Lisa Meschino, PhD
ARTS-REHAB Project Research Manager

Dr. Lisa Meschino is a researcher and community-engaged artist who is committed to arts-based research and community wellness initiatives. Recipient of an NSERC Alexander Graham Bell Canada Scholarship, Lisa earned her PhD in Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Waterloo (2011), studying attentional strategies for processing visual information. Her Postdoctoral research examined how involvement in a visual art program can create a sustainable experience of meaningful relationships and engagement in the community for persons with dementia and family care partners. Lisa's Postdoctoral research was supported by a fellowship from the Alzheimer Society of Canada Research Program and by the Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program (MAREP) at the University of Waterloo. Over the last four years, she has collaborated in multiple lines of research through the MAREP, including a SSHRC-funded project on culture change in long-term care with the Partnerships in Dementia Care (PiDC) Alliance.

Lisa is also a Toronto-based visual artist with over 25 years of painting and drawing experience. Having studied at York University Fine Arts Department and The Toronto School of Art, she continues to evolve her creative process through mentorship opportunities and community-based projects with local artists. She has exhibited in group shows in Waterloo and Toronto and as one half of the creative duo, *LoveJunk*. Her training and practice as an artist has provided her with unique insight into both the mechanics and benefits of the creative process. She is excited to translate her knowledge into practice with The Royal Conservatory's ARTS-REHAB Project.