

ARTIST BIO - Share a short biography for the artist or collective applying including details about previous exhibitions, related projects, relevant education, awards, and/or details about your artistic practice. For collectives, give a combined history of your work together. Be sure to highlight and detail your success as best fits your work. (Up to 250 Words)

Self-trained musician and activist, Christa Ebert, performs as Uno Lady and composes songs with her voice, electronic effect pedals, and unconventional instruments. Her music includes dream-like layers, looping ethereal tones, instruments and beats, knit together into one lush soundscape.

Her unique talent has been acknowledged with various awards, including Chateau Orquevaux artist-in-residency, Creative Workforce Fellow, Akron Soul Train fellow, and a Panza Foundation awardee. Her recent LP, OSMOSIS, is her fourth record release.

Her first video installation was in February 2019, for the Akron Soul Train Fellowship. The free public performance featured a 45 minute film that ran uninterrupted, woven together through the various songs, but seen as a single, complete piece of work. Guests watched birds feeding from her hands, sunset-stained smoke billow from the steel mill in her hometown, and racoons swim between bald cypress trees in the bayous of the Pearl River, Louisiana. The imagery was primarily natural – but it slipped into industrial views, reflecting the life of a nature-lover living in a town like Cleveland.

Christa's educational background is in public service and sustainability. She graduated valedictorian of her college with a BA in urban studies and masters of public administration. She is passionate about helping people and the planet and has over a decade of professional organizing experience around environmental and social justice issues.

PROJECT STATEMENT * Share, in 500 words or less, how your project addresses timely political, cultural, or social issue(s) to illustrate for the review panel the relevance of your proposal.

Describe your proposed project in detail, including potential activities, outcomes, and viewer/audience experience. If listing event details, include where the work may take place and how the public will be involved in creation and/or viewing. (Curatorial projects should list included artists and if their participation is confirmed or proposed.)

We are grieving on a global level. I wish to offer kindness and healing through my art during these difficult times. This project aims to create an ambient, experimental film series and audio-visual installation. The theme is a guided journey in meditation. The piece could be experienced as an experimental film, and as individual songs in short video segments. Nature footage would be modulated. Timelapse of clouds, flowers blowing in the wind, and stop-motion videos of plants growing would manifest the powerful effects of nature's everyday occurrences.

The purpose of the project is to help find peace in the present moment and place. Music is a community building art form. Recent BBC article, "[The world's most accessible stress reliever](#)," touts the positive, healing effects of music and how singing is meditative and mood boosting. The video art project would be accompanied by a continual stream of songs, providing a sonic narrative to accompany the visual segments.

This project hopes to explore multiple types of meditation, find the best fit for the vision, and present the findings visually and sonically. I would use my journey of self-healing to guide this project, share vulnerability in hopes it inspires others to find their own creative calling.

The music would feature vocal harmonies, field recordings of nature sounds, theremin, singing bowls, bells, and synths sprinkled throughout. Some songs will be lyricless, ambient, and the visuals will be abstract - others pieces may feature natural sounds and have breathing exercises intertwined.

Mindfulness segments hope to depict short attention spans and share methods that can retrain focus. This would be expressed through an animation that shows a person's profile, stop-motion thought bubbles that are floating through, sometimes bombarding a person's mind. The animated bubbles would dissipate and help people observe that thoughts and emotions pass. It would be accompanied by a soundtrack composed specifically for this project.

Video art segments are easily shared through social media. Some segments will have simple questions scrolled over the video art. This reflective series would ask questions about self healing. This text will be further developed through research but some ideas are, "What brings you joy?" and "What positivity can you share with someone you love?" The comments of these posts would offer a place for community dialogue. A place to share coping skills, foster positive change, and not feel as alone.

While other meditative music focuses on relaxation, this series cycles through emotions sonically. It is a journey that pierces the listener's attention throughout the process. My goal is to create an engaging, thought provoking experience that will remain with the listener for a long time.

If I receive the Urgent Art Fund there would be a free public screening showcasing the meditative video art. Those who register could receive a free download of one of the tracks created during this project. There would be a record release featuring the artwork created. Some events would be online for social distancing reasons. I'd plan a public event once it is safe.

Artist/Curator Statement * Please describe, in 250 words or less, how you will make or have previously made art work. What mediums and/or materials do you or have you used? As applicable, share what techniques, research, or testing goes into your visual arts practice. Feel free to include past and present influences from within or beyond the art world.

I am a mixed media artist with a four octave singing range. I have been composing music as Uno Lady for 15 years and record in my home studio. At my performances, I project experimental video art that I filmed and edited myself.

When people experience my art they share they were inspired. My music helped them feel calm and optimistic. I'm often asked to make meditation music. Since the pandemic, the requests have increased.

Although music is an audible artform enhanced by video, many musicians make a living by performing live. How can we revisit the audio origins of music and shape a more sustainable future?

An artistic meditation video is versatile and responsive to the current needs of the community. It sends an uplifting message at a time when people are mourning. The segments can be enjoyed from home while social distancing.

I want to discover the science behind psychoacoustics and create compositions that serve as sonic healing tools. I'm open to suggestions that would increase this project's reach. I'd love to work with SPACES, other art institutions, our libraries, college radio, and anyone else that could increase access to the project. Though I plan to do most of the work on my own, I promise to develop ideas with equity and accessibility in mind. I will reflect on diversity with every person I seek guidance from and hire to help. I am grateful for the Urgent Art Fund. I hope to partner with you on this project.

Work Samples * Provide samples that demonstrate your past work and practice. Samples should be from the last three years. Curatorial proposals may include work samples from proposed artists as well as images from previous projects. Upload up to 15 still images and/or support sketches, OR up to 6 minutes of video or audio segments.

Sunrise (2019)

[1:10 minutes](#) MP4

Sunrise, written and recorded by Christa Ebert at Chateau Orquevaux, France. Inspired by waking up with the sun. Time-lapses are from my artist residency in France, the view from my bedroom window.

Town Of Don't You Worry (2020)

[2:39 minute](#) MP4

Town of Don't You Worry features footage from an artist residency in France and a poem that was found among my great grandfather's belongings.

Lost in Your Arms (2019)

[1:16 minute](#) MP4

Lost in Your Arms is a song from the new album, Osmosis. The video features footage that was created for the initial film project through Akron Soul Train.

Peak of Power (2019)

[1 minute clip](#) MP4

Live from McDonough Museum of Art in Youngstown, Ohio. Song and video created by Christa Ebert. Peak of Power questions privilege, authority, pursuit of power and asks, "What's the end of your story, love and glory or the end of the world?" Original piece is 3:30 minutes long.