2014

Supervisor: Simone Jones

Thesis title: Urban Integration of Plants and Technology

**PhD** (ABD), Faculty of Information, **University of Toronto**, 2018-Present

Supervisor: Dr Sarah Sharma

Dissertation title: Crafting Bodily Infrastructures

Expected defense Summer 2023

### **Industry Experience**

**2014 - Present Co-Executive Director** - Little Dada

**2011 - Present Freelance Technical Artist** - Selected clients include Toronto Catholic District School Board, Toronto Public Library, Ontario Science Centre, Festival Of Curiosity, Design Exchange, MakeWorks, Toronto Tool Library, Informal, Alpenglow Electronics

**2022- Present - Open Hardware Summit Chair** - Open Source Hardware Association

**2022 - 2023 - Artist In Residence** - Department of Design and Computation Arts, Concordia University

**20201 - Present - Critical Making Lead** - Milieux Institute

**2020-2021 - Senior Manager, R&D** - Sheertex

**2017-2019 - Community Manager** - Hackaday (SupplyFrame)

**2018-2019 - Senior Technical Lead** - Ryerson Collaboratory

**2015-2018 - Director of Education** - STEAMLabs

**2015 - Innovator In Residence** - Toronto Public Library

**2012-2014 - Front-end Developer** - CrowdTwist

### **Teaching Positions (Course Instructor/lead)**

**2022 - 2023 Design & Computation Arts** - Concordia University

CART 253 Creative Computation 1

CART 263 Creative Computation 2

**2015 -2020 Digital Futures - OCAD University**

DGIF 2002 Physical Computing

GDES-3015 Wearable Electronics

GDES-3041 Wearable Computation

**2015 - 2021 New Media - Toronto Metropolitan University**

RTA 963 Cybernetics And Body Centric Technologies

RTA 963 Special Topics in New Media

**2018 School of Fashion - Toronto Metropolitan University**

FSN 530 Wearable Fashion

**2016 -2018 Interaction Design - Sheridan College**

Computation Studio

Interactive Objects 1

Interactive Objects 2

Digital Media Principles

**2014 -2016 Game Design - Sheridan College**

Game Design Fundamentals

Programming Basics

**Peer Reviewed Publications**

Jarry, A, Boucher, M P, Ammar-Khodja, B, wilkins L M, Mardirossian, V, Bianchini, S, (2022) *Form taking/force shaping*, Antennae, journal of nature in visual culture, issue 59, 63,

Patrícia Gál, R., Wilkins, L. M., Zhang, Y., Boucher, M.-P., Karppi, T., & Packer, J. (2021). Space media. *Canadian Journal of Communication*, 46(3), 645–662.  
<https://doi.org/10.22230/cjc.2021v46n3a4085>

Wilkins, L. M. (2020). E-Textiles, Power and Control. *Virtual Creativity*, 46(3), 645–662.  
<https://doi.org/10.22230/cjc.2021v46n3a4085>

**Other Publications**

**2022-PRESENT** Make Magazine, regular columnist

**2018** Clothes Minded - MAKE 63

**2022** Wearables What's What MAKE 80

**2022** Inductive Adornments - MAKE 82

**2022** Solar Media - MAKE 82

**2022** LED Love - MAKE 83

**2023** Soft Speakers - MAKE 84

**2023** Play With Your Food - MAKE 85

Scope Of Work (Previously The Prepared), regular contributor 2019-PRESENT

2023-05-06, Guest Editor

2023-02-06, Guest Editor

2022-10-31, Guest Editor

2022-08-01, Guest Editor

2022-05-02, Guest Editor

2022-01-31, Guest Editor

2021-07-26, Guest Editor

2021-09-27, Guest Editor

2019-07-22, Guest Editor, with Hillary Predko

**2019** Supplyframe Hardware, Freelance writer

**Pandemic Fashion** - April, 2019

**Who is buying and certifying the voting machines for the 2020 election?** - September 5, 2019

**The future of implantable technology**- March 27, 2019

**June 2016** Building the Feminist Cyborg Revolution.

Misc Magazine. L. Wilkins.

### **Selected Exhibitions**

2023 Nuit Blanche, LeSpaceMaker, Montreal QC - VOID

2023 Lumiere Art of Light, OntarioPlace, Toronto ON - Fiddlehex

2022 Chimera: In the middle, *Milieux Institute, Montreal QC* - VOID

2021 Matrix of Mobility: Networks of Objects and Exchange, *Virtual T6* - VOID

2020 LIMINAL, *Beaver Hall Gallery, Toronto ON* - VOID

2020 Merging Mindsets Conference, *Video Pool, Winnipeg MB* - VOID

2019 Digital Futures Open Show, *OCAD University, Toronto ON* - VOID

2018 Winter Lights, *OntarioPlace, Toronto ON* - Earth Resist

2018 ETHDenver, *Denver, CO* - Proof Of Work

2018 Ethereal, *New York City, NY* - Proof Of Work

2018 Bit Bazaar, *Toronto ON* - VOID & Artisanal Plugins

2018 UrbaniT, *Toronto ON* - Android Apparatus

2018 AndroidTO, *Toronto ON* - Android Apparatus

2018, Hand Eye Society Ball, *Toronto ON* - The Organ

2018 Mississauga Winter Festival, *Mississauga ON* - Light Organ

2018 Festival Of Curiosity, *Dublin IR*

2018 Grow Op, Come Up To My Room, Gladstone Hotel *Toronto ON* - Orchestrion

2017 Ontario Centre for Excellence, *Toronto, ON* - RE: Familiar

2017 InStore, *Toront ON* - RE: Familiar

2017 EDIT Festival *Toronto, ON* - LOL memory

2017 Make Fashion 2017 *Calgary AB* - RE: Familiar

2017 Cirque-it, *Toronto ON* - Android Apparatus  
2016 Hand Eye Society Ball, *Toronto ON* - Annual General Mischief  
2016 Nuit Blanche, Site 3 CoLaboratory, *Toronto ON* - Orbs  
2016 Space Jam, YTB Gallery *Toronto ON* - Splice Genetics  
2015 Eat Play Mingle, *Toronto ON* - Punk Prism Power  
2015 Indiecade, *Las Angeles CA* - Punk Prism Power  
2015, The Anthropologists Market, *Toronto ON*  
2015 Maker Festival Toronto *Toronto ON*, Hustle Bustle  
2014 GradEx, OCADUniversity *Toronto ON* - Cyborg Garden  
2014 Light, OCADUniversity, *Toronto ON* - Cyborg Garden  
2013 Level Up, *Toronto ON* - Percival and the Flying Machine  
2013 OCADU Graduate Gallery, *Toronto ON*, Social Engineer  
2011 Possibility Spaces, *Montreal QC* - No Glove

### **Selected Talks & Conference presentations**

2023 Planetary Cyborg - Astronaut Selection Criteria, speaker, Analog Astronaut Conference  
2021 Outer Space and the City: Provocations for the Urbanization of Space Technology, Panelist, Ars Electronica 2021  
2021 Research-Creation: Milieus without Borders, Panelist Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), 2021  
2021 “Outer Space / Media / Power.” Roundtable at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Communication Association  
2021 “Manufactured Ad-Scapes” , video presentation at Reprise de Vues  
2021 Artist Talk Lee Wilkins, at Art&&Code:Homemade, Invited speaker  
2020 What makes an effective mask? at Can’t Touch This,  
2020 Merging Mindsets Wearables, Creative Manitoba  
2019 Moderator: Extensions, prosthetics and symbiosis - moderator, Inter/Access  
2019 Making Art With Machines, Cyborg Futures at Inter/Access  
2018 DMG Speaker Social, Into the void  
2018 HackChat, Being a Cyborg  
2017 Toronto Comic Arts Festival,, The Science of Superheroes  
2017 HelloCon Invited Keynote Speaker  
2016 Critical Maker Education Speaker ITP NYU  
2016 DigiFest FUTURE5 Speaker  
2016 Reconstructing Resilience Speaker, OCADu  
2016 Different Games Conference, Speaker  
2016 Toronto Design Offsite Festival Speaker MaRS Discovery District  
2015 Indigiecade, DMG Speaker, Bento Miso  
2014 Atomic Lollipop Speaker, Ontario Science Centre  
2013 TEDx Speaker TEDx OCADu.

2013 Dames Making Games, Speaker

### **Selected Workshops**

2022-2023 Solar Power Workshop Series - Solar Media Collective

2023 Soft Squishy Sensors - Milieux Institute, collaboration with Alexandra Bachmeyer

2023 Disassemble-a-thon - Milieux Institute

2023 Soft Speakers - Milieux Institute, collaboration with Rytha Kesselinger

2022 Gameboy Hacking - Milieux Institute

2022 Working With Magnetic Fields - School of Machines, Making and Make Believe

2020 The L4 Society - Seeding Utopias (Artists in Libraries, Toronto Arts Council)

2020 Wearable Tech - Toolbox

2019 Squishy Futures - Inter/Access

2017 Unity Game Programming - Inter/Access

2018-2019 - iSkills - KMDI Makerspace

2016 - 2017 - Design Exchange workshop series

2015 - Youth Maker Classes - Toronto Tool Library

2014 - 2018 - How To Use The Laser - Site 3 Colaboratory

### **Selected Events**

2016-2022 - Stupid Hackathon Toronto

2018, 2019 - Long Exposure Festival

2019 Skylab Revolution Animating Historical Sites Fund by Toronto Arts Council / Hand Eye Society,

2016 - 2017 - A Lab of One's Own

### **Conference Organization**

**2022, 2023** Open Hardware Summit, *New York City, NY* Summit Chair

**2020** Digital Naturalism Conference, *Gamboa Panama*, Core Organizer

**2014-2018** Make Change, *Toronto ON* Core organizer

**2019** The Future Of Making, *Toronto ON* Core organizer

**2014** SoOnCon (Southern Ontario Makerspace Conference), *Toronto ON* Core organizer

**2014** Different Games, *Toronto ON* Core organizer

### **Academic Community & Research**

2022- Present **Solar Media Collective**, Concordia University

2020 - Present **Space Media Research Group**, University of Toronto

2020- 2023 **Membranes In Action**, Research Assistant, University of Toronto, SSHRC Funded, Dr Marie-Pier Boucher

2018 - 2020 **McLuhan Writing Group**, University of Toronto

2018-2020 Treasurer, Board of Directors, **Doctoral Student Association**

2018-2020 **KMDI Makerspace**, Research Assistant, University of Toronto, Dr Sara Grimes

### **Community Service**

Secretary, Board of Directors, **Ada X** 2023 - Present

Treasurer, Board of Directors, **Open Source Hardware Association** 2021-Present

Secretary, Board of Directors, **Pleasure Dome** 2020-2022

Treasurer, Board of Directors, **Doctoral Student Association**, 2018-2020

Chair of the Board, Board of directors, **Site 3 coLaboratory** 2014-2018

—

Organizational Team - **Biohacking Village** 2021-Present

Organizer - **Make Friends Monthly** - 2014-2017

Organizer - **Women & LGBTQ Alliance Nigh at Site 3** 2015 - 2018

Satellite Events Team - **Maker Festival** - 2016

Organizer, **Maker Festival** - 2017, 2018

### **Awards & Scholarships**

2023 Ontario Lumiere Exhibition

2019 Toronto Arts Council Art In The Park (Awarded to Little Dada)

2018 Toronto Arts Council Art In The Park (Awarded to Little Dada)

2018 Ontario Luminare Exhibition

2016 Dames Making Games GDC Scholarship

2016 Younger Than Beyonce Gallery Artist Residency

2015 Innovator In Residence Toronto Public Library

2012, 2013 OCADu Graduate Scholarship

### **Advising & Service:**

2019 Talking Back Feminist Media Conference Steering committee,

2019 Textile Museum of Canada Selection Committee, Residency for Artists, educators and curators,

2019 Fashion Communications, Ryerson School of Fashion Undergraduate Program Invited capstone judge

2019 Digital Futures, OCADU Graduate Program. Invited awards panelist

2019 Creators Grant Selection Committee for Creators Grant at Ryerson University

2018 Centre for Media Culture and Education (CMCE) Advisory Board

### **Interviews**

2021 Opposable Thumbs Podcast,

2020 The Agenda (TVO) Cyborg Panel, 03/04/20

2018 Tapestry CBC - On being a Cyborg

2018 Hackaday HackChat (01/21/18) Being a Cyborg

2016 What She Said SiriusXM (03/08/16) Women, Diversity & Tech

2016 Metro Morning CBC Star Wars "Rey Day" Hackathon (02/15/16)

2015 The Current CBC Panelist "The Right to Tinker" (08/19/15)

A Users Guide to Cheating Death (S2, E5)