



HISTORY OF

# ART

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NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2024 | UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Greetings from the Jaffe Building! As always, it is a pleasure to share the stellar scholarship, dedicated teaching, and community involvement of all between the pages of this newsletter. On the opening pages we showcase images from the Incubations Series' exhibitions. Founded in 2015, the Incubation Series is a student-led, collaborative initiative between History of Art graduate students and MFA students at Penn, recently expanded to include colleagues at Bryn Mawr. The group held three exhibitions this past year, with three more slated for the coming year, and more to come. Our Mellon-funded object study initiatives in collaboration with the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) resumed fully this year, with one more site session slated for this spring. We have also been running searches for new faculty hires—watch our news feed for the announcements to come!

On July 1, we celebrated Sarah Guérin's promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. On that same date, the long-hoped-for Department of Cinema and Media Studies became a reality; colleagues Shannon Mattern, Karen Redrobe, and Chenshu Zhou have shifted their primary appointments to the new CIMS but remain active contributors to our intellectual community. And we paid tribute to the life and career of our dear colleague, Bob Ousterhout, in a memorial event on September 9, recalling with appreciation his scholarship, friendship, and sense of community.

I am thrilled to write with congratulations to Darlene Jackson on completing her Bachelor's Degree in Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) in the College of Liberal and Professional Studies in December. Please join me in applauding Darlene's achievement!

This year we decided to make this newsletter leaner, in recognition of ecological impacts and rising costs (these opening remarks, too, are likewise streamlined). Once more, Libby Saylor has made us all look better through her excellent graphic design. We appreciate so many of you following us on our social media accounts (Instagram and Facebook) and invite those who do not yet follow us to please feel free to join us there. As always, we share more news of the department on the main page of the website.

Thank you always to our generous donors: Anonymous; Ellery Foutch, GR'11; Aileen M. Level, C'99, GED'00; Constance C. McPhee, G'88, GR'95 and Henry R. McPhee III, WG'85; Susanne L. Philippon; Richard M. Thune, C'69, and Lindsey R. Thune, parents; William R. Valerio, G'87, WG'04; and Brent V. Yanke, C'94.

With all best wishes for a healthy and happy 2024,

Julie Nelson Davis  
Professor of the History of Modern Asian Art





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	<b>INCUBATION SERIES</b>
5	<b>MELLON-PENN-PMA OBJECT-BASED STUDIES</b>
6	<b>SPIEGEL-WILKS SEMINARS</b>
7	<b>FACULTY UPDATES</b>
9	<b>EMERITI UPDATES</b>
9	<b>STAFF UPDATES</b>
10	<b>GRADUATE STUDENTS</b>
13	<b>UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS</b>
16	<b>PROGRAM NEWS</b>
16	<b>ALUMNI UPDATES</b>
18	<b>2023 COLLOQUIA AND LECTURES</b>
19	<b>IN MEMORY OF</b>

### SPRING 2024 HISTORY OF ART NEWSLETTER

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Artwork featured throughout this newsletter design is from past Incubation Series artists.  
 Visit The Incubation Series website at <https://www.theincubationseries.com/>

Front cover: (detail) David Johnson, *Chase Bank, Ficus Benjamin, 2:15 AM* (2019), Inkjet print, Plexiglass, from Incubation Series "Rear Window" 2020.  
 Letter from the Chair/TOC: (left) Danielle Kovalski Mosonegro, *Mark no. 2*. From the series: *I miss you*, 2016, C-Print; (center) Alex Snowden, *Portal* (2016), Silkscreen on mesh, 102 x 80 inches; (right) Elisabeth Durham, *A Presence of Absence*, 2019, Inkjet print on linen, from Incubation Series "Ways Away" 2020.  
 Back Cover: Will Owen, *Boxer at Rest* (detail), 2021, from Incubation Series "Out of Bounds" 2022.





Mae Eskenazi, *The Tetherings III* (detail), 2022, from Incubation Series "Vestige" 2023.

## INCUBATION SERIES | 2023

### **VESTIGE | JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 11, 2023**

A vestige is that which is left behind: a reminder of a medical process, the tracks of a zoo animal, the detritus of industrial change, or the remnants of color across a dense canvas. This exhibition presents the work of four artists who explore such haunting traces as they are left by organic and inorganic forms. These works evoke damage and regeneration through new configurations, oscillating between sustaining life and sapping it. Through the mediums of painting, sculpture, and video installation, Min Baek, Mae Eskenazi, Adrienne Reid, and Vy Trinh ask us to consider the entanglement of bodies and materials in our contemporary environments—and what survives in the wake of these encounters.

### **REVERB | APRIL 7 - MAY 6, 2023**

This exhibition offers manifestations of embodied memory, the ghosts of loss, and layered, disrupted histories. Here, remembering and misremembering become gestures towards a shifting and elusive presence in space: what becomes isn't necessarily what was. In conversation with the legacy of artist Rose Sélavy, Maxime Cavajani engages with questions of fracture,

transformation, and tenderness as a mode of thinking across time. Similarly, lexi welch considers the body as sensorial and perceiving, utilizing sound reverberation and fluctuations of light and text to locate the self in shifting, amorphous subjectivity and space.

Reworking and recontextualizing found objects and archival images, Rudy Gerson manifests the tensions between intimacy, visibility, and self-fashioning as they are expressed through the photographic record and symbols of collective belonging. Likewise, Susannah Yugler examines intertwined choreographies of violence, militancy, and education and the fraughtness of re-enactment as a means of bringing a moment back to life. The resulting dialogue presents a network of materialities and temporalities against the background of the Bok Building, itself a site of memorial residue and loss.

### **MEMENTO | MAY 5 - MAY 25, 2023**

Mementos monumentalize the everyday, reminding us of felt absences and sifting through the fog of memory. They can be found in ardent daydreams that explore the museum of the senses, on yellowed pages from



marginal archives of the quotidian, in patches of fabric and footage excavated from camera rolls, and alongside memorials that probe classical colossi for cultural and climatic meaning. This exhibition brings together the work of four artists who evoke and question their diverse social, historical, and emotional environments. Working across the media of sculpture, Claymation, video installation, and photography, Yi-Han Huang, Jingyi Li, Kevin Mulvey, and Aislinn Pentecost-Farren complicate the many stages within the life cycles of the memento: acquired, hoarded, concealed, cherished, discarded, and reimagined.

## MELLON-PENN-PMA OBJECT-BASED STUDIES

### **MEDIEVAL TREASURES FROM THE GLENCAIRN MUSEUM APRIL 7, 2023**

In April 2023, the Mellon Object-Based Learning workshop at the PMA took advantage of the loan exhibition "Medieval Treasures from the Glencairn Museum" to dive into the complex medium of stained glass. The Glencairn Museum in Bryn Athyn holds some of the most important pieces of medieval stained glass in North America, including treasures from the Royal Abbey of Saint Denis outside of Paris, home to one of the most technologically sophisticated and theologically complex cycles of twelfth-century stained glass. Assistant Professor of Medieval Art Sarah Guérin, Henry P. McIlhenny Curator of European Decorative Arts and Sculpture Jack Hinton, and the John and Chara Haas Senior Conservator of Decorative Arts and Sculpture Sally Malenka were able to explain to graduate students and PMA interns the development of stained glass from its origins in medieval France to its apogee in the sixteenth century. The workshop, held largely in Object Conservation at the PMA, offered the cohort of first-year graduate students as well as a number of interns from various departments at the PMA the chance to inspect these fragile masterpieces directly and in various lighting conditions. Such a holistic understanding of a medium is invaluable, not just for learning about stained glass in particular, but for formulating the types of research questions that will drive the history of art forward in the next generation.

### **CUT PAPER PROFILES OCTOBER 6, 2023**

Prof. Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw and Carol Soltis, Project Associate Curator in the Department of American Art at the PMA, led a Mellon Object-Based Learning workshop on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century cut paper profiles, silhouettes, and other related art forms. Four graduate students and one undergraduate spent the day looking at materials from the museum's collection in the Print Study Room and toured the American art galleries. They also met with the museum's paper conservators and examined objects in the lab.



Students examining cut paper profiles made in the early 1800s by Moses Williams and members of the Peale family of Philadelphia artists.



# SPIEGEL-WILKS SEMINARS

## **ART AND REFLECTION IN MEDICINE: BARNES FOUNDATION CURATORIAL SEMINAR PROF. AARON LEVY SPRING 2023**

When we are at our loneliest and most vulnerable, the arts can provide a lens to intimately explore the work of caring for the human condition. Encounters with an artwork—much like our encounters with one another—may catalyze connection and become a wellspring for healing and shared joy to unexpectedly emerge. This course, offered in collaboration with the Barnes Foundation and Public Trust, explored how art can foster a mutuality of healing and compassion for one another and ourselves, with a specific focus on caregiving and medicine today. Each week, students were invited to reflect on the way in which arts institutions can better support those who suffer, as well as the role of the arts and humanities more generally in helping patient and caregiving communities create intentional space to spur introspection and externalize inner grief and private suffering forward in the next generation.



Guest lecture by Thom Collins, Neubauer Family Executive Director and President at the Barnes Foundation.

## **CURATING CONTEMPORARY ART DR. EMILY ZIMMERMAN, ARTHUR ROSS GALLERY FALL 2023**

In the Spiegel-Wilks Curatorial Seminar: Curating Contemporary Art, students approached the theory and practice of curating contemporary art from philosophical, historical, and administrative viewpoints. Lectures and discussions with leading curators (including Hallie Ringle, TK Smith, Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw, Erica Battle, Rob Blackson, and others) were structured around weekly topics on curating. Class discussions stepped through the history of curating, curatorial methodologies, exhibition design, audience engagement strategies, writing for exhibitions, curatorial ethics, and key watershed exhibitions that changed the field, as well as the practical skills associated with creating an exhibition proposal and realizing an exhibition.



Students in ARTH 3970: Spiegel-Wilks Seminar: Curating Contemporary Art with Prof. Zimmerman in the Elliot and Roslyn Jaffe History of Art Building, Fall 2023.

## **COLLECTING ART: CHURCH TREASURES TO TEFAF SPRING BREAK 2023**

This week-long journey, which took place from March 3-12, 2023, saw two instructors and eight Penn undergraduates from a variety of programs conduct an in-depth tour of the great medieval sites of the Rhineland. Traveling almost exclusively by train, the group took in ten cities, fifteen museums, and dozens of churches, cathedrals, and other historic sites, as well as a major temporary exhibition in Cologne dedicated to rock crystal and the world-class European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF) in Maastricht. Prof. Guérin, Associate Professor in the History of Art Department and an expert in sculpture and treasury objects, co-lead the tour alongside Prof. Herman, Lawrence J. Schoenberg Curator at the Penn Libraries' Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies. Every detail of the trip was carefully planned and benefited from the tour leaders' decades of research and travel experience in Europe.



Dr. Herman with PhD candidate Ryan Eisenman and undergraduate students from the Spiegel-Wilks trip atop the central tower of Cologne Cathedral.

# FACULTY UPDATES

## SHIRA BRISMAN

In Fall 2023, Shira Brisman received Sachs Contemporary Art Programming Funding to support “Envisioning Abolition in Pre-Modern Art,” a graduate seminar dedicated to applying the tools and theories of activist political movements towards readings of pre-modern artistic critiques of systems of punishment. Spring 2024 will bring “Ecologies of Paper in Early Modern Art,” a volume she is co-editing with Caroline Fowler for the journal *Art History*, and an episode of the podcast *In the Foreground* about how her dedication to the craft of writing has shaped creative practices in the discipline.

## HUEY COPELAND

On September 30, 2023, Huey Copeland celebrated the publication of *Black Modernisms in the Transatlantic World* (Yale University Press) with his co-editor Steven Nelson and contributor Kellie Jones during a launch and discussion at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. In addition, Copeland presented work from his forthcoming book at the Department Colloquium, published essays on Marcel Duchamp (Museum MMK) and Black feminist abstraction (*Africanidades*), interviewed artist Arthur Jafa about his practice’s archival turns, and moderated “Let’s Ride: Art History after Black Studies,” a conversation with Sampada Aranke and Faye Raquel Gleisser featured on the October cover of *Artforum*.



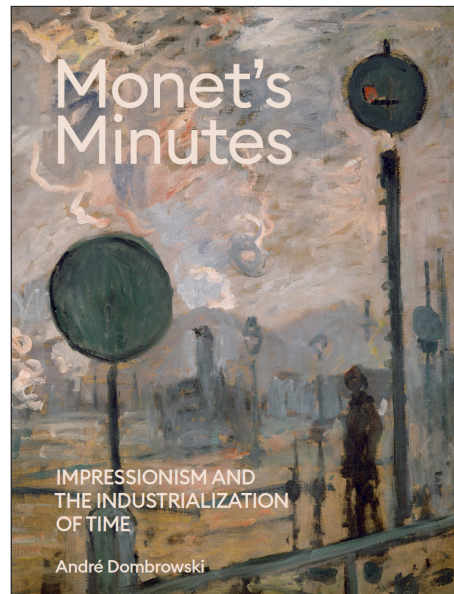
Left to Right: Steven Nelson, Huey Copeland, and Kellie Jones. Photo by Jen Rokoski.

## JULIE NELSON DAVIS

Julie Nelson Davis writes to thank everyone for their support and patience during her first year as Department Chair. Davis completed her term as editor-in-chief for *caa.reviews*, published an essay on Katsushika Ōi for a British Museum anthology, and gave talks in Carleton, Leiden, Nashville, and Seattle on her current research. The highlight of her year was working with graduate students Nick Purgett, Maria Puzyreva, and Marina de Melo do Nascimento on the exhibition “Mid-Century to Manga: The Modern Japanese Print in America,” held at the Michener Art Museum over the summer, with research supported by the Mellon Foundation. She looks forward to being a visiting professor at the Université Cité Paris for two weeks in March, to teaching Rare Book School in June, and more in the coming year.

## ANDRÉ DOMBROWSKI

In November 2023, Yale University Press published André Dombrowski’s new monograph, *Monet’s Minutes: Impressionism and the Industrialization of Time*, a book that studies the rise of the impressionist instant—and nineteenth-century painting’s presumed new “quickness” more broadly—within the period’s innovative time-technologies and forms of time-management. In October, Dombrowski accompanied a group of twenty-six Penn alumni on a trip through beautiful Alsace.



## IVAN DRPIĆ

In May 2023, Ivan Drpić co-organized with Elizabeth Dospěl Williams and John Lansdowne a conference and workshop, “Piece by Piece: Mosaic Artifacts in Byzantium and the Ancient Americas,” at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC. This event brought together art historians, archaeologists, anthropologists, curators, conservators, and scientists to consider the making and meaning of mosaics across premodern cultures. Drpić’s article, “The Burdened Body: Byzantine Enkolpia and the Weight of the Sacred,” appeared in the journal *Zeitschrift für Kunstgeschichte*. Drpić is currently on sabbatical leave, which he is spending at Princeton as a member of the Institute for Advanced Study.

## SARAH GUÉRIN

Sarah Guérin was honoured to have earned tenure and to have been promoted to Associate Professor in 2023! She celebrated by taking two groups of students to Europe in March 2023. First, together with the Lawrence J. Schoenberg Curator Nicholas Herman, she took a group of undergraduates to the medieval cities along the Rhine renowned for their rich treasures, ending with an unforgettable day at the European Fine Art Fair in Maastricht. The second was to Siena with a graduate seminar co-taught with Prof. David Kim, where they examined firsthand the masterpieces of the Tuscan trecento, a subject which Guérin was writing on for an exhibition that will open at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2024, and London’s National Gallery in 2025. In Fall 2023, Prof. Guérin was on leave and living in Florence. She gave papers in Los Angeles, Worcester, MA, Paris, Lausanne, Cambridge, and at the University of Pisa—the latter was her first lecture given in Italian!



## SONAL KHULLAR

In Spring 2024, Sonal Khullar taught a seminar on Indian painting to coincide with "A Splendid Land: Paintings from Royal Udaipur," a special exhibition at the National Museum of Asian Art. She also organized artists' and writers' roundtables and an artist's residency with Parismita Singh to mark the publication of *Old Stacks, New Leaves: The Arts of the Book in South Asia* (University of Washington Press, 2023). She has enjoyed getting to know students and colleagues across the university as Undergraduate Chair for AY 2023-24.



Lynette Shen and Talia Desai view Indian paintings with Debra Diamond, Elizabeth Moynihan Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Art, on a study tour of "A Splendid Land: Paintings from Royal Udaipur" led by Sonal Khullar, February 26, 2023. Photo: Gloria de Liberali.

## MICHAEL LEJA

While on leave in Spring 2023 Michael Leja completed the manuscript of his book *A Flood of Pictures: The Formation of Picture Culture in the United States, 1835 to 1860*, which is now forthcoming from University of Pennsylvania Press. A French translation of his co-authored book (with John Davis) was published in Paris by Hazan, titled *L'Art des États-Unis 1750-2000, textes et documents*. He also wrote a brief essay titled "Mistaking a Tiger for a Zebra: Synchronism in 1913-1914," which will appear in the catalogue for an exhibition on *Orphism in Paris and Beyond* at the Guggenheim Museum in 2024.

## SHANNON MATTERN

Shannon Mattern joined the brand-new Department of Cinema and Media Studies as the Penn Presidential Compact Professor of Media Studies in January 2023 and began teaching in the fall. In addition to publishing articles and chapters on the history of the drinking fountain, multispecies typography, the olfactory dimensions of technical landscapes, and the repair manual as a creative genre, and she co-edited a special collection on "pandemic media practices" for the *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* and published an open-access booklet, *Reparative Redaction*, on the aesthetics of deletion, with Library Stack, a library and publisher of digital arts books.

## HOLLY PITTMAN

During 2023 Holly Pittman was primarily engaged with her archaeological project at Lagash in Southern Iraq. Much of the spring was spent giving lectures about the important discovery of a five thousand-year-old "tavern," or public eatery, with a large oven and an ancient refrigerator that worked on the principle of evaporation. During Fall 2023 the ambitious season that had been planned was curtailed because of war in the region. However, a productive season did occur which revealed even more intriguing features of the world's oldest tavern. When not in the field, Pittman has been busy completing publications and working with her talented graduate students. She hopes that 2024 will bring peace to the world and new details about how the world's first cities appeared in southern Mesopotamia.

## BRIAN ROSE

The 2023 excavations at Gordion, under the direction of C. Brian Rose, uncovered the ancient citadel's monumental gateway, which appears to have been in use for nearly 1,300 years. The team also discovered a gilded ivory sphinx of the early sixth century BCE, which probably decorated the top of a chair or throne. On September 18, in Saudi Arabia's capital of Riyadh, Gordion officially received UNESCO World Heritage Site status, the first active field project conducted under Penn's auspices to have been so recognized.



Gold and ivory sphinx (early sixth century BCE) found at Gordion in Summer 2023.

## GWENDOLYN DUBOIS SHAW

In November 2023, Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw was honored for her contributions to the field by the American Folk Art Museum in New York City at their annual gala. It was nice to celebrate after having spent most of the last year working on the copyedits and page proofs for her upcoming book, *The Art of Remembering: Essays on African American Art and History*, which will be published by Duke University Press in May 2024. Other publications for the year included an essay on histories of collaboration in the catalogue for the international exhibition "Warhol X Basquiat," which opened at the Fondation Louis Vuitton in Paris in April 2023; a reflection on the ethics of art collecting for the book that accompanied the exhibition "His Story of Art," at the Fabric Workshop by Penn MFA Jayson Musson, aka Hennesey Youngman; and writing the foreword to *Unnamed Figures: The Black Presence in Vernacular Art in New England*, for the American Folk Art Museum. Shaw also made monthly appearances on WXPB Radio's long running program "Kids Corner," where she discussed artists' lives, their work, and where to find it, once a month with host Kathy O'Connell. In November, she also traveled to São Paulo, Brazil, to serve as a Terra Distinguished Professor of American Art and teach a two-week seminar on African Diaspora art at the Museum of Contemporary Art, University of São Paulo.

## MANTHA ZARMAKOUPI

This year Mantha Zarmakoupi published her second monograph, *Shaping Roman Landscape* (Getty Museum), and the edited volume *Looking at the City* (Melissa). She was the Whitehead Fellow at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study and a Visiting Scholar at the IMT Lucca and at the DAI in Berlin, working on her third monograph on the city of late Hellenistic Delos and the edited volume *Hermogenes and Hellenistic-Roman Temple Building in Greece and Asia Minor* (University of Wisconsin Press). She continued her excavation at the bouleuterion at Teos (Türkiye, funded by the Gerda Henkel Stiftung), and her exhibition "An Archaeology of Disability" has been touring in Greece.

# EMERITI UPDATES

## RENATA HOLOD

Renata Holod retired from teaching in Fall 2019 and continues to work as a Kolb Fellow and Curator in the Near East Section of the Penn Museum. She remains an active member of the department and the Graduate Groups in Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World, Near East Languages and Cultures, Religious Studies, Architecture, Preservation and Restoration, and Urban and Regional Planning. Holod is working on completing five major research projects and is on multiple editorial and advisory boards.

## MICHAEL MEISTER

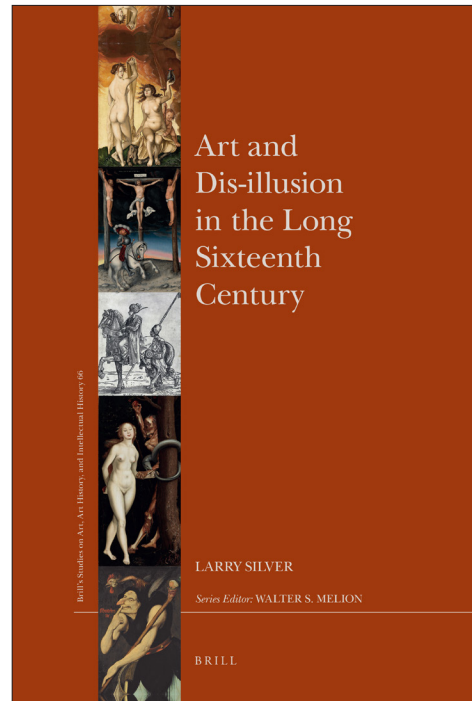
On Sunday 22, 2023, his students presented Michael Meister with the festschrift, Pika Ghosh and Pushkar Sohoni eds., *Chakshudana or Opening the Eyes: Seeing South Asian Art Anew* (Routledge, 2023), which they had created following the symposium to celebrate his legacy.



Left to Right: Darielle Mason, Ajay Sinha, Tamara Sears, Pushkar Sohoni, Pika Ghosh, Michael Meister.

## LARRY SILVER

Larry Silver saw COVID quarantine activities surface in various publications, highlighted by a new book (Brill), *Art and Dis-Illusion in the Long Sixteenth Century*. It discusses the many disasters (witchcraft, religious wars, Turkish invasions, New World conquests) of the sixteenth century, and reprises many research subjects across a half-century career. In addition, lectures on Dürer in Manchester and on German court art in Munich, as well as visits to exhibitions in London and Amsterdam (Vermeer!), meant that post-COVID travel has resumed at last. Meanwhile, articles, essays, and reviews continue apace, including several studies about Jewish art and artists.



# STAFF UPDATES

## DARLENE JACKSON

Congratulations to Darlene for completing her BAAS Degree Program at the University of PA!

## LIBBY SAYLOR

Libby Saylor continued creating collages throughout 2023, publishing her work in *I Like Your Work Fall Exhibition Catalog* and in the inaugural print issue of *Wilder Roam: 001 On the Road*. She also participated in group two exhibitions: "73rd A-ONE" at Silvermine Galleries in New Canaan, CT, and "CLOSE-UP," an online exhibition with LoosenArt, Rome, Italy. You can view her art at <https://www.libbysaylor.com/>.



# GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATES

## ROBYN BARROW

While undertaking rigorous fieldwork on her Paul Mellon Fellowship with the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, Robyn Barrow is making rapid progress on her dissertation. She has presented both at Medieval Academy and for the British Archaeological Association's Cloisters Cross Colloquium at the Courtauld Institute of Art.



Barrow during her recent fieldwork in Greenland.

## RYAN EISENMAN

In a whirlwind year, Ryan Eisenman presented portions of his dissertation in Paris, Brussels, Washington, and Philadelphia and examined enamels in Germany, Spain, and the Vatican. He was a Mellon Summer Fellow in European Decorative Arts at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and has returned to Paris as the 2023–26 David E. Finley Fellow at The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts.



Eisenman at the Santuario de San Miguel de Aralar (Uharte-Arakil).

## ARIELLE HARDY

Arielle Hardy (AAMW) received the Merovingian Dynasty Scholarship in Spring 2023 and the Price Lab for Digital Humanities Project Support Grant in the fall. In Summer 2023, she dug with American Excavations Samothrace, an American School of Classical Studies in Athens sponsored project, supervising two trenches over the course of their season. Arielle presented at Oxford University's Ancient Architecture Discussion Group Conference in April, and is preparing the paper she presented there, "Nature and Nurture: Experiencing Mythic Space in the Sperlonga Grotto," for publication in an edited volume, tentatively titled *Space is the Place—An Exploration of the Interplay Between Architecture and Space in the Classical World*, in 2024.

## ELISA GALARDI

Elisa Galardi spent the past year between Türkiye and Germany researching for her dissertation on Byzantine icons in relief. An unexpected visit, led by Prof. Beate Böhlendorf-Arslan, to the ancient quarry at Alexandria Troas gave her new insights on questions of scale and materiality which she addresses in her work.



Galardi and her travel companions posing on giant unfinished columns at the quarry at Alexandria Troas, Türkiye.

## DAVID MULDER

In addition to completing his exams and beginning work on his dissertation, David Mulder published an article in *Expedition* magazine and presented papers at this year's ICAANE (International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East) and ASOR (American Society of Overseas Research) conferences. He was also admitted as a junior fellow to the Penn Museum's Kolb Society.



## MARIA PUZYREVA

In spring, Maria Puzyreva passed her exams and advanced to PhD Candidacy. Thanks to the department summer grant, she spent two months in Kyoto studying Classical Japanese. In addition, she was a contributor to the catalogue *Art of Japan: Highlights of the Collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art*. In fall, Puzyreva started her year-long Zigrosser Fellowship at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



Puzyreva at the Heian Shrine in Kyoto.

## RHEA SWAIN

Rhea Swain, a second-year PhD student, spent the summer immersed in Mumbai's modern and contemporary art scene, working at Pundole's Auction House and the Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation (JNAF) as part of an internship facilitated by Penn's South Asia Center. As a Conference Assistant in the spring, she helped organize a series of events related to the publication of Sonal Khullar's *Old Stacks, New Leaves* and Parismita Singh's artist residency at Penn. She also co-curated the Incubation Series exhibition "Memento" at Practice Gallery in May with Emma Jacobs and Lynette Shen.



Opening reception for "Memento" at Practice Gallery, May 5, 2023.

## TYLER SHINE

In Spring 2023, Tyler Shine was awarded a Dissertation Research Award from the School of Arts and Sciences. Over the summer, he participated in the Garden and Landscape Studies graduate workshop at Dumbarton Oaks and the Summer Institute for Technical Studies in Art at the Harvard Art Museums. In Fall 2023, Tyler began his yearlong fellowship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, where he is working on two of his dissertation chapters.



Shine preparing cochineal pigment in a dyeing workshop at the Harvard Art Museums.



# GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

David E. Finley Predoctoral Fellow, The Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, 2023–26 | Ryan Eisenman

Fulbright Fellowship, Brazil, 2023-24 | Erin Wrightson

Fulbright France-École normale supérieure Paris-Saclay Grant (declined) | Ryan Eisenman

Louis J. Kolb Society Junior Fellow | David Mulder

Merovingian Dynasty Scholarship | Arielle Hardy (AAMW)

National Stereoscopic Association Research Fellowship, Library of Congress, 2023-24 | Isabelle Lynch

Penny Rubinoff Fellowship, Image Center, Toronto, 2024 | Isabelle Lynch

Price Lab for Digital Humanities Project Support Grant | Arielle Hardy (AAMW)

Summer Mellon Fellow, Philadelphia Museum of Art | Ryan Eisenman

# DISSERTATIONS DEFENDED

## STEPHANIE GIBSON

"Constructing Reconciliation and Healing: Monuments of Trauma, Loss, and Resistance in the Black Atlantic" (Advisor: D. Brownlee)

## K. KATELYN HOBBS

"Jan Jansz Mostaert: Tradition and Invention in Sixteenth-Century Haarlem" (Advisor: S. Brisman; Co-Advisor: L. Silver)

## RAMEY MIZE

"Battle Grounds: Painting, War, and Witness in the Americas, 1861-1902" (Advisor: M. Leja)

## NICHOLAS ROGERS

"Richard Wagner's Visual Worlds: The *Gesamtkunstwerk* and the Spectacle of Empire" (Advisor: A. Dombrowski)

# MASTERS PAPERS

## LEI QUE

"Edgeless Flux: Colour in the *Idea del tempio della pittura* (1590) by Giovan Paolo Lomazzo (1538-1592)" (Advisor: D. Kim)

## BROOKE WRUBEL

"Intermediality in Duccio's *Maestà*: Cosmati Work, Textiles, and Enamels" (Advisor: S. Guérin)



Left to Right: Larry Silver, Ramey Mize (PhD'23), Anna-Claire Stinebring (PhD'22), Abigail Rapoport (PhD'22), Kendra Grimmet (PhD'22), and Michael Leja.

# UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATED MAJORS AND MINORS

MAJORS: Adrianna Brusie, Cloe Cho, Sarah Diaz, Rema Hort, Alana Kelly, Sarah Kim, Emma Lien, Annie Ma, Ru Pan, Anh Tran

MINORS: Andrea Alvarado, Esther Beren, Grace Linda Boyle, Kathryn Nicole Dennison, David Geldzahler, Jackson Klingelhofer, Yining Kung, Jessica Lin, Caroline Ma, Cecily Nishimura, Eliza Penn, Lee Schwartz, Carly Siegel, Amber Swanson, Ella Worth, Ruoyi Yang, Ruini Yu, Judy Zhou

## SENIOR HONORS THESES 2023

### **ADRIANNA BRUSIE**

"Amaryllis DeJesus Moleski: Instructions for Horizons" (Advisor: G. Shaw)

### **CLOE CHO**

"Monstrous Bodies: Flesh, Function, and National Development in the Work of Lee Bul" (Advisor: J. Katz)

### **PHILIP DAVIS** (Architecture: History & Theory)

"Designing for People: How Architects Address the Needs of Communities" (Advisor: D. Brownlee)

### **SARAH DIAZ**

"Belkis Ayon and the Secret Society of Abakua" (Advisor: G. Shaw)

### **REMA HORT**

"The Cagean Aesthetics of Warhol's Early Films (1963-1965)" (Advisor: J. Katz)

### **ALANA KELLY**

"Cornelia Parker and the Art of Suspension" (Advisor: S. Brisman)

### **SARAH JOOYOUNG KIM**

"Julian Schnabel: Breaking as the New Making" (Advisor: A. Dombrowski)

### **ANNIE MA**

"Porcelain Odysseys: Ai Weiwei's Mythologies of Displacement" (Advisor: A. Kuttner)

### **JUSTIN MOORE** (Architecture: History & Theory)

"Toward a Greener Architecture: The History and Survey of Sustainability Standards" (Advisor: D. Brownlee)

### **TRAM ANH TRAN**

"Mark Rothko and the Vitalist Impulse" (Advisor: J. Katz)

## ROSE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

### **CLOE CHO**

## PHI BETA KAPPA

**REMA HORT, RITHIKA LANKA, QUILIN LI, ANNIE MA**

## DAVID M. ROBB THESIS PRIZE

### **CLOE CHO**

"Lee Bul: Monsters, Cyborgs, and the State" (J. Katz)

### **ANNIE MA**

"Porcelain Odysseys: Ai Weiwei's Mythologies of Displacement" (A. Kuttner)

## INTERNSHIPS

Emma Poveda | Contemporary Art Day Sales Intern, Sotheby's New York, June - August 2023

Lila Shermeta | Literary and Historical Manuscripts Intern, RealArts@Penn, The Morgan Library and Museum, June - August 2023

## UNDERGRADUATE ADVISORY BOARD

Kylie Grimm, Victoria Gu, Kavya Kolli, Joanna Lin, Qi Liu, Emma Poveda, Amanda Rodriguez, Logan Saenz, Aili Waller



# UNDERGRADUATE EVENTS

## CAREERS IN CURATION

March 15, 2023

On the panel, the History of Art UAB hosted Cindy Kang (Curator, Barnes Foundation), Emily Zimmerman (Assistant Director and Assistant Curator, Arthur Ross Gallery), and Emma Jacobs (PhD candidate, History of Art, UPenn, and co-curator, Incubation Series), who shared aspects of their career paths and offered advice to undergraduate majors and minors. The panel was followed by a dinner reception and a mix and mingle.

*This event was organized by André Dombrowski and the ARTH Core UAB members Sarah Kim, Emma Poveda, and Aili Waller.*

## GRADUATE SCHOOL: WHEN, WHERE & HOW?

October 24, 2023

The History of Art UAB hosted Alessandra Amin (Postdoctoral Fellow, Wolf Humanities Center), Tara Contractor (Assistant Curator of European Painting and Sculpture, Philadelphia Museum of Art), and Kaitlin Emmanuel (PhD Candidate, History of Art and Visual Studies, Cornell University), who discussed their career paths, offered advice to undergraduate majors and minors, and answered questions prepared by UAB members. The panel was followed by a mixer with graduate students.

*This event was organized by Sonal Khullar and UAB members Kavya Kolli, Kylie Grimm, Joanna Lin, and Qi Liu.*

## UNEARTHING RARE BOOKS: TEN HIDDEN GEMS FROM THE KISLAK CENTER

November 14, 2023

The History of Art UAB hosted a viewing of ten illustrated books, including medieval astronomical texts in Hebrew from Spain and an anatomy treatise in Arabic and Persian from Persia, nineteenth-century watercolor sketchbooks from Japan, and twenty-first-century posters about the COVID pandemic from Wuhan, China, selected by Aili Waller, inaugural outreach intern at the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, in Lea Library of the Kislak Center. The session was followed by a reception in Jaffe.

*This event was organized by Sonal Khullar and UAB members Aili Waller, Victoria Gu, and Emma Poveda.*



Undergraduate students in Lea Library examining ten illustrated books.

# UNDERGRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

## IRMA FLÓRA KISS WRITES ARTICLE FOR OCULA MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 9, 2023

*Is Kehinde Wiley's Dakar Residency a Bridge or an Oasis?*

Named after the volcanic rocks on the beach it overlooks, Black Rock Senegal has big, almost contradictory ambitions—to connect artists to Africa and cushion them in comfort. Private apartments and studios, a lush tropical garden, and a scenic rooftop view of the Atlantic are just a few of the amenities available to Black Rock's residents. Every year, the ultra-competitive program welcomes just sixteen of over 1,400 applicants for rotating residencies.

Though Black Rock casts itself as a neutral forum, there's a political subtext to its founder's vision. Cake and Bible diplomacy, meet canvas and brush.

Full article: <https://ocula.com/magazine/art-news/kehende-wiley-dakar-residency-bridge-or-oasis/>



View from Black Rock. Courtesy Kehinde Wiley and Black Rock Senegal. Photo: Mamadou Gomis.

# SUMMER TRAVEL

## KYLIE GRIMM

### THUNE SUMMER RESEARCH AWARD

Thanks to the Thune Summer Research Award, Kylie Grimm had the opportunity to research Barcelona's modern architecture. She visited the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya and Antoni Gaudí's Casa Vicens and Cripta de la Colònia Güell and saw his original drawings, funicular model, metalwork, and furniture. This afforded her insight into Gaudí's form generation, biomorphic inspiration, and expressed graphical statics when visiting Casa Milà, Casa Batlló, Parque Güell, Palau Güell, and La Sagrada Família.



Looking upwards in the nave of La Sagrada Família's forest of columns illuminated by reflections of stained glass.

## IRMA FLÓRA KISS

### SUMMER RESEARCH AWARD

Irma Flóra Kiss began the summer in Montpellier, where she consulted the University of Montpellier's special library collection on the history of the bullfight. She also made site visits to Nîmes to consult the Musée des Cultures Taurines's permanent collection and archive. After that, Kiss stayed in Paris and continued her research at the Institut national d'histoire de l'art, briefly returning to the south for a joint Picasso-Goya exhibition in Castres.



View from Place Giral, Montpellier.

## EMMA POVEDA

### SUMMER TRAVEL AWARD

The Summer Travel Award facilitated Emma Poveda's research into American artist Lee Bontecou's (1931-2022) steel-welded reliefs. The grant enabled immersive studies in New York, including a Sotheby's internship and trips to the MoMA, navigating academic recognition of Bontecou's work and her distinctive presence within the art market. A trip upstate to Dia Beacon provided further insight into the twentieth-century sculptural landscape, as evidenced by John Chamberlain, Larry Bell, and Louise Bourgeois. Plans for 2024 include a visit to the National Gallery in Washington, DC, to view Bontecou's archives and exhibition files alongside the curators.



Standing before *Daddy in the Dark* (1988), John Chamberlain. Dia Beacon, Beacon, NY.

## AILI WALLER

### THUNE SUMMER TRAVEL AWARD

During Summer 2023, Aili Waller traveled to Minneapolis, New York City, and the Catskills to continue reconstructing the biography of Mary Josephine Walters (1837-1883), a relatively unknown landscape artist and a student of Asher B. Durand. She conducted archival research at the University of Minnesota's Special Collections Library and at the New York Historical Society's Research Library. Waller also spent two weeks in the Catskills, retracing the steps of Walters' sketching trips along the Hudson River, on hikes and in museum collections.



Viewing paintings by Josephine Walters featured in the Thomas Cole Historic Site's exhibition "Women Reframe the Landscape."



# PROGRAM NEWS

## ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD (AAMW)

It was another successful year for the AAMW program. In May 2023, AAMW awarded an MA to Janessa Reeves. In August 2023, AAMW awarded PhDs to James Shackelford, Katherine Burge, and Reed Goodman. Janessa spent 2023 as a graduate intern in public programming at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Katherine and Reed both are beginning new positions as Visiting Assistant Professors at Western Washington University and the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World (ISAW) at NYU, while James will continue in his role as Director of Ongoing Formation and Discipleship at St. Bartholomew's in Wayzata, MN. Three alumni also secured new positions: Lara Fabian is now the Assistant Professor of Iranian Studies at UCLA; Steve Renette is the Assistant Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology at the University of Cambridge; and Emily French is now the Assistant Curator of Academic Programs at Oberlin College's Allen Memorial Art Museum.

Several AAMW students presented in national and international conferences, received fellowships from Penn and other organizations, and published articles. Arielle Hardy received the Merovingian Dynasty Scholarship and the Price Lab for the Digital Humanities support grant. Charles Ro was elected to the Kolb Society of the Penn Museum. Janessa Reeves published an article in the January 2023 edition of *Expedition* entitled "On the Rim of a Volcano: A World War II Story from the Archives."

In 2023-24, AAMW welcomed three new graduate students—Grant Bruner, Alessandra Dominguez, and Scott Evans—and the AAMW community looks forward to the unique contributions they will bring.

## CENTER FOR ANCIENT STUDIES (CAS)

The Center for Ancient Studies hosted their Annual Symposium organized by Deven Patel (South Asian Studies). Entitled "Translation Projects in the Ancient World," the symposium brought together scholars from a variety of disciplines to consider the broad histories, technologies, and intercultural interactions that translation projects helped shape. CAS also held the annual Graduate Student Conference entitled "The Aftermaths of Conflict: Responses to Human and Material Trauma in the Ancient World." Organized by the Amelia Bensch-Schaus (Classical Studies), this conference brought together scholars from diverse fields to explore a range of evidence speaking to the experiencing or processing of trauma in the ancient world.

## SCHOENBERG INSTITUTE FOR MANUSCRIPT STUDIES (SIMS)

The Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies at Penn Libraries wrapped up a stellar year of programming, much of it related to the activities and interests of the History of Art Department. As usual, the Institute hosted an array of fellows throughout the year, including Kathryn Rudy of Saint Andrews University, who delivered a rousing talk on "dirty books" in January. The sixteenth annual Schoenberg Symposium, held in November and featuring a keynote address by Jeffrey Hamburger, was dedicated to the image of the book and marked the launch of the BASIRA (Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art) database: <https://basira.library.upenn.edu>.

## VISUAL STUDIES (VLST)

In May 2023, the twentieth Visual Studies class graduated four seniors. Four students—Amy Krimm, Elizabeth Stoner, and Allison Tsai—received honors in the major. Amy Krimm received the Charles Willson Peale prize and was awarded a Marshall Fellowship.

In Summer 2023, four students participated in internships—Priya Bhavikatti, Tessa Kong, Diana Mota, and Laura Jannetta.

In April 2023, History of Art alumna Marina Isgro delivered the annual Visual Studies Lecture, "Designing Movement: Gianni Colombo and Grazia Varisco in 1960s Italy."

# ALUMNI UPDATES

**RACHAEL ARAUZ (MA'95, PHD'00)** was a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Craft and Material Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University in Fall 2023. She taught a graduate seminar about the history of craft and abstraction to their MFA students, presented a public lecture, "The Craft and Materials of Curatorial Thinking," and did studio visits throughout the semester.

**LEE ANN CUSTER (PHD'21)** is completing her second year as an NEH Collaborative Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow at Vanderbilt University in History of Art and Architecture. Her recent article, "The Clean, Open Air of John Sloan's Tenement Paintings," was published in *American Art* in Summer 2023.

**EMILY FRENCH (AAMW) (PHD'22)** started a new permanent position as Assistant Curator of Academic Programs at Oberlin College's Allen Memorial Art Museum in August.

**MARIA P. GINDHART (PHD'02)** became Dean of the College of Arts and Media and Professor of Art History at Marshall University in Huntington, WV, in July.

**SHELDON LEE GOSLINE (BA'85)** is guest lecturer on several Mediterranean Oceania cruises in November 2023 and scheduled to be guest lecturer on East Asian Oceania cruises in November 2024.

**MADISON MAKALA GREINER (BFA'19)** was awarded an artist residency and solo exhibition through Inliquid. Her exhibition "Luminescence: Solitude in the City" took place in January at Inliquid's gallery on the Ben Franklin Parkway at Park Towne Place. Her work can be seen online at <https://www.madisonmakala.com/> and via Instagram @madisonmakala.

**EMMA JABR (BA'20)** has been working at the architecture firm Mariagroup. One project she worked on, the restaurant Meat the Fish London, is featured in *Interior Design Magazine*. She also launched her eponymous jewelry brand (Instagram @emmadyajabr) with the introduction of her first collection, which honors jewelry's most powerful companion: Time.

# ALUMNI UPDATES

**DELANEY KEENAN (BA'20)** completed the Williams Grad Art program in June, a curatorial internship at the Clark, and a fellowship at the Williamstown Art Conservation Center. She is now Curatorial Assistant at the Worcester Art Museum and has worked on numerous projects, including exhibitions of Rembrandt prints and impressionism traveling to multiple venues in Japan.

**CHRISTOPHER MEAD (PHD'86)**, Emeritus Regents' Professor at the University of New Mexico, published *The Hyospace of Japanese Architecture* (ORO Editions, 2023). *Hypospace* considers how the atomic bombing of Hiroshima generated new readings of Japanese architecture through the insight shared by traditional thought and modern physics that space forms in limitless and multidimensional time.

**R. PETER MOOZ'S (PHD'79)** last book, *American Masterworks of Religious Painting*, has been seen being advertised in French and German. Also, a letter from a major Hollywood studio to explore doing episodes from the chapters has been received. Who said Art History is not a good major for a career?

**EMILY NEUMEIER (PHD'16)**, Assistant Professor of Art History at Temple University, has been named the 2023 Edilia and François-Auguste de Montêquin Senior Scholar Fellow in Iberian and Latin American Architecture by the Society of Architectural Historians, an award that will support her fieldwork for a new book project about Orientalist architecture in the United States.

**ERICA OVERSKEI (BA'05)**, an arts professional with experience in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors, is working for Debra Simon Arts Consulting as Producer & Assistant Curator for Art at Amtrak, a rotating contemporary art program that takes place in multiple stations in the Northeast Corridor, including Philadelphia's own William H. Gray III 30th Street Station.

**JANESSA REEVES (MA'23)** published an article with *Expedition* magazine and completed her AAMW MA with a thesis on ancient glassworking and nineteenth-century collectors. In the summer, Janessa served as registrar for the Gordion excavation project in Türkiye and then began a year-long Graduate Internship at the Getty Villa Museum.

**ERIN SCHONEVELD (PHD'12)** co-curated "Made in Japan: 20th-Century Poster Art" (March 3 - September 10 2023) at Poster House in New York City. The exhibition was featured in *The New York Times*, *The Japan Times*, *Fast Company*, and *The Guardian*. It won the the Graphic Design USA 2023 American Digital Design Award and the Communication Arts Design Competition.

**PAUL SCOTTON (PHD'97)** (the last doctorate awarded in Classical Archaeology) continues his work as Co-Director of the Lechaion Harbor and Settlement Land Project. This is a continuing permit issued by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sport for another five year cycle. A significant benefit is spending three months every summer in Ancient Corinth discussing architecture, archaeology, and opera with Charles K. Williams II, the Director Emeritus of the Corinth Excavations.

**MARIANNA SHREVE SIMPSON (BA'71)** taught an introductory course on Islamicate manuscripts for the Rare Book School. She gave a talk at a symposium on "Manuscript Networks Across the Persian Cosmopolis" at Williams College and the keynote address at the "Symposium on the Shahnama in International Art and Culture" at the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakif University, Istanbul. She also published a review in the journal *Manuscript Studies*.

**MIRIAM STANTON (PHD'22)** became a Postdoctoral Associate at the Yale University Art Gallery, where she teaches with art objects for interdisciplinary courses across the university. She was invited to speak at the 2023 Association for Art History conference, where she gave a talk entitled "Harnessing Gravity: Chance and the 'Aerial Gesture.'"

**ANNA-CLAIRE STINEBRING (PHD'22)** completed a Poulet Curatorial Fellowship at the Frick Collection in September. In October, she began as Assistant Curator of European Paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She contributed to the installation "Look Again: European Paintings 1300-1800," which opened in late November and is ongoing.

**MOLLY STOCKDALE, MPM (BA'89)** marked her tenth anniversary as Executive Director of Travelers' Rest Connection, the nonprofit partner of Travelers' Rest State Park in Montana. She was appointed by Governor Greg Gianforte to the Montana 250th Commission to help coordinate the statewide commemoration of the United States Semiquincentennial.

**GEORGE E. THOMAS (PHD'76)** completed twelve years as Co-Director of the Critical Conservation Program in the Graduate School of Fine Arts at Harvard last spring. In Summer 2023 he hosted a ninetieth birthday luncheon for James F. O'Gorman and seven of his former students at their camp on the shores of the Basin in Phippsburg, ME. He was also one of five speakers at a symposium at Wellesley College honoring Dr. O'Gorman in the fall.

**JAMIE VAUGHT (BA'16)** became collection manager for Photography and Media at the Art Institute of Chicago in September 2023. In this role she cares for over twenty thousand objects, coordinates permanent collection rotations, and organizes Photography Study Room visits for classes and researchers.

**TERRILL WARRENBURG (BA'16)** works at Sean Kelly Gallery in New York as the Art Fairs and Special Projects Manager. One of his recent projects was creating a brand new art collection for a major Fortune 500 corporation's new international headquarters in NYC, buying \$2M of acquisitions and curating the layout on the Executive Floor.



# HISTORY OF ART COLLOQUIA IN 2023

**DAVID YOUNG KIM**

**NOTES ON THE UNDERGROUND: GIORGIO VASARI, ANTÓNIO VIEIRA, AND GIORGIO VASARI (AGAIN)**

January 13, 2023

**HUEY COPELAND**

**TOUCHED BY THE MOTHER**

January 20, 2023

**SHIRA BRISMAN**

**THE GROTESQUE LAW OF PROPERTY**

January 27, 2023

**ELISA GALARDI, PHD CANDIDATE IN THE HISTORY OF ART**

**FADING: TOUCH AND THE DISSOLVING FORM IN THE BYZANTINE ICON IN RELIEF**

February 3, 2023

**ANN KUTTNER**

**TELLING A GRIFFIN'S TAIL: ORNAMENT AND IMPORT AT THE ARA PACIS**

March 31, 2023

**TAMIR WILLIAMS, PHD CANDIDATE IN THE HISTORY OF ART**

**BREATHLESSNESS: DEPICTING CAPTIVE TIME & BLACK FUGITIVE TIME**

April 14, 2023

**HOLLY PITTMAN**

**BREAKING OLD GROUND, USING NEW METHODS: GENERATIVE POTENTIAL OF THE LAGASH ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT**

April 21, 2023

**ISABELLE LYNCH, PHD CANDIDATE IN THE HISTORY OF ART**

**SUBTERRANEAN FIRE: PHOTOGRAPHY BY ARTIFICIAL LIGHT IN THE DARK ROOMS OF THE EARTH**

September 15, 2023

**GWENDOLYN DUBOIS SHAW**

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, FAKERY, AND THE FUTURE OF NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN ART**

October 20, 2023

**FRANCESCA BOLFO, PHD CANDIDATE IN THE HISTORY OF ART**

**THE EMBODIED ISLAND: EROS & EXILE IN THE ART OF ZILIA SÁNCHEZ AND AGUSTÍN FERNÁNDEZ**

November 10, 2023

**MICHAEL LEJA**

**INVENTING A PICTORIAL MISCELLANY FOR THE US: GLEASON'S PICTORIAL DRAWING ROOM COMPANION**

December 1, 2023

**BRIAN ROSE**

**THE MODERN POLITICS OF ANCIENT GREEK VISUAL CULTURE**

December 8, 2023

# HISTORY OF ART LECTURES IN 2023

**JILL AND JOHN AVERY LECTURE IN THE HISTORY OF ART**

Philip J. Deloria, Harvard University, "Notes from the Charging Elk Sketchbook, 1940: A Discourse on Art and Epistemology"

March 3, 2023

**RICHARD THUNE LECTURE**

Eve Meltzer, New York University, "Not Me, Mine, Ours: The Work of the Negative in *I Am Not Your Negro*"

November 3, 2023

# IN MEMORY OF

## MARY DENVER (MA'81)

Mary Denver died peacefully at home on November 10, 2023, after a long illness. She is survived by her husband Donald Beetham (MA'80). Mary was very involved with Native Plants and social justice issues in Highland Park, NJ, the last two decades. Don and Mary had four children, one deceased. A daughter, Sarah Beetham, is an art historian and is chair of the Liberal Arts Department at PAFA.



Donald Beetham (MA'80) with Mary Denver (MA'81).

## BOB OUSTERHOUT

The Department of the History of Art at the University of Pennsylvania mourns the passing of Robert G. Ousterhout, Professor Emeritus, an outstanding scholar, educator, and writer. Bob, as he was known among friends and colleagues, will be remembered as one of the giants of Byzantine Studies whose groundbreaking work on Byzantine architecture, monumental art, and urbanism reshaped the field for many generations to come. An exceptionally prolific author, Bob produced, among many other publications, such seminal volumes as *Master Builders of Byzantium* (1999), *Visualizing Community: Art, Material Culture, and Settlement in Byzantine Cappadocia* (2017), and *Eastern Medieval Architecture: The Building Traditions of Byzantium and Neighboring Lands* (2019), for which he was awarded the 2021 Haskins Medal by the Medieval Academy of America.



Upon joining the faculty at Penn in 2006, Bob proved to be a transformative presence thanks to his exemplary teaching, mentorship, curatorial work, and service. He supervised and mentored over twenty PhD students at Penn and beyond,

organized exhibitions at the Penn Museum, and served as Director of the Center for Ancient Studies and as Graduate Chair in the History of Art and the Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World. As a co-director of the "Cappadocia in Context" summer program in Turkey, Bob trained generations of budding Byzantinists from around the world, teaching them how to look, think, and conduct fieldwork. His generosity and profound humanity touched countless people.

## BOB OUSTERHOUT (CONTINUED)

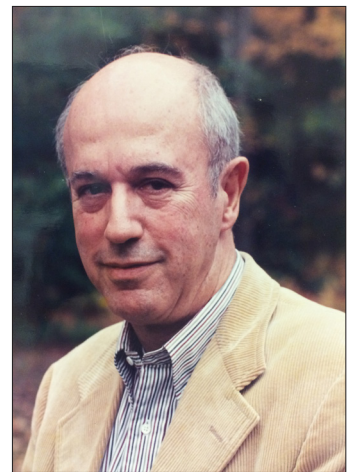
Bob loved and celebrated life. He swam across the Bosphorus, flew in a hot air balloon with Martha Stewart, hosted the best dinner parties, and could spin a limerick for any occasion. During his final years, while undergoing taxing medical treatment, he continued to lecture, travel, and write, producing several works of fiction.

"A light has gone out of the world," wrote a friend on Facebook, upon receiving the news of Bob's passing. But the memory of his kindness, wit, and intellectual brilliance will continue to shine.

Written by Ivan Drpić.

## CECIL LEE STRIKER

Cecil L. Striker passed away in Philadelphia on January 9, 2023 at the age of 91. He was a world-renowned archaeologist and historian of Byzantine architecture. A native of Cincinnati, C. L. Striker graduated from Oberlin College and received his doctorate at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York under the direction of Prof. Richard Krautheimer. He taught at Vassar College (1962-1968) and the University of Pennsylvania (1968-2001), where he supervised many students, established innovative graduate programs, and turned Penn into a powerhouse of architectural history. He frequently served as chair of Penn's Department of the History of Art, and helped design the university's new graduate program in the Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World. His monograph on the imperial church of the Myrelaion (Bodrum Camii) was followed by an even more ambitious project, the archaeological exploration and restoration of the Middle Byzantine church of Kalenderhane Camii in Istanbul. C. L. Striker pioneered the application of dendrochronology in the dating of medieval buildings across Greece, the Balkans, and Türkiye. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Research Institute in Türkiye, the founding member of the Executive Board of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, and a consultant for the Istanbul Metro and Bosphorus Tube Tunnel Project. Working at the intersection of architecture and archaeology, C. L. Striker played a seminal role in ensuring that the late-twentieth century would be a golden age of Byzantine Studies in North America. He is survived by his spouse, Ute Striker, sister-in-law Carol Striker, nephew Robert L. Striker, and niece Laura Striker.



Written by Kostis Kourelis (AAMW'03), Associate Professor of Art History



