

HAA Newsletter Fall 2023: Part II

Note from the Chair

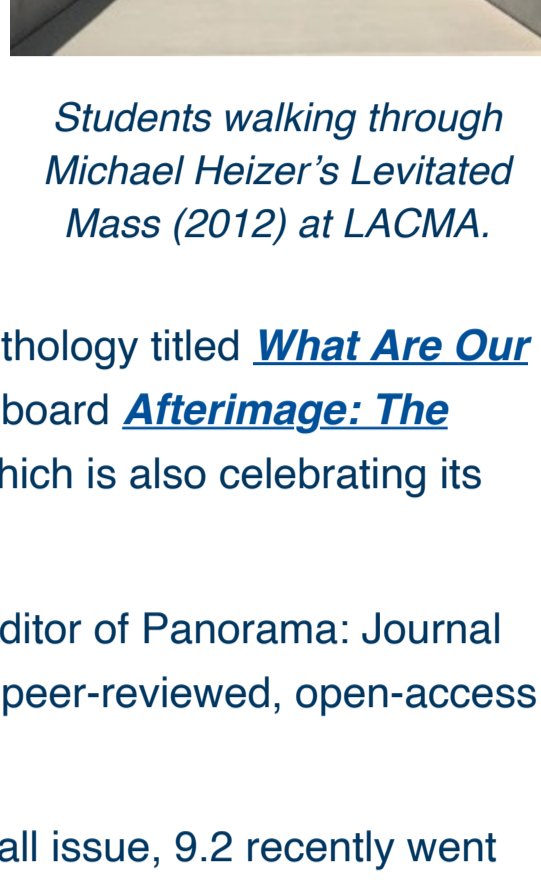
Following a brief intermission, I present PART II of our department newsletter! (Our news overfloweth!)

Laurie Monahan
Professor and Chair

Faculty and Staff News

Professor **Ann Jensen Adams** conducted a class on “Rembrandt and the Bible” for the University of Oklahoma Presidential dream Course “The Artists’ Bible: From Mosaics to Graphic Novels”, and delivered a public lecture “**Rembrandt’s Empathy: A Personal Response to Biblical Narratives**” at the Fred Jones Museum of Art, both sponsored by the Schusterman Center for Judaic and Israel Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, February 20-21, 2023. She also delivered a lecture “**Why is Rembrandt’s Night Watch Famous, and Why Should we Care?**” in the series “Art in the Evening” at the Timken Museum of Art, San Diego, on March 19, 2023.

On April 28, 2023, Dr. **Carole Paul**, Director of the Museum Studies emphasis and minor offered in our department, led our first Museum Studies field trip since the pandemic to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Dr. Paul and the students, accompanied by Dr. **Jeff O’Brien**, HAA Image Resource Curator, were given a tour of the very rich exhibition “Women Defining Women in Contemporary Art of the Middle East and Beyond” by its curator, Dr. Linda Komaroff, who is Curator and Department Head of Middle Eastern Art at LACMA. We left LACMA well informed and greatly inspired by what we had seen and learned.



Students walking through Michael Heizer’s *Levitated Mass* (2012) at LACMA.

In December, 2022, **Jeff O’Brien** published the anthology titled ***What Are Our Supports?*** Earlier this year he joined the editorial board ***Afterimage: The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism***, which is also celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Jenni Sorkin has been appointed Co-Executive Editor of *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art*, a peer-reviewed, open-access journal that publishes twice annually.

Her first issue, 9.1, went live on June 15, and the fall issue, 9.2 recently went live: journalpanorama.org. Beginning September 1, she has also been appointed to the system-wide University of California Editorial Press Board for a five-year term as the only representative for the entire field of Art History.

Swati Chattopadhyay’s book ***Small Spaces: Recasting the Architecture of Empire*** has recently been published by Bloomsbury.

Professor **Sylvester Okwunodu Ogbechie** has completed his year-long leave as a Guggenheim Fellow and continues to work on his Guggenheim award book project – *The Curator as Culture Broker*. He is also working on two other books on contemporary artists Victor Ehikhamenor (*Chronicles of The Enchanted World*) and 2020 Guggenheim Fellow Victoria Idongesit-Udondian (*How Can I Be Nobody*), both forthcoming in 2024.

Student News

Alida Jekabson received a Summer Research Grant from the Decorative Arts Trust, which will support her archival research related to world’s fairs and craft in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Undergraduate **Cheyenne Assil** was awarded 2nd place in the **2023 Library Award** for Undergraduate Research (LAUR) in Humanities & Fine Arts category.

Elizabeth Driscoll Smith received two fellowships in support of her dissertation: a 2022-2023 Predoctoral Fellowship at the Smithsonian American Art Museum & a 2023-2024 Luce/ACLS Ellen Holtzman Dissertation Fellowship in American Art. She was also awarded a spot in the summer 2023 Center for Curatorial Leadership/Mellon Foundation Seminar in Curatorial Practice, held in New York.

Graham Feyl received a Decorative Arts Trust Research Grant for research on his dissertation about queer craft and the Bay Area. He was recently guest editor of “**All That Glitters**,” a special issue of the craft journal *Decorating Dissidence*.

Leticia Cobra Lima and **Victoria Jennings** curated the **2023 MFA Thesis Show, titled *Chaotic Good***. In preparation for the exhibition, they worked with artists Kevin Clancy, aka.gren, Maja Skjøth Hegelund, Matthew Robert Johnson, Dani Kwan, Johnny Nonionseed, and Kate Saubestre for two months – visiting their studios, providing conceptual and technical advice, developing the curatorial concept and literature, and assisting with the installation. Leticia is the 2022-23 Murray Roman Curatorial Fellow at the AD&A Museum, having previously contributed to ***Genius Loci: Domesticity and Identity in Southern California***, an exhibition marking the 60th anniversary of the Architecture and Design Collections. Victoria held the same position in 2021-22, when she curated the **2022 MFA Thesis show, *It Appears to Be a Circle***. By participating in the annual MFA shows, they hope to establish a bridge for productive collaborations between the History of Art and Architecture and the Arts department, in addition to the AD&A Museum.

Rachel Winter began working as Assistant Curator at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad Art Museum) in January 2022. Since then, she has curated a number of exhibitions: *Blind Spot: Stephanie Syjuco* (Feb. 4-Jul. 23, 2023); the *2023 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition* (Mar. 11-May 21, 2023). She has been part of a curatorial collaboration that realized *Zaha Hadid Design: Untold* (Sep. 9, 2022-Feb. 12, 2023) and *LaToya Ruby Frazier: Flint Is Family In Three Acts, Act II* (Aug. 6, 2022-Jan. 9, 2023). Winter received three grants to support her curatorial endeavors at the MSU Broad Museum: two grants from the Terra Foundation for American Art; a Collections Grant from the Terra Foundation for American Art in support of *The Center for Object Research and Engagement (The CORE): Rethinking Global Entanglements in American Art* opening in November), and the first Salwa Mlkadadi Research Award from the Association for Modern + Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran + Turkey (AMCA) in support of the exhibition *Lebanon: Nabil Kalso* (working title, opening February 2025 at the MSU Broad Art Museum). She also published the article “**Arabian Nights in the Mississippi Delta: The Embroideries of Ethel Wright Mohamed**” in a special volume of *Panorama*. In November 2022, Winter presented a paper at the AMCA conference *1980s: Representational Pressures, Departures, and Beginnings*.

Alumni News

Alex Schultz (Ph.D. 2022) received a **Humanities Research postdoctoral fellowship from NYUAD** to complete her first book project based on her dissertation tentatively titled: *Uneven Infrastructure: Histories of Water Access in Urban Egypt (1875-1935)*. She was also recognized as an alternate for an American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) research fellowship, and has accepted an honorary position as a Research Associate for 23-24. Alex published two articles this year: “Waiting at the Taps: Stereography and Water Infrastructure in Egypt” in *PLATFORM* and “**Preserving Home: Resistance to Cholera Sanitation Procedures in Egypt**” in *Architecture_MPS*. She presented her research at the 2022 Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference in Denver, and Cities in Context at the American University in Cairo. Alex also presented at the Urban Ecologies of the Lower Nile Valley conference in June hosted by CEDEJ/American University in Cairo.

The anthology *In and Out of View: Art and the Dynamics of Circulation, Suppression, and Censorship*, which was co-edited by

Catha Paquette (Ph.D. 2002), **Karen Kleinfelder**, and **Christopher Miles** (B.A., College of Creative Studies, 1991) and

published by Bloomsbury Visual Arts in 2021 as a hardback and an ebook, is now available as a paperback. Contributors to the volume, which focuses on art production and reception from the mid-twentieth century to the present in the Americas, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, include

Professor **Sylvester Okwunodu Ogbechie** and **Elizabeth Guffey** (B.A. 1985); the back-cover testimonial is by Professor **Jenni Sorkin**.

After teaching at the University of Missouri for over 18 years, Dr. **Elizabeth Hornbeck** (Ph.D. 2002) recently accepted a position as an architectural historian for the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in the Architectural Preservation Services (APS) unit.

Emily J. Peters (Ph.D. 2005), Curator of Prints and Drawings, Cleveland Museum of Art, published, as lead author and co-editor, with Laura Ritter, *Tales of the City: Drawing in the Netherlands from Bosch to Bruegel* (Cleveland Museum of Art/Yale University Press, 2022) in collaboration with the Albertina Museum, Vienna and the exhibition of the same name in Cleveland (Fall 2022), and in Vienna (Winter 2023), under the title *Bruegel und Seine Zeit*.

Henning von Mirbach (Ph.D. 2023) accepted a position as an Associate Lecturer in the Art and Architecture of **Early Modern China at the Courtauld Institute of Art**.

Jessica L. Ambler (Ph.D. 2011) accepted a position as the **Director of the Martin Art Gallery** at Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA) in December 2023.

John R. Senseney (Ph.D. 2002), has penned the essay, “**Lessons from American Arcadia: White Spaces, Black Athletes, and Insulated Professors**,” on *PLATFORM*, October 3, 2022.

Kevin M. Murphy (Ph.D. 2005), Eugénie Prendergast Senior Curator of American and African Art at the Williams College Museum of Art published the book ***Dance We Must: The Art and Costumes of Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn, 1906-1940*** in January. It brings together scholars of dance costume, dance and art history, dancers and students to open new avenues of inquiry into the beginnings of modern dance in the United States, Europe, and South Asia. He is currently working on a book about the art market, contracted with University of California Press.

Mary McGuire (Ph.D. 2018) was awarded tenure in the department of Art History at Mt. San Antonio College in Spring 2023 where she also received the honor of Educator of Distinction in 2021-2022. Mary presented a paper at the 2023 CAA Annual Conference, and she will contribute programming to the artist’s exhibition at ICALA this summer. McGuire recently began curating a salon series, *Apartment 310*, featuring actions, performances, and discussions with Los Angeles-based artists.

Mary Okin (Ph.D. 2022) presented her ***Mining @ Tenth Street: Visualizing New York City’s Tenth Street Studio Building*** project as an invited speaker at the Paul Mellon Centre’s “Mass Data Methodologies” workshop. She is the new Assistant Director of Living New Deal, a nonprofit organization that documents, researches, and advocates for New Deal art and public works. Mary is also developing a second digital humanities project she founded called “March With Us! Lessons in Activism @ San Jose State.” This project engages in archival and oral history research into 1960s activism and was awarded a 2023 Mellon grant for the Recovering US Hispanic Literary Heritage Program, through the University of Houston. With Olivia Bowman (SJSU BA, 2022), Mary presented on the project at the Global Digital Humanities conference at Michigan State University and at the American Literature Association conference in Boston. In April, Mary gave a talk on Wayne Thiebaud at the Willits Art Center in Northern California.

Monica Blackmun Visonà (Ph.D. 1983) contributed five chapters on African art, and numerous essays on cross-cultural topics, to a new art history survey textbook, ***The History of Art: A Global View***, published in print and in electronic versions by Thames & Hudson and distributed by Norton.

Patricia Lee Daigle (Ph.D. 2015), Associate Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, curated ***Harmonia Rosales: Master Narrative***, on view at the MBMA from March 10 - June 25, 2023. This exhibition originated at UCSB’s Art, Design & Architecture Museum under the title ***Harmonia Rosales: Entwined***, curated by Professor Helen Morales (Classics) and Dr. **Sophia Quach McCabe** (Ph.D. 2019).

Samira Fathi (Ph.D. 2023) completed her dissertation, “Re-imagining the Royal City: Architectural Patronage and Urban Memory of Isfahan, 1694-1834,” in March, 2023. Since January, 2023, she has been teaching at the Department of Art, Art History and Design at Michigan State University.

Sarah Watson Parsons (Ph.D. 2000) Associate Professor, Art History, York University has been appointed executive editor of the journal *Photography and Culture*. She also published a book chapter “Planted there like human flags’: Photographs of Inuit Canadians and Cold War Anxiety, 1951 -1956,” in ***Cold War Camera*** (Duke University Press, 2022) and an article, “**Domesticating Jefferson Davis: Family Photography and Postwar Confederate Visual Culture**,” *American Art* 37:1 (Spring 2023), 82 – 105.

Shalini Kakar (Ph.D. 2010) published her monograph, ***Devotional Fanscapes: Bollywood Star Deities, Devotee-Fans, and Cultural Politics in India and Beyond*** with Rowman & Littlefield in 2023.

Sophia Quach McCabe (Ph.D. 2019) published in 2023 “Courtly Splendor and Confessionalization: Hans Rottenhammer and the Transcultural Style” in the edited volume ***Ekphrasis und Residenz – Höfische Kultur und das Medium des Reiseberichts im Zeitalter der Konfessionalisierung um 1600***, (eds. M. Wenzel, W. Augustyn, A. Tacke), and “Renaissance Techniques and Contemporary Experimentations,” in ***Harmonia Rosales: Master Narrative***, Memphis’ Brooks Museum of Art. She was invited to interview Harmonia Rosales at University of Chicago’s Black Baroque Project Visiting Artist Interviews event in 2023 and she gave a guest lecture on Rosales at Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN). As guest curator at AD&A Museum, Sophia organized ***Sandy Rodriguez—Unfolding Histories: 200 Years of Resistance*** and ***On Famous Women, 1400–1700***.

Staci Gem Scheiwiller (Ph.D. 2009) recently published an exhibition catalogue essay, “A Phantasmagoria of Owls: Shadows and Layers in HK Zamani’s Artwork,” in ***HK Zamani: Edifice/Oedipus*** (Turlock: California State University, Stanislaus, 2023), 4-5; and a book review “Archiving Donna Stein,” *Women: A Cultural Review* (2022): DOI: 10.1080/09574042.2022.2072624.

Veronica Roberts (M.A. 2005) has been named the ***John and Jill Freidenrich Director of the Cantor Arts Center***, Stanford University.

Yun-chen Lu (Ph.D. 2022) has been an assistant professor at the Department of History of Art and Architecture at DePaul University since July 2022. She has been awarded a **2023-25 DePaul Humanity Center Fellowship** and **2023 Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies Early Career Fellowship** in support of her book project “Paths to Artistic Eccentricity: Artists with Disabilities and Their Art in Eighteenth-Century Yangzhou.”

