

# MONICA VIRTUE

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## SUMMARY

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- Visual storyteller with a focus on original archival research, digital design and filmmaking.
- Academic research interests in mapping, data visualization, locative technology and 360-degree storytelling.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Designer / Researcher / Filmmaker** (Freelance)

*Monica Virtue Productions* | Lambton Shores, ON

July 2005 – Present

- Producing a 360-degree documentary on traditional Indigenous waterways with the Public Visualization Lab.
- Producing a feature documentary on the Ipperwash Inquiry.
- Collaborated on a seven-year documentary research project about treaties and land surrenders with a justice-centred law firm.
- Produced and directed several short films, including one for Amnesty International Canada.

### **Workshop Facilitator**

*Treaty Workshops* | Sarnia, ON

October 2017 – Present

- Conducting popular training workshops on treaties for adults and educational workshops for students, often in partnership with historian and author David D Plain from the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.
- Presenting to audiences using oral history, slides, digital mapping, videos and interactive activities.
- Responsible for all marketing, sales, coordinating A/V and IT needs, designing visuals and building slide decks.

### **Lead Researcher**

*Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point First Nation* | Lambton Shores, ON

January 2019 – May 2019

- Indigenous governance research, archival research, and mapping for the Clench Defalcation Claim.
- On-site assistance for Chief & Council during federal arbitration hearings with the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

*Public Visualization Lab, OCAD University* | Toronto, ON

December 2015 – June 2018

- Developed leading-edge data visualization projects by collaborating with a design team.
- Designs ranged from a locative storytelling platform for mobile and a platform utilizing machine learning to an interactive treaty map and physical walks featuring Indigenous place names in downtown Toronto.

### **Exhibition Coordinator**

*Digital Futures Program, OCAD University* | Toronto, ON

February 2017 – May 2017

- Organized a successful graduate thesis exhibition at the Open Gallery, including developing the show theme and branding, signing contracts, securing sponsorships, printing all marketing materials, planning gallery installs with exhibitors, and synchronizing all elements to coincide with the major opening night event.

**Graduate Research Assistant***Visual Analytics Lab, OCAD University | Toronto, ON*

August 2015 – January 2017

- Coordinated a highly successful interactive exhibition of the *CBC Newsworld Holodeck* at the 2015 Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, which saw lineups out the door of the Open Gallery until after 5 a.m.
- Employed user-centred, responsive and inclusive design approaches to assist with the creation, implementation, and user testing of the Lab's innovative digital media projects.
- Presented, pitched and demonstrated Lab projects for business partners (e.g. GestureTek), government (e.g. Premier of Ontario), and cultural institutions (e.g. Royal Ontario Museum).
- Performed effective research data management and knowledge transfer between team members.

**Digital Media Assistant***Stratford Festival | Stratford, ON*

March 2014 – September 2014

- Produced, filmed and edited multiple behind-the-scenes videos, promos and show trailers.
- Filmed numerous live streams of Forum events from various Festival locations.

**SELECTED PROJECTS***Visualizing Aamjiwnaang* (360 Documentary)**Producer**, Public Visualization Lab, OCAD University | Toronto, ON

2018 – Present (In post-production)

- Conceived story with author David D Plain of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.
- Wrote a successful grant application, scouted locations, organized shoot, and assisted with filming.
- Created paper cut, and continues to assist editors with overall tone and direction of the story.

*George vs. Harris, a.k.a. Ipperwash* (Feature Documentary)**Producer / Researcher / Camera**, Monica Virtue Productions | Lambton Shores, ON

2002 – Present

- Producing a complex “true crime” documentary project about the Ipperwash Inquiry.
- Sourced highly sensitive audio/visual exhibits, transcripts, stock footage, photographs, and documents.
- Operated camera for 100+ hours of interviews and cinema vérité footage.
- Managed crew and equipment, booked interviews, and obtained release forms for all footage.

*The Ipperwash Beach Walk* (Locative Documentary)**Designer / Researcher / Filmmaker**, Public Visualization Lab, OCAD University | Toronto, ON

2015 – Present

- Building relationships with project stakeholders such as the Chief & Council of the Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, the Kettle Point Elder's Lodge members, and local historians.
- Generating innovative counter-mapping content by combining Indigenous oral history with archival research during focus group sessions on the First Nation.
- Translating new content into interactive maps with the assistance of a design team.

*Ogimaa Mikana Place Name Database***Graduate Research Assistant**, Public Visualization Lab, OCAD University | Toronto, ON

April 2018 - May 2018

- Constructed a detailed database of original place names for Toronto in Anishnaabemowin and Iroquois.

*Beam Me Up!* (Interactive Multimedia Installation)**Design Internship: City of Toronto**, Digital Futures Program, OCAD University | Toronto, ON

May 2015 – August 2015

*The Shakespeare School* (Promotional Video)**Producer / Director / Camera / Editor**, Stratford Festival | Stratford, ON

June 2014 – August 2014

*The Ipperwash Park Film Project* (Educational Documentary)

**Producer / Researcher / Director / Camera / Editor**, Klippensteins | Toronto, ON  
 July 2005 – January 2012

- Meticulously conducted 2,000 hours of land claims research in collaboration with a legal team.
- Mined original archival research and translated it into storyboards and scripts.
- Directed actors or experts in 20 historical recreations or reality-based scenes.
- Designed and built all sets and props and designed, sewed or purchased all wardrobe pieces.
- Booked locations, obtained release forms, and successfully ensured project remained within budget.

*Solace in the Dark* (Documentary Short)

**Researcher**, Dir: Lucius Dechausey | Toronto, ON  
 September 2011

*Freedom Drum* (Documentary Short)

**Director / Camera / Editor**, Amnesty International Canada | Ottawa, ON  
 October 2006 – November 2006

## EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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<b>Master of Design</b> , Digital Futures, OCAD University   Toronto, ON	2014 – 2016
<b>Master Series Class: Documentary Writing</b> with Mark Monroe   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>Locative Media Workshop</b> with Tapio Makela, OCAD University   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>UX Design Workshop</b> , Bitmaker Labs   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>Master Class: Machinima</b> with Skawennati Fragnito, OCAD University   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>Unity Workshop</b> , OCAD University   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>Master Series Lab: Interactive Documentaries</b> with Katerina Cizek   Toronto, ON	2015
<b>Mobile Workshop</b> with Tom Barker, OCAD University   Toronto, ON	2014
<b>Internship: Assistant</b> to Hyde Park Entertainment at TIFF   Toronto, ON	2013
<b>Film Incubator Program</b> , Sheridan College   Oakville, ON	2003 – 2005
<b>Graduate Certificate</b> , Advanced Television & Film, Sheridan College   Oakville, ON	2002 – 2003
<b>Certificate</b> , Business, Fanshawe College   London, ON	1999 – 2002
<b>Bachelor of Arts</b> , Communication Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University   Waterloo, ON	1996 – 1999

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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Medal, Digital Futures Master's, Graduate Studies, OCAD University	2016
Best Social Contribution, Master's in Digital Futures Program, OCAD University	2016
Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Graduate Studies, OCAD University	2014

Tyrone Guthrie Award (Jean A. Chalmers Training Award), Stratford Festival	2014
Grant for Emerging Filmmakers, Ontario Arts Council	2004
Production Excellence Award, Advanced Television & Film Program, Sheridan College	2004

## PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

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- Virtue, M. (2019, November 19). Ninety-minute presentation on local treaties for Chiefs, Councillors and Policy Analysts from five area First Nations. *Waawayataanong Treaty Council, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, ON.*
- Virtue, M. (2019, September 7). Two-hour presentation on the results of the Ipperwash Inquiry for the University of Windsor's Professor Beverley Jacobs and students. *Southwest Community Legal Clinics, Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, ON.*
- Virtue, M. (2019, June 5). Ninety-minute Treaty Workshop for management and staff. *Ministry of the Environment, Sarnia, ON.*
- Virtue, M. (2019, May 15). Ninety-minute Treaty Workshop for Community Legal Clinic staff. *Southwest Legal Clinic Conference, London, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2019, January 25). One-day Treaty Workshop for staff and community members. *Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, Kettle Point, ON.*
- Bressette, S., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, November 19). In Conversation: Visualizing Ipperwash. *Research Centre for Sustainable Communities, Lakehead University, Orillia, ON.*
- Virtue, M. (2018, October 23). One-day Treaty Workshop for teachers, board members and staff. *Lambton Kent District School Board, Wallaceburg, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, October 9). One-day Treaty Workshop for teachers, board members and staff. *Lambton Kent District School Board, Wallaceburg, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, October 2-3). Two-day Treaty Workshop for teachers, board members and staff. *Bruce Grey District School Board, Hanover, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, September 20). One-day Treaty Workshop for the public. *Historic Saugeen Metis, Southampton, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, July 9-11). Three-day Treaty Workshop for teachers, board members and staff. *Grand-Erie District School Board, Brantford, ON.*
- Virtue, M. (2018, April 27). PD Day Treaty Workshops for elementary and high school teachers. *Lambton-Kent District School Board, Sarnia, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, March 24). Conversation leaders: Fractured Land post-film discussion. *Sarnia Justice Film Festival, Sarnia, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, February 23). Treaty Workshops for Cambridge Art Galleries staff and patrons. *Idea Exchange, Cambridge, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, February 17). One-day Treaty Workshop for Aamjiwnaang Chief & Council and community members. *Aamjiwnaang First Nation Chief & Council, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, ON.*
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, January 12). Treaty Workshop for faculty and students. *University of Windsor, Windsor, ON.*

- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, November 14). Treaty Workshops for students, Grades 6 to 12. *Grand Erie District School Board*, Brantford, ON.
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, November 3). Treaty Workshops for students, Grades 6 to 12. *Grand Erie District School Board*, Brantford, ON.
- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, October 25-26). Two-day Treaty Workshop for elementary teachers. *Lambton-Kent District School Board*, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2017, July 10). Treaty Day Workshop with David Plain. *Aamjiwnaang Heritage & Culture: E'maawizidijig*. Aamjiwnaang First Nation, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2017, June 1). Keynote: Policing the Ipperwash Crisis. *Southwest Legal Clinic Conference*, London, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2017, January 23). Demonstration of The Ipperwash Beach Walk for Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne. *OCAD University*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2016, October 28). Research as Ceremony: How Municipalities Can Better Work With Indigenous Communities. *Western University 2016 Local Government Alumni Conference*, London, ON.
- Ladly, M., Mangaard, A., Farrelly, G., and **Virtue, M.** (2015, September 28). Postcard Memories: An application for patients with early stage dementia. *Ageing 2.0*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2014, February 13). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, Law and Social Change*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2013, February 4). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, Law and Social Change*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2012, October 24). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *Lakehead University, First Nations Literature*, Orillia, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2012, January 8). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, Indigenous Peoples and the Law*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2011, February 8). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, Indigenous Peoples and the Law*, Toronto, ON.
- Virtue, M. (2010, October 28). The Ipperwash Park Film Project. *Lakehead University, First Nations Literature*, Orillia, ON.

## BROADCAST INTERVIEWS

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- Plain, D., and **Virtue, M.** (2018, March 14). Aamjiwnaang First Nation traditions and treaties. *YourTV Sarnia: #TalkLocal*, Sarnia, ON.
- Virtue, M. (January 16, 2013). How the lessons of Ipperwash have affected police reaction to Idle No More protests. *CBC Radio: Ontario Morning with Wei Chen*, Toronto, ON.