



DENNIS HLYNSKY

The following time line is broken into sections of focus. For instance, the section labeled **1974 - 1980 Electron Movers** is a list of activities which used that studio as a base. These general groupings are as follows.

Education

Performances, Exhibitions and Projects

Video works

Employment

Teaching

Technology and Skills

Education

BFA RISD 1974

1970 - 1974 RISD

1971 A visit by Raindance Group stirs a curiosity in video as an art form
1971 Declares Photography as a major area of study at RISD
1972 Exhibited Inks BK Smith Gallery, Lake Eire College
1972 initial student of the video program at RISD
1973 Exhibited the Video Kitchen, Mercer Art Center, NYC
1974 Received Individual Artist Grant, RI State Council on the Arts
1974 BFA RISD concentration in video

Performances, Exhibitions and Projects

- **1974 - 1980 Electron Movers, Research in the Electronic Arts Inc.**

Upon graduation [Electron Movers](#) (501-C3) was incorporated. Founded by Dennis Hlynsky [Laurie McDonald](#), [Alan Powell](#), and Bob Jungles, Other members included [Ed Tannenbaum](#), [Philip Palombo](#), [Connie Colman](#), Larry Hyle, and Randy Walters. The studio was located in Providence, RI and was purposed to provide facilities for research into the electronic arts. A recognized regional media center by the NEA [Electron Movers](#) quickly grew into a small art center, conducted workshops in video,



maintained a gallery, and exhibited the artworks of members in museums, galleries, and videotape showcases

Electron Movers Funded Projects

03 / 1976 RI Foundation video workshops with RI public school teachers

05 / 1976 Matching RI State Council on the Arts for media center activities

10 / 1977 RI State Council on the Arts lecture series for visiting video artists

02 / 1978 National Endowment for the Arts: Media Studies: Workshops: Alternative Spaces funding for stipends and exhibition of video works

10 / 1978 National Endowment for the Arts Media Studies Program: Regional Development funding for the Electron Movers Media Center

11 / 1978 RI State Council on the Arts media center activities

02 / 1979 From RI Committee for the Humanities to document RICH activities

- o Selected Video Exhibits

11 / 1974 installation, 11th annual New York Avant Garde Festival

02 / 1975 screening, Pierre de Chardin Gallery; Paris, France

05 / 1975 screening, Gallery of Modern Art; Rome, Italy

04 / 1975 [Pulley Piece](#) for Two People, Cheer Arts

09 / 1976 installation, 12th annual New York Avant Garde Festival

01 / 1976 performance, Video Tricks; What Cheer Arts, Providence, Rhode Island

02 / 1976 installation of Video Maze, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY

03 / 1976 screening, Mass College of Art, Boston

04 / 1976 installation of stereo video, Hallwalls, Buffalo, NY

05 / 1976 performance, Haffenreffer Museum, Brown University

09 / 1976 installation of the Video Maze, Currier Gallery of Art, Manchester, NH

03 / 1977 screening, Harvard University

04 / 1977 screening and lecture, Worcester Art Museum

08 / 1977 installation, Art Park, Lewiston, NY

09 / 1977 installation, Space Window; Conference on Science and Art, Brown U

05 / 1978 screening, National Access to Public Television, San Diego, CA

05 / 1978 video exchange, Video Chain Mail Project, Chicago Art Institute

06 / 1978 screening, 1st Vermont Community Video Festival, Goddard, NH

02 / 1979 screening, Chicago Editing Center, Chicago, Ill

03 / 1979 screening, Mass College of Art, Boston, MA

01 / 1981 Solo, installation, RISD Museum, Television Brought a Giant into our Home

02 / 1977 Solo, three works broadcast via The Ontario Educational Communications Authority

07 / 1977 Solo, Ithaca Video Project

The Electron Mover Studio belonged to a collective of artists (What Cheer Arts) which occupied the top two floors of an industrial building in Providence, RI. This vibrant community included [Richard Fleischner](#), [Mary Schaffer](#), Bill Drew, and Duff Schweningen

- o **Gallery Affiliations and Events of Note**

Following the installation of the 1976 Currier Gallery of Art Video Maze, David Brooke commissioned Hlynsky to create a set of large scale interactive Victorian Parlor toys for an exhibit in the Gallery; *A Sense of Magic*. The study and building of these animated



mecanique introduced puppets, parlor theatre, and celebratory temporary sculpture in Hlynsky's practice.

- Curatorial work

1976-78: Hlynsky was the chair of the selection committee at Anyart Contemporary Art Center. During this period Dennis assisted in the arranging of over 40 shows of local RI artists.

1975- 1978 director of the Electron Mover performance space

Exhibits of note

1978: Private Parts; The first show of artworks to be "busted" by the Providence Police.

The space provided a venue video exhibit and regular performances by;

1977 / 78, Live Exposures Cabaret; a show of short performative works

1975/ 78, Art Wood's Elm Street Theater, Puppet Cabaret, In Search of the Gods

1975 / 78, Waste Paper Theater a Dadaist performance and readings by writers

- 1975 - 1980 Providence Parks Department

1975: Dennis was awarded a residency through an NEA Celebration Artist Grant with the Providence Parks Department as consult and artist to the Celebration of the Summer Solstice.

Note: The event involved over 20 artists including Barnaby Evans who Dennis would later work with as designer for the Providence [Waterfire](#). Waterfire has grown into a summer civic event attracting tens of thousands of people. Periodically in excess of one hundred bonfires are lit and float in the Providence River. Dennis designed the mechanical floatation for the fires.

1976: Fatagagga Roger Williams Park, Consultant to Art Festival and performance; inscribing a football field in on a grove of trees.

1976 1982: Designer for Providence Fourth of July Independence Fireworks Display. These years revitalized the event by expanding the venue to include art installations, roving artists, the illumination of buildings, and the creation of ground fireworks displays.

- 1978 - 1980 P. Dora Gallery; Dennis was an active member of a portable gallery (s) contained in a collection of suitcases. The mission of P.Dora was to take art to the streets. Each suitcase was a container for an artwork. The suitcases would appear at bus stations, airports and at events such as First Night Boston

- 1986, First Night Providence; Tales of the All Seeing Ear. With [Denny Moers](#) and Tim Morehouse.

- 1998 - 2001 The Theater of Hope and Intimacy

Hlynsky created a Portable Puppet Theatre. Parts of the proscenium were cast in bronze, the wings are silk brocade, and eight dimmers control the theatrical lighting. Dennis initiated the production of five original plays and several cabaret performances using this theater he built as a vehicle.

1998 The Theatrical Opening; 3 works by Dennis Hlynsky, Blood from a Turnip

1998 Exhibit of puppets at AS220 Providence, selected by Heather Henson

1999 Pan 9 Boston, A Plan for the First Birth of the Millennium

1999 The Séance, Providence

1999 The Girl Who Sold Cement Shoes, A play by Dennis Hlynsky, Perishable Theatre

2000 The Phrenologist's Dream, a play by Jeremy Woodward and Vanessa Gilbert



2001 Kitty Lovell, El Corozone
2001 Toy Theatre Festival, Los Cabalitos NYC
2002 [John Bell](#) used the theater in a RI School of Design course offering
2011 Jack in the Beanstalk, West Barrington Social Hall
2012 Cinderella, West Barrington Social Hall

- **1975 - 2000 The Séance**

The Séance Providence - On Halloween a group of performers would gather to celebrate the passing of cultural idols. The Séance was a cabaret performance using channeled manifestations of the freshly dead as primary actors. The performance grew to attract hundreds and died of its own weight in 2000.

- **1992 - Present; the creation of the Acme Flea Circus.**

This miniature mechanical circus Dennis designed and built has toured the world with [Professor A.G. Gertsacov](#)

- **1975 – Present, May Day**

May Day; the thread of celebration as a collaborative art form continues to run through Hlynsky's work. Dennis gives principal energy to the annual May Day Celebration. This Celebration attracts more than 300 people each year. Included in the event is a play based loosely on the fusion of a Mummer's Play and the yearly cycle of Chinese animals. Dennis provides props and oversees the raising of the massive May Pole.

Video works

Celebration Documentation

Celebration has also been a focus of Hlynsky's effort in Video Documentation.
1979, Video of the Dali Lama's visit to the Red Bank Monastery in NJ
1979, La Fiesta Di San Guiseppe, Federal Hill, Providence, Rhode Island
1987 / 88, Video of colossal Community Bonfire along the shore of Narraganset Bay, RI
1987, Photographic essay Ohio County Fairs
1990, Video of [Ohio County Fairs](#)
1990, Video with John Terry of [The Tin Can Sailor's](#) convention in Baltimore, MD
1995, Video of Kingston's Annual Artist's, Kingston NY - [Soap Box Derby](#)
2004, The Annual Halloween Parade in NYC

Artist Documentation

1974, Dale Chiluly, Glory Hole glass experiments
1975, [Bruce Chao](#), Invisible Barriers, What Cheer Arts Gallery
1975, Newport Music Festival performance with Arthur Custer
1976, Cameraman Oh How They Danced, Document of Ballroom Dancing in RI, with Dorothy Jungles and John Belcher
1977, Festival Ballet
1977, Rubber Rodeo and the [Young Adults](#), Lupos Heartbreak Hotel
1977, [Willoughby Sharp](#), Cough Up What Cheer Arts and Bell Gallery Brown University



1990, [I Never Talk About This](#), A video made with WER Lafarge documenting a play performed by SE Asian refugees.
1990, RI dance at Providence College
2003, [Bruce Chao](#), Aether
2005, [Bruce Chao](#), Synapse
1015, Kyna Leski, Funnel

1975 - 1980;

The video recording of performances, exhibits, dance portfolios and theatrical productions quickly expanded to include the documenting of health and human services.

1975 -1976, City Spirit Program, This urban education program linked artists and designers with students and their teachers in city exploration and community service projects Hlynsky and the Electron Movers with [Johnette Isham](#) brought 1/2" open reel video equipment into every level four classroom in the Providence School District. These workshops used video to explore Providence neighborhoods and redefine the urban landscape.

9/76 - 5/77, Child Find, A RI Department of Education program to examine and identify social problems in the classroom. The project involved videotaping a classroom of children with behavior problems and identifying the arc of events that lead to behavior outbursts. These tapes were used to train teachers at the elementary level.

1978, Dorothy Jungles and John Belcher, Videotaped Dance and Movement with Deaf and Blind Children at the Meeting Street School and Zambarano Hospital

1979, [Meeting Street School](#), Hlynsky made three video documents entitled Parenting the Handicapped.

1984, The Community Preparatory School, document made for a middle school for gifted students of lower income.

1979 - 1987 Videoanalysis

1980, Hlynsky and Stephanie LaFarge and began a documentary videotape which followed the last year in the life of Frederika Schweers. Frederika had battled leukemia for fifteen years. With the aid of the RI Hospital Psychiatry Department, Directed by Drew Slaby PhD, the Videoanalysis Project received operational funds. By 1982 Dennis had his own production studio and began in earnest to videotape patients in crisis at Rhode Island Hospital. Additional project funding came from The American Cancer Society and a Bill passed by the State of RI Legislature.

Between 1979 and 1988 the project focused upon the use of video to aid in the care of patients. This project included the creation of training materials for interns through the Brown University Medical Program.

Videoanalysis Videotapes

[Permission to Die](#); chronicled the death of Frederika Schweers

[IA Yang](#); IA was a Southeast Asian child of three who was rendered paraplegic by automobile accident

[Fred and Joey](#); Brings two teens together to talk of their experience

[John and Julie](#); Chronicles two teens dying of cancer

[Teaching the Medical Interview](#), Internal Medicine STREPSUM



I Have Cancer; Chronicles the death of a Vietnam Vet dying from exposure to Agent Orange.

Mr. and Mrs. Crosley; A Shell fisherman undergoes bypass surgery

The Suicide Shuttle Bus; The story of a gay student who's mother committed suicide as he came out of the closet

Refusing the Respirator; A discussion between a physician and a young girl concerning the right to die

Hematology; A series of programs for hematology on issues concerning the use of blood

Julie; a video diary

In the Light of Death; Teens who have taken suicidal action speak with teens who live with the threat of terminal illness.

Cravon the Caveman; a series of animated Claymation films made at the bedside of a 12 year old Hispanic who was born with severe spina bifida. RISCA Artist in the schools funding

Videotaping as a Clinical Tool, Presented to Pediatric Grand Rounds RI Hospital

PATH, a group of Parents talk about difficulties raising children with cancer

Peter, 22 year old dies of Leukemia

Teaching the Bone Marrow Procedure, instructional video

Transfusion of Dialysis Patients, instructional video

The Problem Patient Clinic, instructional video

Over the years a library was collected. This library was used as a clipping file to repurpose over 200 hours of videotapes made of people in crisis. A course was offered on Death at Brown University that used the video recordings. In 1985 the [Tomorrow Fund](#) was begun in part to provide ongoing support for the project.

Videoanalysis News - Hlynsky and Lafarge's video work was highlighted in several newscasts.

60 Minutes

CBS Evening News with Dan Rather

The MacNeil Lehrer News Hour

Sunday Morning with Charles Kurault

All Providence local affiliates.

Permission to Die was shown on the CBC

VIDEOTAPE DISTRIBUTION of the Videoanalysis Project

Jennie Edmundson Hospital, Council Bluff, Iowa

Kingston General Hospital, Kingston, Ontario

Overlook Hospital Pediatric Department, Summit, N.J.

Visiting Nurse Association, Burlington, Vt.

Goodard Memorial Hospital, Stoughton, MA

Hospice of Petosky, Petoskey, MI

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Mid-Island Hospice, Nanaimo, British Columbia

American Oncologic Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

Canadian Cancer Society, Toronto, Ontario

Rhode Island College, Providence, RI



St. Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield, WI
Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT
Kent County Hospital, Warwick, RI
Skidmore College, Saratoga Spring, NY
Hospice of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC
Health Service Center, School of Nursing, Manitoba
Hospital Royal Victoria, Montreal
Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Hyattsville, MD
Albany Medical College, Albany, NY
Hospice of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
Kutztown University, Kutztown,
St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital, New York, N.Y.
Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
Providence Mental Health, Providence, RI
University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI
Alberta Cancer Board, Edmonton, Alberta
St. Clare Hospital, Monroe, WI
Coin Care, Inc. Upper Darby, PA
The Children's Hospital, Boston, MA
Southeastern Massachusetts University, North Dartmouth, MA
Hospice of North Carolina, Durham, NC
Jeanne B. Corby Hospice, Garden City, KA
Roger Williams General Hospital, Providence, RI
Rhode Island Hospital, Employee Education, Providence,
RI Brown University, Providence, RI
New England Hospital Assembly, Framingham, MA
The Association of Children in Hospitals American Psychiatric Association, New York, N.Y.
American Cancer Society, Newport, RI
American Cancer Society, Providence, RI
Island Hospice, Newport, RI
Brown University Continuing College, Sarasota, FL
Social Work Oncology Group Conference, Westport, MA
Women and Infants Hospital, Providence, RI
Hospice Outreach, Inc. Fall River, MA
American Society for Medical Technology Seminar, RI Fourth Annual Conference on
Terminal Care, Montreal, Quebe

Hlynsky left the Videoanalysis project in 1987

Screenings and activities since 2010

- o *The Auction –Tales of a Digital Immigrant*, screened daily, at [Coolidge Corner](#) in Brooklyn, MA.



- January 2011 Flight Paths - [The Rhode Island School of Design – Museum of Art](#) – January, 2011
- [E32](#) – NYC June 21st, 2011
- [UMASS Amherst, Hampden Gallery – Incubator Space](#) – Amherst, Mass – Spring 2011
- [Danforth Museum](#) - Danforth Mass – Spring 2011
- [Mobius](#) – Cyberarts Festival – Boston, Mass – Spring 2011 – [review](#)
- [Confronting Complexity](#) 2011 AESS - UVM - 6/2011
- [Toronto Urban Film Festival](#) – 9/2011
- [Like Blueprints - Make No Small Plans](#) NYC - 10/2011
- [Data In Data Out](#) - Seton Hall, NJ - 10/2011
- Association for Environmental Studies and Science Conference, June 23, 2012.
- FAM Fest 2013 – Charlotte, SC [Stems-V3](#) FAM Fest
- [Athens International Film Festival, Athens Ohio](#) Tales of A Digital Immigrant 2013
- RISD Museum, Providence – Carpwater video loop 2/2013
- [Interactive Futures](#); Emily Carr - Murder of Crows - introduction to talk by David Bogan
- [Trans-Media Nostalgia](#); Supermarkt, Berlin, Germany August 5 2013
- The Front Room Gallery; Brooklyn, NY, USA – November 23, 2013
- Framed; Pittsburgh, PA, USA, - October 2013
- [3D Print Show](#) – collaboration with Catherine Andereozi, London business Design Center, Paris Carrousel du Louvre, NYC Metropolitan Pavilion
- [TURN conference](#), Munich, Germany; lecture – June 30 2014
- Gallery@620; St Petersburg, Florida USA – Lecture, Installation, and Screening of video - July 2014
- Under the Viaduct; East Harlem, NYC, USA Screening of Starlings at Sunset at the Cotton Club – summer 2014
- Outdoor screening – VAW Mexico City, 2014
- Armory Art Fair NYC Starlings at Sunset, Pink Clouds Windy Day – July 2014
- Fridge Art Fair, NYC; Starlings at Sunset - 2014
- [Imagine Science Films](#) ; *Flight of Small Northern Cloudyspot*; *Small Minds en Masse*; Dumbo, Brooklyn - October 2014
- Big Screens; Federation Square, Melbourne VIC – 2014
- Urban Screens; Dandenong VIC – 2014
- Imagine Science Film Festival; Brooklyn, NYC 2014
- [Lecture and Screening](#); Haverford College 1/26/2015
- RISD Museum of Art – Faculty exhibit – 2/2015
- Cross-Pollinated Hybrid Art Abuzz; Towson University Center for the Arts, Baltimore – 8/2015
- RI School of Design South Main Street; *Parade* installation – 10/2015
- Palo Alto Art Center; *Bird in the Hand* -1/2016
- Hiroshima City MOCA; 3/2016 to 5/2016
- Experimental Video Architecture, Venice; Screening of work - 6/2016
- Concord Art Center, Concord MA *Bird: metaphor + muse* – 6 to 7/2016
- National Museum of Wildlife Art, Jackson Hole; *Linebirds* - permanent collection
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart Australia - Spring 2015
- *Höhenrausch*, OK Center for Contemporary Art, Linz - Summer 2015
- Trans-ideology: Nostalgia; MOCA Taipei – 2015



- U Mass University Art Gallery; installation and solo exhibit – June to September 2016
- Rhode Island School of Design Museum; Faculty Exhibition, *Parade* – 1/2018
- Aurora Picture Show; Houston, TX; Screening *Swamp Sunset 00015* – Sep 2016
- Keynote Speaker – Geographic Information Science Convention; Montreal, CA - January 2016
- PVD Fest, Providence, RI, Projection Mapping the Mercantile Block – spring 2017
- Slow motion camera of white paint– *The Opera House* by Susan Froemke – Summer 2017
- *First Pencil*, directed by Justine Calverley, *Data in Data Out* – 2017

Selected Blogs and other publications

- *Buzzards*; Howard Hughes Medical Institute HHMI image of the week
- *Starlings*; E.O Wilson's Live on Earth digital biology textbook.
- *Interview with Dennis Hlynsky*; IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications Journal, July/Aug 2015
- *Dynamic Patterns: Visualizing Landscapes in a Digital Age* (Routledge, 2016), photo credit
- [ELSE](#) pg50 Ming Turner's review of *Tales of a Digital Immigrant*
- PhotoViz, visualizing Information Through Photography by Nick Felton; photographs

Hlynsky's video have appeared on the web worldwide - selected links.

Micro Migrations as well as experiments and short works at

<https://vimeo.com/dennishlynsky> .

The work has been loaded onto a web page over seven million times by individuals and blogs worldwide.

mentions have appeared in the following blogs.

[Mother Nature Network](#)

[Wired Magazine](#)

[The Daily Mail](#)

[The Royal Institution, Science Lives Here](#)

[NRC.nl](#)

[The Atlantic](#) and reposts [RI Channel](#), [The Smart Place for Science](#)

[Scientific American](#)

[BoingBoing](#)

[Mashable](#)

[Troutfactory Notebook](#)

[The Guardian - Girl Scientist](#)

[Colossal](#)

[Huffington Post](#)

[Gismodo Sploid](#)

[lo9](#)



Employment

1974 - 80 Electron Movers - video training workshops
1981 Phillips Exeter Academy- photography instructor
1982-1983 display designer, Hutchinson Display
1975-1990 freelance videographer
1983 Adjunct instructor RISD
1987- present Assistant Professor RISD
1991 -1995 Head of Film/Animation/Video of the Rhode Island School of Design.
1998 Associate Professor
2000 to 2004 Telecom Game Factory 3D animation for Virtual State Lottery Games.
2009 -2018 Professor and Head of the Film/Animation/Video Department of the Rhode Island School of Design