

EKATERINA IAKOVLEVA

Researcher • Curator • Data Scientist

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ABOUT

Ekaterina Iakovleva studies ocean and island relational, ancient and contemporary landscapes, focusing on ecology and environmental inequality, with additional analysis of economic and colonial violence. She conducts research using anthropological, ethnographical and post-anthropological methods, field philosophy, qualitative and quantitative methods for image analysis, ethnographic work, spatial analysis and data modelling. She holds a Master's degree in Anthropology, Digital Humanities and Philosophy from Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL), completed in 2024. Ekaterina also curates exhibitions and artist residencies, working with decolonial artists and exploring themes of migration and hospitality.

EDUCATION

Master's in Anthropology, Digital Humanities and Philosophy 2022–2024

Paris Sciences et Lettres (ENC, ENS, EHESS), Paris, France

Interdisciplinary programme integrating anthropological theory, philosophical analysis, and digital methods. Master's thesis applying ethnographic and philosophical methodologies to environmental and spatial questions. Key courses: Philosophy of the Ocean; Law and Philosophy of the Ocean (Prof. Roberto Casati); Ethology; Changing Climate, Changing Behaviour; Automatic Image Processing; Automatic Language Processing and Semantic Analysis.

ERASMUS Research Internship, Ionian University 2023–2025

Corfu, Greece

Research internship in a coastal and island context, providing direct experience with island temporality, environmental vulnerability, and cultural landscapes. Collection of qualitative and quantitative data, interviews, scientific consultations and spatial analysis.

National Diploma in Research and Experimentation 2021–2022

ENDA – National School of the Arts, Paris, France

Research through artistic and experimental practices: artistic production, visual research, and curatorial processes as epistemic tools within anthropological inquiry.

Advanced Training in Contemporary Art 2020–2021

Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), Moscow, Russia

Curatorial and critical engagement with visual culture. Translating ethnographic findings into visual and public-facing formats (exhibitions, visual narratives).

Second Year French Diploma (Master 1 equivalent) 2019–2021

French University College at Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

Humanities scholarship in French. Deepened grounding in Francophone environmental humanities and Caribbean scholarship.

University Exchange Programme 2018–2019

University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

Exposure to Anglo-Irish traditions in anthropology and cultural studies, enriching comparative and international academic perspective.

Academic Exchange Programme 2018

Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands

First in-depth exposure to European academic culture and research practices.

Bachelor's Degree in Humanities 2015–2020

Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia

Foundation in historical analysis, archival research, and digital methodologies. Specialisation in History and Art History.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ingénieure de la Recherche, Sciences Po, Paris

Jul. 2025 – March 2026

Design and development of digital infrastructures and data visualisation tools for European platforms on migration (ETHMIGSURVEYDATA project). Harmonisation of multiple databases, deployment of analytical platforms, data extraction via Python/SQL scripts.

Ingénieure de la Recherche, CNRS, Paris

Sept. 2024 – Sept. 2025

Development of digital infrastructure for a medieval documentary corpus: API design, data models, backend/frontend services, continuous integration and automated testing.

Data Scientist, EHESS (Gargantua / Savoirs Project)

Jul. 2024 – Aug. 2024

Scientific text analysis using topological graph methods (Gargantext). Mapping scientific and policy discourse as knowledge systems. Development of energy-efficient algorithms for data analysis.

Anthropological Internship on Citizenship and Political Engagement, EHESS

2024

Developed and implemented an approved research design focusing on political participation, citizenship practices, and governance from below. Work with ethical review procedures, anonymisation protocols, and sensitive qualitative data.

Research Assistant, Ionian University, Corfu

2023–2025

Collection of qualitative and quantitative data, interviews, scientific consultations in a coastal and island context. Empirical foundations on island precarity, environmental vulnerability and cultural landscapes.

Researcher, Navigation Laboratory, Institut Jean Nicod (ENS/EHESS), Paris

Oct. 2022 – Oct. 2025

Development of cartographic analysis projects, workshops and programme development. Research on representations of the ocean in contemporary art, anthropology of islands. Participation in the Savoirs project using topological graph methodologies (Gargantext).

Scientific Internship, Institut Jean Nicod (ENS/EHESS), Paris

Nov. 2022 – Mar. 2023

Funded research project analysing representations of the ocean in 20th-century art and philosophy.

Research Assistant, “Philosophy of the Ocean” Lab, Institut Jean Nicod

May 2022 – Oct. 2022

Preparation of an article on the representation of the ocean in contemporary art.

Research Assistant, “Contemporary Field Philosophy” Group

Jan. 2022 – Sept. 2023

Research project on the anthropology of islands.

Research Assistant, V-A-C Foundation, Inclusivity Group, Moscow

Apr. 2022 – Dec. 2024

Curatorial practices, mediation, community accessibility, and inclusive public knowledge practices. Funded position.

Research Group in Decolonial Studies in Central Asia

2022

Launched with artists working on decolonial practices.

Research Group in Contemporary Ecology, Deep and Dark Philosophies, Paris

Aug. 2022

Investigated urban landscapes and deep and dark ecologies.

Archaeological Practice, Athens

Jun. 2019 – Jul. 2019

Archaeological and geographical fieldwork skills.

Research Assistant, Russian State Library, Moscow

Mar. 2019 – Dec. 2019

Working with catalogues and databases; prosopography of pre-Mongol Russia (database, ontology, manual).

CONFERENCES, SUMMER SCHOOLS AND WORKSHOPS

OpenMin Data Visualisation Conference, Geneva

Feb. 2026

Final part of the OpenMin project on visualisation of contemporary migration data.

Islands and Sustainability Conference, University of Groningen

Nov. 2025

Paper: “Lived Experiences, Ethnographic Philosophy, and Sea-Level Rise: Toward Ecological Justice Beyond Technocratic Adaptation.” Critique and ethnography of sea-level rise; ethnographic methods as foundation for ecological justice and adaptation as world-making.

Digital Humanities Conference, Bern, Switzerland

Summer 2025

Paper: “The Future of Environmental Humanities in the Age of Artificial Intelligence.”

Things That Matter Summer School, University of Bern

Jun. 2025

Project: “Multi-Species Biography of Our River.” Research-based digital project investigating materiality, landscape and environmental memory through the River Aare. Synthesising environmental humanities, new materialism and cultural geography with archival research, spatial narration and digital storytelling. <https://v-aare.tumblr.com/>

Nordic Summer University (Symbiosis circle)

2023, 2024, 2025

Long-term participation in interdisciplinary debates in anthropology of science and technology, environmental humanities and philosophy. Formative for developing theoretical vocabulary around world-making, Anthropocene epistemologies and experimental research formats.

Guided Tour on Dark Ecology, Paris

Mar. 2023

Organised and led a guided tour on dark ecology during the Paris trash manifestations.

CURATORIAL AND EXHIBITION WORK

REPOSITORY: !MESSAGE! DEW POINT REACHED

2023

Galerie Eric Dupont, Paris

Role: Cultural Mediator, Manager.

A Dream Place to Hide a Corpse

2022

Collective Exhibition of Contemporary French Sculptures, HORS CADRE, Paris

Role: Curator.

Pinault Collection

2022

Venice, Italy

Role: Assistant.

The Artificial Museum

2021

Collective Exhibition, Darwin Museum and Garage Museum, Moscow

Role: Curator.

Aerocene Lab: Series of Performances and Public Events

2021

Tomas Saraceno Studio, Aerocene Foundation and Garage Museum, Moscow

Role: Show Commissioner and Organiser.

Public Program at Garage Studios and Residences

2020–2021

Garage Museum, Moscow

Role: Junior Curator, Cultural Mediator.

Space in Us

2021

Collective Exhibition, Peresvetov Gallery, Moscow

Role: Curator and Participant.

Edge Cloud

2020

Group Video Exhibition, Gallery Ground Solyanka, Moscow

Role: Cultural Mediator.

March 9

2020

Collective Exhibition of Contemporary Jewellery, Gallery B Solyanka, Moscow

Role: Junior Curator, Manager, Cultural Mediator.

Winter Session of Magnum Live Lab

2019

Magnum Photo Agency, Government of Moscow

Role: Junior Curator, Manager.

Bike Night Project: Immersive Exhibition

2018

Museum of Architecture, Museum of Moscow, Garage Museum, Moscow

Role: Exhibition Producer and Coordinator.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cheffe de produit, Paris Sciences et Lettres (Welcome Desk), Paris

Oct. 2023 – Sept. 2024

Launch of a multilingual exchange platform for 5,000+ international students. UX research, product iteration, coordination with IT services.

Cheffe de projet, Galerie Eric Dupont, Paris

Feb. 2023 – Jun. 2024

Production coordination for international exhibitions: logistics, installation, scenography, budgets, artist and curator relations.

Stagiaire, Centre Pompidou, Paris

Jan. 2023 – Jul. 2023

Production support for "Histoires du Centre Pompidou": scheduling, artist coordination, documentation and archiving.

Productrice, Nordic Summer University Symposium*Mar. 2023 – Jul. 2023*

Organisation of a transdisciplinary international symposium (100+ participants): programme, logistics, digital communication.

Cheffe de projet, Galerie Hors Cadre, Paris*Jan. 2022 – Jan. 2023*

Three exhibitions from curatorial conception to production: artistic direction, scenography, communication.

Cheffe de projet numérique, Pitch, Moscow*Jan. 2021 – Nov. 2021*

Management of five digital projects for museums: interactive tools, content development, platform integration.

Cheffe de projet, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow*Aug. 2020 – Sept. 2021*

Curation of residencies and exhibitions; event coordination for 50+ people and thousands of visitors.

Cheffe de projet, Galerie Solyanka, Moscow*Jan. 2019 – Nov. 2019*

Supervision of 50+ events and exhibitions; logistics and communication optimisation.

Cheffe de projet, Magnum Jump Lab, Moscow*Feb. 2019 – Jun. 2019*

Organisation of a residency with Magnum photographers: logistics, communication, public programmes.

Productrice, Courtyards of Moscow (YouTube documentary series)*Sept. 2018 – Jul. 2020*

Production of 30+ documentary episodes on Moscow's architectural heritage.

Cheffe de produit / Cheffe de projet, Velonoch, Moscow / Berlin / Milan*Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2021*

Direction of multi-city cultural initiatives; team of 35+; negotiation of partnerships and financing (75% of costs covered).

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Research methods: Anthropological and ethnographic fieldwork, field philosophy, multispecies ethnography, qualitative and quantitative analysis, spatial analysis, cartographic analysis, data modelling, participatory methods.

Digital and data: Python, R, SQL, Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn, NLP, OCR/NER, computer vision, Plotly Dash, Tableau, Gargantext (topological graph methods), automatic image and language processing.

Development: API design, database architecture, REST/JSON/XML, Git/GitHub, Docker, CI/CD.

AI tools: Hugging Face (Transformers, Accelerate, Datasets), OpenAI API, model fine-tuning and evaluation.

Curation and production: Exhibition production, scenography, cultural mediation, artist residency coordination.

Languages: Russian (native), French (fluent), English (advanced professional), Ukrainian, Greek.