

STEJARA IULIA DINULESCU

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Website: stejarasart.com | Github: [sdinulescu](https://github.com/sdinulescu)

Education

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| 2019- | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA (UCSB) | Santa Barbara, CA |
| | MS/PhD in Media Arts and Technology..... | GPA: 4.0 |
| 2015-2019 | SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY (SMU) | Dallas, TX |
| | B.S. in Psychology, B.A. in Creative Computing, B.A. in Studio Art..... | GPA: 3.96 |
| | Minors in Neuroscience, Cognitive Science | |

Scholarships, Grants, Awards, Honors

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS:

Media Arts and Technology Regents Fellowship (2019-2023)—Graduate school fellowship, UCSB
President's Scholar, Campus Community Award (2015-2019)—Full tuition and living expenses, SMU
Meadow's Scholar (2015-2019)—Financial aid and honors, SMU
Hamilton Research Scholar (2018-2019)—Research grant for my work on social cognition, SMU

AWARDS:

Honorable Mention, Most Promising Work-In-Progress (2020)—IEEE Haptics Symposium Conference
Robert and Nancy Dedman Outstanding Senior Student Award (2019)—Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, SMU
Stephen D. Wilder Travel Award (2018)—Monetary award for my work in studio art, SMU
Standard Club Award (2017)—Monetary award for my work in studio art, SMU

HONORS:

Honors in the Liberal Arts (2015-2019)—Liberal arts coursework and capstone project, SMU
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society (2018)—SMU
Alphi Chi Honors Society (2018)—SMU
SMU's Robert Stewart Hyer Society (2017): top 1% of SMU students based on academic achievement
SMU Honor Roll with High Distinction (2015-2019): Top 5% of SMU GPAs

Relevant Research/Work Experience

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| UCSB, MEDIA ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY | Santa Barbara, CA | Sept 2019–Present |
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Graduate Student, RE Touch Lab

- ◆ Tactile Fingerspelling Letter Identification using Whole-Hand Mechanical Signals
 - Use of a 42-channel accelerometer array mounted on the dorsal and palmar sides of the hand to measure Tactile Fingerspelling gestures (a tactile language for people who are both deaf and blind)
 - Signal processing, feature extraction, and machine learning for accurate classification of Tactile Fingerspelling gestures, subsequently showing accurate classification from two sensors at the wrist
 - Honorable mention for Most Promising Work-In-Progress Paper at IEEE Haptics Symposium 2020
- ◆ Co-authored review paper on soft wearable robotics, in review

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| SMU, PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT | Dallas, TX | Aug 2016–May 2019 |
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Research Assistant, Social Clinical Neuroscience Lab

- ◆ Coding/analysis of raw data from previous experiments using SPSS and Excel
- ◆ Personality and Social Processes Study:
 - Created Qualtrics surveys for online portion of study and ran participants on laboratory paradigms
 - Analyzed data for my research on self-referential memory and social cognition
 - Received research funding as a Hamilton Scholar (2019)
 - First-author manuscript published in *Social Psychology and Personality Science*, 2020
- ◆ Social Tendencies and Cognition Study:
 - Experiment lead, trained subsequent experiment leads for continuation after my departure
 - Analyzed participant blood samples after a social stress paradigm

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| UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN | Dallas, TX | May-Aug 2016 |
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Research intern in the Chahrour Neuroscience lab, specializing in autism

- ◆ Started conducting a large genetic screen for autism in mice by measuring ultrasonic vocalizations when pups are removed from dam

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- Collected and extensively analyzed large data sets; handled and tattooed many mice litters
- Trained new employee to further research progress after my departure

Publications

Dinulescu, S., Alvi, T., Rosenfield, D., Sunahara, C. S., Lee, J., & Tabak, B. A. (2020). Self-Referential Processing Predicts Social Cognitive Ability. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*.

Teaching Experience

UCSB, MEDIA ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY Santa Barbara, CA Sept 2020–Present

Teaching Assistant for MAT 594P: Waves, Acoustics, Media

- ◆ Assisted with organization for this graduate course

UCSB, MEDIA ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY Santa Barbara, CA Jan–Apr 2020

Instructor for School for Scientific Thought

- ◆ Co-instructor for high-school course titled *Hands on Haptics: Exploring Science and Engineering for the Sense of Touch*
- ◆ Developed lecture material and led lab-based activities, learned engaging teaching skills

SMU CREATIVE COMPUTING DEPARTMENT Dallas, TX Jan 2017–July 2019

Teaching Assistant for CSE 1342/ASIM 3305, CSE 1341/ASIM 1310, and study abroad course in Tokyo, Japan

- ◆ Java language in addition to Processing, C++ language in addition to OpenFrameworks
- ◆ Graded student assignments, labs, and exams
- ◆ Taught weekly lab sessions and held informal office hours for student questions

EDELWEISS SCHOOL OF MUSIC Plano, TX Aug 2015–Aug 2019

Music Teacher (Violin, Piano, Viola)

Selected Projects/Exhibits

Bricolage, 2020 (UCSB): Worked on a team to create a website for showcasing student work from UCSB's Media Arts and Technology graduate program. Also exhibited my work *Memoriae* (2020) on that platform.

Doolin Gallery, 2019 (SMU): Exhibited an extensive portfolio of physical and media artwork in a co-exhibition

COLLABO SHOW, 2018 (SMU): Exhibited my work, *Begin Transmission* (2018)

Bots and Bits Showcase, 2017 (SMU): Exhibited my work, *Drawing with Movement* (2017)

C3 Showcase, 2018 (SMU): Exhibited my work, *Surveillance* (2017)

Digital Disruption, 2017 (curated exhibition; SMU): Exhibited my work, *Surveillance* (2017)

Black Fountain, 2016 (SMU): Solo exhibition of *Black Fountain* (2016) with collaborator, Del Cook

Mercedes-Benz Financial Services, 2016 and 2017 (curated exhibition): Exhibited four artworks

Cedars Union, 2015 (curated exhibition): Exhibited my high school studio art portfolio

Technical Skills

Programming Languages & Environments: Java, Processing, p5.js, C++, OpenFrameworks, OpenGL, OpenCV, Max, Maya, Rhinoceros, Grasshopper, Unity, MATLAB, Python, SPSS, SAS, R

Other: Adobe Creative Cloud, 3D printing, soldering

Other Associations and Activities

- ◆ Media Arts and Technology Student Representative (2019-Present): Organized events to foster community and collaboration between graduate students and faculty at UCSB's Media Arts and Technology program
- ◆ Member of the multicultural sorority Sigma Lambda Gamma, an organization dedicated to empowering women and minorities (2018-Present). Served as Cultural Awareness chair (2019) and organized events for increasing diversity and campus community (2018-2019)
- ◆ Reading mentor for the Dallas Independent School District (2019)
- ◆ SMU Ballroom Dance Team: Secretary (2016-2017), President (2017-2018), Captain (2018-2019)
- ◆ SMU Student Art Association: Secretary (2016-2017), President (2017-2019)
- ◆ Layout editor for Honors literary magazine, *Hilltopics* (2016-2018)