

Simone Brandford-Altsher

Artist and designer specializing in unconventional and reused materials

914 552 1642

simone.joanne.ba@gmail.com

simone-brandford-altsher.com

Skills

Sewing and Crafts

Home and industrial sewing and serging

Patternmaking and draping

Complex freehand and loom beading; basic jewelry making; chainmail

Textile weaving on four shaft loom

Spinning yarn on traditional spinning wheel

Hand sewing and embroidery

Fabrication and Finishing

Basic moldmaking/casting, soldering, lathing, millwork; power and hand tool operation

Metal finishing with grinder, sandblaster, and more; brass and steel oxidation

Miscellaneous

Image scanning and editing with Photoshop

Art handling

Dressing backstage at fashion shows

Education

The University of Chicago
Chicago, IL
2018

Bachelor of Arts in Visual Arts
Studio track, with honors

Recent Professional Fashion Production Work

Studio Assistant to Nick and Jack Cave, Chicago, IL

October 2021-May 2022

- ★ Logged 800+ hours of highly detailed, repetitive beading work on two different “Tondos” for “Forothermore,” Nick Cave’s traveling retrospective shown at MCA in Chicago as well as Guggenheim in New York
- ★ Cut and sewed, by hand and on industrial sewing machine and serger, Jack Cave’s garments and accessories for runway show “The Color Is” at the DuSable Museum
- ★ Worked as dresser backstage for three consecutive “The Color Is” shows

Assistant Designer at Women’s History Museum, Brooklyn, NY

November 2019-February 2020

- ★ Cut and sewed, by hand and on industrial sewing machine and serger, garments and accessories for New York Fashion Week show at Company Gallery in Manhattan, NY
- ★ Created boa from designers’ vision with 200+ vintage matchbooks, which received mention in The Editorial Magazine
- ★ Worked as dresser backstage at high pressure NYFW show

Gypsy Sport Freelance Designer, New York, NY

Seasonal, 2018-2019

- ★ Interned at three shows, cutting and sewing garments and accessories by hand and on machine, as well as working as dresser backstage
- ★ Designed and produced three original designs for Fall/Winter 2019 NYFW show

Exhibitions

“Land of Arden” Group Show at Jude Gallery, Chicago, IL

November-December 2022. Online shop at landofarden.com

Group Show at the Living Gallery, Brooklyn, NY November 2019

BA Thesis Group Show “I Love New Work” Logan Center for the Arts, UChicago, IL May-June 2018

UChicago Runway Show “Galería de MODA,” The Geraghty, Chicago, IL February 2018

UChicago Festival of the Arts, Cobb Hall, UChicago, IL February 2018

Residencies, Workshops, etc

Spinning workshop at The Weaving Mill as part of artist workshop series, Chicago, IL May 2022

Residency at Art Farm with collaborator Olivia Gallo, Marquette, NE July-August 2021

Fiberhouse Artist-in-Residence, Asheville, NC June 2021

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Press

“Fiery Boa” For Women’s History Museum mentioned in The Editorial Magazine by Taylore Scarabelli in “Dystopia and Disruption at NYFW” February 2020
<http://the-editorialmagazine.com/taylore-scarabelli-nyfw>

Bag made for Gypsy Sport Fall 2019 show featured in first image in slideshow February 2019
<https://www.vogue.com/fashion-shows/fall-2019-ready-to-wear/gypsy-sport>

Art Collectives, Fairs, etc

Land of Arden gallery show and online store

October 2022-Present

- ★ Created new custom upcycling program local to Chicago
- ★ Featured on website at landofarden.com/simoneupcycle

Propagate Cooperative, Art collective in Chicago instagram.com/propco.op

August 2022-Present

- ★ Sold work at Bristol Renaissance Faire in Kenosha, Wisconsin alongside other Chicago artists

Related Experience

Retail and inventory at Chicago Costumes

Chicago, IL October 2022-Present

Lead Production and Patternmaker at xoxbb.com

Brooklyn, NY 2021

Fabricator and Senior Finisher at Ludwig & Larsen, luxury lighting studio

Queens, NY 2020

Finisher at Ludwig & Larsen

2018-2019

Intern at Loop of the Loom, SAORI weaving studio

Manhattan, NY 2019

Randy Carfagno Studios Freelance Production Staff

Manhattan, NY 2018, 2019

Logan Wood and Metal Shop Technician

UChicago, 2017-2018

Visual Resources Intern, Art History Department

UChicago, 2016-2017

Rebirth Garments Production Intern

Chicago, IL 2017

Erin Considine Jewelry Studio Production Intern

Brooklyn, NY 2016

Museum of Latin American Art Curatorial Intern

Long Beach, CA 2015