

Misha Poklad

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[LinkedIn](#)
[Portfolio](#)

EDUCATION

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), Chicago, IL 2022–2024

Master of Fine Arts in Visual Communication Design

New Artist Society Scholarship

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 2018–2022

Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and Film & Media Cultures

Cumma Sum Laude; GPA 4.0; Valedictorian; Phi Beta Kappa Prize

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Digital Fabricator / Laser Cutter Manager and Operator

Flatiron Laser, SOFTlab, New York City, NY

Jun 2024–present

- Operated CO2 laser cutters on an array of natural and synthetic materials; assembled and finished custom pieces.
- Prepared digital fabrication files using CAD software, including Rhino 3D, Adobe Illustrator, and Cura.
- Provided personalized design solutions to clients, including Tom Ford Beauty, Storefront for Art and Architecture, and Atelier Craft, leveraging creativity to solve unique challenges with a quick turnaround and delivery;
- Contributed to the production of large-scale public installations as part of the SOFTlab team by assisting in printing, paper lamination, and laser cutting components;

Editor / Writer

SAIC Magazine, Department of Marketing and Communications, Chicago, IL

Jan 2022–May 2024

- Authored content of various formats, including over 50 news stories, 20 interviews, 10 reviews, and 5 original research pieces about contemporary art and design, lauded by featured artists and art institutions;
- Edited and proofread final copies of 4 biannual magazine issues, ensuring adherence to editorial guidelines;
- Lead editorial meetings to discuss project status, address challenges, and brainstorm creative solutions;

Curatorial / Gallery Assistant

SAIC Galleries, Department of Exhibitions, Chicago, IL

Sept 2022–May 2023

- Assisted in 6 exhibition planning and execution, focusing on research, communications, and logistics;
- Developed visual identity for the New Work '23 exhibition, including promotional materials for print, and social media assets, attracting over 1000 new visitors;
- Worked at the front desk responding to clients' and visitors' inquiries in-person and online;

Digital Learning and Inquiry Specialist

Middlebury College Makerspace, Middlebury, VT

Sept 2021–May 2022

- Developed learning programs on new media and emerging technologies for over 500 students;
- Led 10 technical workshops on 3D printing, and XR to promote digital literacy and interdisciplinary creativity;
- Provided technical assistance regarding the operation of 3D printers, laser and vinyl cutters, ensuring a seamless and safe user experience;

Woodshop Technician

Middlebury College Department of Studio Art, Middlebury, VT

Sept 2021–May 2022

- Provided guidance on the proper use of power tools and machinery, including saws, drills, and sanders;
- Assisted in the design and construction of 30 studio projects, contributing creative and technical expertise;
- Developed instructional materials and led workshops, to enhance the makers' educational experience;

PUBLICATIONS

[Slanted #43, Flipping the Script: Multiscript Possibilities of Glagolitic Revival for Ukrainian Typography and Beyond](#)

SKILLS

Adobe Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Premier Pro, Bridge)

3D modeling and rendering (Rhino 3D, Blender, AutoDesk Maya)

Web Design (HTML, CSS, JavaScript, WordPress, Drupal)

Google Suite and Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint)

LANGUAGES

English, French, Russian, Japanese, Ukrainian