Erin Jane Nelson is an Atlanta-based artist and since 2018 has been the Director of Burnaway, a non-profit publication focused on art and criticism from the American South. Nelson’s focus at Burnaway has been improving the national relevance and reach of the publication and implementing equitable payment practices for freelance writers by earning the magazine W.A.G.E. certification within the first six months of her tenure. In close collaboration with Burnaway’s Editorial leadership, she has brought on regional editors at large for Miami and New Orleans, expanded the scope of the publication to consider the American South within a broader framework of the Global South, and spearheaded publishing select reviews and profiles of Latinx artists bilingually in English and Spanish.

Her own writing focuses on the intersection of race, gender, and the environment and has been published primarily in Burnaway and Art Papers. She regularly contributes exhibition texts and catalog essays for other artists and incorporates speculative fiction writing into her artistic practice. Prior to joining Burnaway, Nelson was the Curatorial Assistant of Photography and Self-Taught Art at the High Museum and the co-owner of Species, an artist-run project space and curatorial platform with her husband. She received her BFA from Cooper Union in 2011.