

# NEWSLETTER

## 2022-23



DEPARTMENT OF **ART**  
**HISTORY**

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY



In 2022-23, the Department of Art History welcomed its first new graduate cohort in two years! It was a joy to get to know our five new students. With the pandemic slowly receding, we were also able to host in-person gatherings of faculty and graduate students for colloquia and social occasions. We also celebrated multiple faculty and staff accomplishments. Antawan Byrd (Weinberg Fellow, now College Fellow, and Assistant Professor from September 1, 2023) and Thadeus Dowad (College Fellow, now Assistant Professor) received their doctoral degrees respectively from Northwestern University and the University of California at Berkeley. And in April 2023, Mel Keiser was promoted to Business Administrator. Further, Assistant Professor Yuthika Sharma joined as a new faculty member. A search for an Assistant Professor of Modern Art/Architecture of the Global South successfully recruited Hollyamber Kennedy, who arrives in Fall 2023. Congratulations and welcome to all!



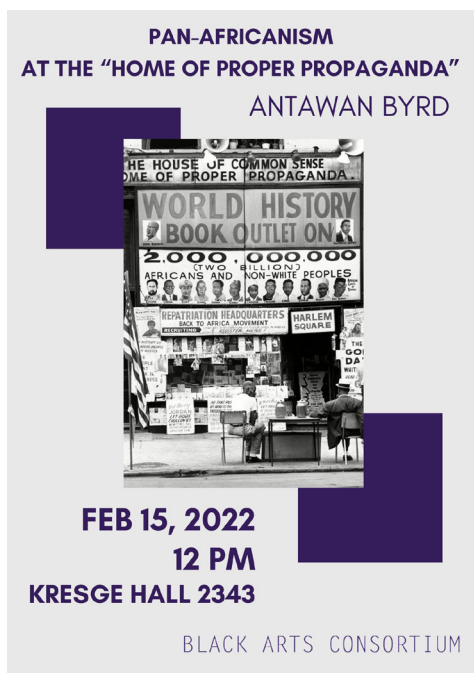
Otto Karl Werckmeister (left) at his investiture as Mary Jane Crowe Professor of Art, bestowed by Rudy Weingartner, Weinberg College Dean in 1984.

As this report was in preparation, we learned the sad news that Otto Karl Werckmeister, Mary Jane Crowe Professor Emeritus, had passed away in early June at the age of 89. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and the colleagues and students who knew him during his Northwestern career (1984-2001). We are preparing a formal announcement to circulate to the Department of Art History community and beyond.

On September 1, Christina Kiaer will assume the role of Department Chair, her second time in the role. I am deeply grateful to her for having served as Director of Graduate Studies during the current academic year, and for agreeing to serve as Chair from 2023 to 2025. On behalf of the department community, let me extend the warmest appreciation to all those who have supported the department's events and activities in a myriad of ways.

Ann C. Gunter  
Department Chair  
Bertha and Max Dressler  
Professor in the Humanities





Poster promoting Byrd's talk at Northwestern's Black Arts Consortium.

the Program in Critical Theory as well as at the MoMA, the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art, and the Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. A highlight of the year was his service as faculty advisor to the Northwestern Art Review, an incredibly dynamic student organization that promotes undergraduate study of art history at the university.

## ANTAWAN I. BYRD

Assistant Professor

In Spring 2023, Antawan I. Byrd had the pleasure of teaching two undergraduate courses: a first-year seminar on Black portraiture and an intermediate-level museum seminar focused on the art and culture of Pan-Africanism. The latter is the subject of an ambitious exhibition Byrd is co-curating at the Art Institute of Chicago (AIC) opening in December 2024. In November, Byrd carried out exhibition research on modern and contemporary art in Dar es Salaam, Kampala, Nairobi, and Zanzibar, and co-organized *PANAFRICA: IMAGE, SOUND, TEXT*, a symposium at KANAL—Centre Pompidou, Brussels.

Byrd won the 2022 Emily Hall Tremaine Exhibition Award, granted to early-to-mid career curators in support of bold and experimental group exhibitions. The award supports his exhibition on Pan-Africanism with a \$150,000 grant to the AIC for research and artist commissions. In 2022, Byrd also received a National Endowment for the Arts grant in support of the exhibition (Principal Investigator with Matthew Witkovsky). This year saw the publication of *The Art Institute of Chicago Field Guide to Photography and Media* (AIC/Yale University Press, 2023), which Byrd edited with Elizabeth Siegal. This first-of-its-kind volume includes essays by 75 contributors on the history and collection of photography at the museum.

In 2022, Byrd also published short essays on the work of Anawana Haloba, Marilyn Nance, and Demas Nwoko. In addition, he gave presentations and participated in panels at Northwestern's Block Museum of Art, the Black Arts Consortium, and



Caticha (right) and Dean Adrian W. B. Randolph at the Northwestern Art Review's annual Career Panel.

## ALICIA CATICHA

Assistant Professor

Alicia Caticha spent 2022-23 working on her book manuscript, "Sculpting Whiteness in Eighteenth-Century France: Sugar, Porcelain, Marble," and was fortunate to present select chapters at Harvard University, University of Illinois Chicago, Ohio State University, Reed College, Lewis & Clark College, the Alliance Française de Chicago, and the Newberry Library. Last fall, Caticha and Dowad hosted a two-day Myers Foundations Symposium titled "New Directions in Eighteenth-Century Art, Colonialism, and Empire." Beginning with a keynote lecture by Chicago's own Nina Dubin (University of Illinois Chicago), the symposium served to bring together emerging scholars of 18th-century art from across the United States and Canada to discuss the future of the field, to much success!

Caticha has also channeled her fascination with the British Royal Family into a new research project, tentatively titled "The Colonial Visualities of the Modern British Royal Family." She presented preliminary versions of this work to the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts and Howard University's collaborative internship program, and to the Hobart House Women's Residential College at Northwestern. In connection with this work, she hosted a conversation with the Northwestern College Feminists titled "Princess Diana, Fashion, and Feminism: a Conversation about a Controversial Icon."



Dowad “looking up” at James Thornhill’s ceiling painting at the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich, London.

## THADEUS DOWAD

Assistant Professor

Thadeus Dowad kicked off the 2022-23 academic year with the Myers Foundations Symposium “New Directions in Eighteenth-Century Art, Colonialism, and Empire,” co-organized with Caticha. The symposium brought together junior scholars from across North America to reflect on the fraught category of “the global” in the study of 18th-century art and architecture and devise new ways of thinking about this era of art history outside Eurocentric conventions. In February, Dowad was honored to introduce Ottomanist art historian Emine Fetvacı (Boston College) as the department’s Warnock Lecturer for Winter 2023. Fetvacı’s lecture was brimming with insights from her research on early modern Ottoman albums and packed the Block Museum of Art’s auditorium to the brim! In the spring, Dowad shared forthcoming work on the Ottoman-Greek painter Kostantin Kapıdağlı with Northwestern’s Middle East and North African Studies Program and participated in a symposium at the Newberry Library on 16th-century Ottoman Americana.

Dowad also piloted two new undergraduate lecture courses this year on topics of Ottoman and Qajar photography, and the other on art-making (and breaking) during the global revolutions of the 19th Century. The year came to an exciting conclusion with Weinberg College’s convocation ceremony, where he watched the department’s graduating seniors walk across the stage in the middle of a summer storm. Congratulations to the amazing (if soaked) class of 2023! As he hunkers down to a long summer of writing, Dowad is looking forward to the Fall when he’ll be working closely with the incoming Ph.D. students in the Graduate Proseminar.



Escobar with Victoria Sancho Lobis, Director of the Benton Museum of Art, at Pomona College in Claremont, California, where he delivered a lecture in November.

## JESÚS ESCOBAR

Professor

Jesús Escobar debuted a new course on Art and Architecture of Colonial Mexico in the Fall and followed up that undergraduate offering with a Spring seminar titled “Whose Renaissance?” Both courses aimed to reconsider art of the early modern period from across the globe, allowing students to take on creative writing assignments and think deeply about the historiography of art history. In Winter, Escobar co-taught the Chicago Objects Study Initiative (COSI) Objects and Materials Seminar and enjoyed getting to know first-year graduate students. Related to the course, he worked with colleagues at the Art Institute of Chicago and University of Chicago to begin planning for COSI’s future iteration. Escobar’s book, *Habsburg Madrid: Architecture and the Spanish Monarchy* (Penn State University Press, 2022) was awarded the 2023 Eleanor Tufts Book Award from the Society for Iberian Global Art. The award was announced at the College Arts Association Annual

Conference, where Escobar delivered a paper related to the project he will undertake next fall as a Fellow at the Clark Art Institute. In May, the eighth book in the *Buildings, Landscapes, and Societies* series that Escobar edits—a study of architecture in late-19th-century Istanbul—was published. This year, Escobar performed service for the National Committee for the History of Art, the Society of Architectural Historians, and I Tatti. A highlight of the year was working closely with undergraduates in his role as Director of Undergraduate Studies. Escobar is grateful to colleagues on the Committee on Undergraduate Affairs and to Elizabeth Upenieks for their terrific work seeing through a number of College-mandated and time-consuming curricular initiatives.



Feldman, Krista Thompson and Sarah Dwider at the March Meeting, Sharjah Biennial, United Arab Emirates.

## HANNAH FELDMAN

Associate Professor

Hannah Feldman enjoyed a busy year on campus and off, with research travel to Los Angeles, Madrid, Sharjah, Barcelona, Hamburg, Paris, London, and Beirut. In the Fall, she taught Modernism in the Time of Decolonization, with Rebecca Johnson (Department of English), which gave rise to a Myers Foundations Symposium in January, “Forms of Liberation.” She is growing ever more excited for *Huguette Caland: Shape and Form in Four Languages* (working title), an exhibition opening at the Museo Reina Sofía, Madrid, in fall of 2024, and working hard to that end.



Work for books about Algerian abstract painting in the 1960s and about Walid Raad advanced, as did a co-edited volume with Rachel Haidu (University of Rochester) about art writing, currently titled *Things we are not yet writing*. She was thrilled to see published the special issue of *Regards* about mysticism and faith in Southwest Asia, which she co-edited with Kirsten Scheid, and even happier to have been able to include writing by Ph.D. candidates Hamed Yousefi and Ruslana Lichtizer in the dossier. Articles appeared about temporality, love, and grammar in contemporary art; an interview with German filmmaker Hito Steyerl (in an exciting volume co-edited by Antawan Byrd!); and a text about photographer Ahlam Shibli will be published by *October* this summer. Feldman shared her research at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Core Program; Harvard University; University of Pennsylvania; L'École nationale supérieure de la photographie, Arles; Block Museum of Art; and at American University of Beirut. She is proud of her former mentees, Thomas Love (Ph.D. 2023) and Azadeh Safaieian (Comparative Literary Studies, Ph.D. 2023), both of whom defended brilliant dissertations and took positions at the University of Missouri and the University of Illinois at Chicago, respectively.



Gunter with James Lecture Workshop participants, May 2023.

## ANN C. GUNTER

Bertha and Max Dressler Professor in the Humanities

In Fall 2022, Ann Gunter taught *Exhibiting Antiquity: The Culture and Politics of Display*, for which students could once again study exhibitions first-hand in Chicago-area museums. She also advised two honors theses, for students in Classics and History. Greta Lunder, who majored in Classics and Anthropology, has been accepted to a graduate program in Aegean archaeology at the University of Oxford and plans to subsequently pursue a Ph.D. Gunter also reviewed book manuscripts for university presses and continued serving on the editorial board of the Harrassowitz Verlag series *Classica et Orientalia* and the advisory board of the international Melammu Project, which investigates the continuity and diffusion of ancient Near Eastern culture throughout antiquity. She invited and hosted as this year's James Lecturer in Assyrian Civilization and Culture, Dr. Yağmur Heffron, an archaeologist and ancient historian at University College London, followed by a one-day workshop on Middle Bronze Age Anatolian history and archaeology attended by colleagues from the University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, Edinburgh University, the Freie Universität Berlin, and Ankara's Bilkent University. In addition, Gunter continued serving as Chair of Art History, welcoming Yuthika Sharma as Assistant Professor in Fall 2022 and Assistant Professor Hollyamber Kennedy beginning Fall 2023.



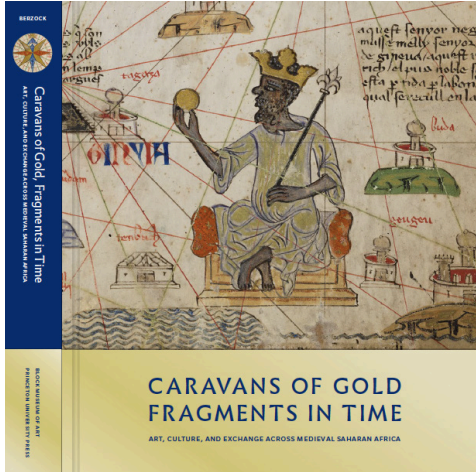
Kiaer in conversation with artist Theaster Gates, Metrograph Theater, New York.

## CHRISTINA KIAER

Arthur Andersen Teaching and Research Professor

In the Fall, Christina Kiaer took up the position of Director of Graduate Studies and taught a graduate seminar, *Socialist Axes of Exchange*, drawn from her new research project. It examined transnational socialist art from the Comintern in the 1930s to decolonization movements in the 1960s. "Socialist Axes" will also be the topic of a departmental Myers Foundations Symposium in Fall 2024, which she is co-organizing with Ph.D. candidate Sasha Artamonova. She organized a panel at the annual Slavic Studies convention on the related topic of "Socialist Realisms in the World (of Russian Imperialism)," examining the impact of Russia's war on Ukraine on the study of international socialist art, with the participation of Adri Kácsor (Ph.D. 2023). She also addressed the war in her presentation "The Collective Body Dismembered" at the Myers Foundations Symposium "Never Not in Crisis: Forms of Calamity in Catastrophic Times," organized by Jake Leveton (Ph.D. 2021) and Ph.D. candidate Tamar Kharatishvili.

Kiaer contributed to the exhibition *Theaster Gates: Young Lords and their Traces* at the New Museum, New York, and presented on the topic of Blackness in Soviet visual culture and film at the event "In Conversation: Theaster Gates & Christina Kiaer." This year she also presented talks from her project, "Aesthetics of Anti-Racism: Black Americans in Soviet Visual Culture" at Cornell, Stanford, and e-flux. In the department, she chaired the Global Modern search committee that hired architectural historian Hollyamber Kennedy and she will step into the position of Department Chair on September 1.



Normore's exhibition catalog *Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time*.

## CHRISTINA NORMORE Associate Professor

Christina Normore spent the 2022-23 on leave as a Mellon New Directions Fellow. This fellowship is intended to help faculty retrain in fields outside their previous areas of specialization in order to facilitate interdisciplinary research. Inspired by her involvement in the Block Museum of Art show *Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time*, Normore's fellowship has been focused on developing skills to better integrate West and East African materials into discussions of the global Middle Ages. Because of the importance of archaeology in understanding this period in African history, she spent the school year at Rice University working with their exceptional group of Africanist archaeologists—Susan McIntosh, Jeff Fleisher, and Mary Prendergast. She spent the Summers of 2022 and 2023 learning Arabic to better understand the scant written record and will continue this language training in the coming year.

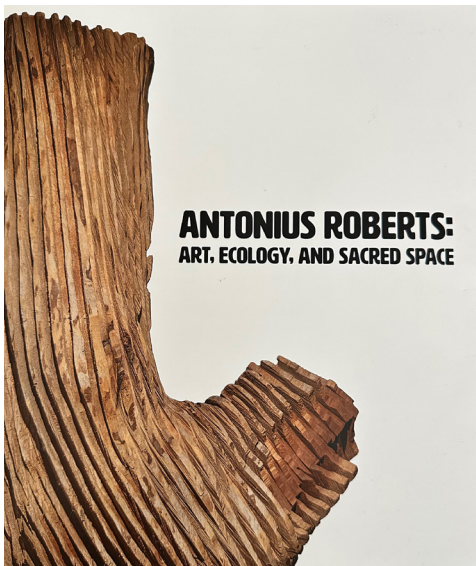


Empire Redux visit to the Art Institute of Chicago  
Left to Right: Alex Baines, Uche Opka-Iroha, Madhu Ghose, Yuthika Sharma, Laiba Naz Paracha, Udita Das, Mohit Manohar. (Image: Salimeh Hosseini)

## YUTHIKA SHARMA Assistant Professor

In her first year as a new faculty member, Yuthika Sharma has been settling in and making good use of the coffee maker. In the Fall, a *Festschrift* gathering for her Ph.D. advisor Professor Emerita Vidya Dehejia at Columbia University was a wonderful occasion to reconnect with colleagues. Sharma presented an online workshop at the Yale Center for British Art, and a paper on 18th-century cartography and manuscript painting in a hybrid workshop at Vanderbilt University. Over the course of the year, Sharma enjoyed co-supervising Grace Wu's senior honors thesis with Peter Carroll (History). It was truly a delight that the thesis won the department's highest honor, the J. Carson Webster Prize for Distinguished Honors Thesis, and the top thesis honor in Asian Languages and Cultures, the Francis L. K.

Hsu-John Henry Wigmore Senior Honors Thesis Award. Sharma had the most fun in her Spring graduate seminar, *Empire Redux*, working with an amazing cohort of graduate students on interdisciplinary methodologies and perspectives on materiality and space. The seminar's last meeting was an unforgettable experience at the Art Institute of Chicago looking at early modern Mughal manuscript folios.



Thompson's exhibition catalog, *Antonius Roberts: Art, Ecology, and Sacred Space*.

## KRISTA THOMPSON Mary Jane Crowe Professor in Art History

In 2023, Krista Thompson was elected to the American Society of Arts and Sciences, which "honors excellence and convenes leaders from every field of human endeavor to examine new ideas, address issues of importance to the nation and the world." She curated an exhibition, *Antonius Roberts: Art, Ecology, and Sacred Space*, which opened at the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas in February 2023. The show is part of the 50th anniversary of Independence commemorations in The Bahamas. Thompson edited a publication to accompany the exhibition, which includes contributions by artist Theaster Gates, Professor Giulia Smith (Ruskin School of Art), artist Marielle Barrow, and archaeologist Grace Turner. She enjoyed teaching the Summer Seminar Abroad in Nassau this June. Thompson delivered numerous lectures, including the annual Hilla Rebay lecture at the Guggenheim Museum, and presented at the Sharjah Art Foundation's yearly March Meeting in the United Arab Emirates. She signed a contract with University of Chicago Press for her book on the artist Tom Lloyd and looks forward to completing the manuscript this summer.





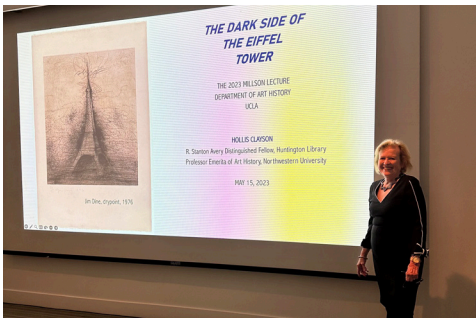
Students in Art, Ecology, and Politics attending a field trip at the home of Patric McCoy, a photographer and collector in Kenwood. McCoy with art history major Myckynzie Schroeder and undergraduates Meher Yeda, Rivers Leche, and Sadie Bernstein.

## REBECCA ZORACH

Mary Jane Crowe Professor of Art and Art History

Rebecca Zorach enjoyed being back in the classroom this year after the previous year's research leave, which was preceded by a year of remote teaching. High points included her Spring undergraduate seminar on Art, Ecology, and Politics, and her graduate seminar on Theories of Intention, both of which attracted students from a wide variety of fields. Various health and family challenges made it a rather overwhelming year, but she managed to submit a book manuscript that has made it to the production stage and should be out in 2024: *Temporary Monuments: Art, Land, and America's Racial Enterprise* (University of Chicago). She spent most of Spring 2023 as Visiting Professor at Villa I Tatti in Florence, Italy, taking up the remainder of an appointment she began in early 2019. There, she worked on a book manuscript tentatively titled "Unintended Images: A Natural History of the Era of Art." She also published several essays in exhibition catalogues and collected volumes, including "Abolition Art: Contemporary Imaginings Against the Carceral State" in *The Routledge Companion to Art and Activism in the Twenty-First Century* (Routledge, 2022).

# EMERITUS FACULTY



Clayson about to deliver the annual Gretchen Taylor Millson Lecture, Department of Art History, UCLA.

## HOLLIS S. CLAYSON

Professor Emerita

Holly Clayson spent the 2022-23 academic year in Southern California as the R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow at the Huntington Library. She worked on her new book under contract titled "The Dark Side of the Eiffel Tower." Having earned her Ph.D. at UCLA, it was a homecoming in many ways, not least of which was the return to the geography of her master's thesis, a study of the Pasadena Rose Parade.



Paris, Gare du Nord, J.-I. Hittorff, 1860-1864.

## DAVID VAN ZANTEN

Mary Jane Crowe Professor Emeritus

After a few years as Professor Emeritus, David Van Zanten is finally getting used to being retired as COVID-19 starts to fade away. In 2022-23, Van Zanten gave a remote talk in Limoges, France; published an article in *Livraisons de l'histoire de l'architecture*; and prepared an essay for a book about the Gare du Nord in Paris. This essay is particularly delightful for him as he loves the puzzling, nonsensical design of the building. He rounded out his year by starting to think about a future essay regarding the "radical" Chicago architects Louis Sullivan, Claude Fayette Bradgon, and Frank Lloyd Wright.



## WELCOME TO HOLLYAMBER KENNEDY

The department welcomes Hollyamber Kennedy as our newest faculty member, starting in Fall 2023. Kennedy's most recent position was at the Institute of the History and Theory of Architecture at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich, Switzerland, as a Postdoctoral Fellow and Guest Lecturer. She holds a Ph.D. in Architectural History and Theory from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University. Her current book project, "Unsettling Territory," recovers an architectural history of late-19th-century rural modernization in Germany that linked countryside to colony. It gathers an archive of stories about territory, "reclaimed" and "cleansed" landscapes, and shared "frontiers" of agrarian development, while closely exploring the mechanisms—legal, conceptual, environmental—that allowed for one architectural space to be grafted over others in distinct and disparate locations that were subject to different but communicating ministerial bureaucracies. She previously held a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Mahindra Humanities Center at Harvard University, where she began work on her second book project, "Wastelands of Empire," which again takes up the analytic of land reclamation.

## STAFF



Death Studies talkback on the Basquiat-inspired set of *Everybody*, with Ph.D. candidate dramaturg Phoenix Gonzalez, and director Katie Lupica, Dr. Craig Klugman (DePaul University), and Mel Keiser.

### MEL KEISER

#### Business Administrator

This year, the International Museum of Surgical Science in Chicago exhibited Keiser's work, *The Life and Deaths of The Mels*, from May 19–July 9. During the exhibition, Keiser offered two performances, "Hear, Here: Where Real and Fictional Death Meet" and "Melga Blank presents 'Who is The Mels? An Introduction to Self-evolution.'" Keiser continued her role as co-convenor of Kaplan Humanities Institute Death Studies Research Group. In this capacity, Keiser served as a consultant to the School of Communication's performance of *Everybody*, a contemporary re-telling of a medieval morality play about death, directed by Ph. D. candidate Kate Lupica and dramaturg Phoenix Gonzalez. In addition to participating in a talk-back about the performance with Dr. Craig Klugman (DePaul University), and assisting with a Death Over Dinner event, Keiser led a workshop for the cast and crew interpreting the allegory of the play into the medical stages of active dying. Additionally, Keiser delivered a performance lecture at the University of Bath's Centre for Death and Society Annual Conference, and the department's Myers Foundations Symposium "Never Not in Crises" co-organized by Jake Leveton (Ph.D. 2021) and Tamar Kharatishvili (Ph.D. candidate), where she also led a workshop on "distant writing."



Detail shot of Frank Lloyd Wright's *Taliesin West*. Image by Elizabeth Upenieks.

### ELIZABETH UPENIEKS

#### Program Assistant

This year was Upenieks' first full year as part of the Art History department. With a full return to campus, it was a busy year full of events and assisting with undergraduate initiatives. One highlight of 2022-23 was a trip to Arizona in support of the Myers Foundations Symposium "Never Not in Crisis" co-organized by Jacob Leveton and Tamar Kharatishvili. While she spent most of her time running between events and performances, she did sneak away to take a solo tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's *Taliesin West* and explore the other architectural oddities on the Arizona State University Campus. Between work and exploring estate sales in the Chicago area, Upenieks also spent time writing for Chicago art publication *Sixty Inches From Center*. Some highlights include interviewing Dino Robinson, founder of Shorefront Legacy Center, and reviewing the University of Chicago's Smart Museum exhibition *not all realisms: Photography, Africa, and the Long 1960s*.





10.14.2022

### Exhibiting Classical Antiquity During the Nazi Era

Irene Romano  
University of Arizona



10.19.2022

### Fall 2022 Warnock Lecture Coloring Black Surveillance

Drew Thompson  
Bard Graduate Center



10.26-29.2022

### Myers Foundations Symposium Never Not in Crisis: Forms of Calamity in Catastrophic Times

Organized by Ph.D. Candidate Tamar Kharatishvili and alumnus Jacob Leveton (Ph.D. 2021)



11.3.2022

### Myers Foundations Symposium Keynote Eros, Inc.: Cupid, Capital, and the Crash of 1720

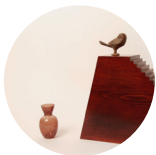
Nina Dubin  
University of Illinois Chicago  
Organized by Alicia Caticha and Thadeus Dowad



1.5.2023

### Winter 2023 Graduate Social A Nimble Arc: James Van Der Zee and Photography

Emilie Boone (Ph.D. 2016)  
New York University



1.13.2023

### Myers Foundations Symposium Forms of Liberation

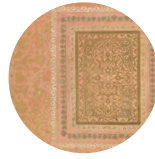
Organized by Hannah Feldman, Rebecca Johnson (Department of English), and Ph.D. candidate Sarah Dwider



2.7.2023

### My Electric Genealogy, a Performance

Sarah Kanouse  
Winter 2023 Kaplan Artist in Residence



2.8.2023

### Winter 2023 Warnock Lecture The Wonder of Paper Joinery at the Ottoman Court

Emine Fetvacı  
Boston College



4.6.2023

### Winter 2023 Department Colloquium Between Muse and Patron: Nancy Cunard in Parallax

Thomas Love (Ph.D. 2023)  
**Animating Fabrics: Sonia Delaunay-Terk's Paracinematic Experiments**  
Tamar Kharatishvili (Ph.D. candidate)



4.27.2023

### Spring 2023 Department Colloquium Architecture and Experience in the Late Seventeenth-Century Spanish World

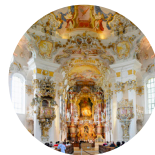
Jesús Escobar  
**Hope and Dread in the Production of Memorial Space in Socialist Yugoslavia**  
Jessy Bell (Ph.D. Candidate)



5.15.2023

### Senior Honors Thesis Colloquium Objects or People? Understanding Race in the Collection of Isabella d'Este

Vitoria Faria (B.A. 2023)  
**Speaking in Flowers: Floriography and Femininity in Kate Greenaway's Language of Flowers (1884)**  
Sloane Warner (B.A. 2023)  
**Illustrating Indigeneity: Xie Sui's Huang Qing zhigong tu and the critical reevaluation of its depictions of aboriginal Taiwanese peoples, 1751-1775 and 2006-2022**  
Grace Wu (B.A. 2023)



5.17.2023

### Spring 2023 Warnock Lecture The Bavarian Rococo, the Outlier of Eighteenth-Century Art

Michael Yonan  
University of California, Davis



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## PLACE AND SPACE: MADRID AND SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

After a two-year hiatus owing to you-know-what, the 2022 Summer Seminar Abroad was held from August 28 to September 9 in Spain. Eight students joined Jesús Escobar for a course that was dedicated to thinking about architecture and cities as sites of art historical research. Madrid served as the seminar's principal case study, allowing the group to consider urban space from two vantages: the early modern, in which the city underwent rapid change after its selection as a political—and imperial—capital in 1561, and the contemporary, in which Madrid is being reshaped following a tumultuous 20th-century dictatorship and the forces of globalization. Located in the northwestern region of Galicia, Santiago de Compostela stood at the periphery of Spain's early modern empire, yet the question of empire is one the seminar explored there while also considering the city's more famous medieval history as a place of pilgrimage. In Santiago, Escobar drew attention to 17th- and 18th-century monuments that tie the place to Madrid as well as to Rome and Mexico City.

The group experienced behind-the-scenes visits with curators and conservators at several institutions, including the Biblioteca Nacional de España, the Museo Nacional del Prado, the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, and the Palacio Real de Madrid. A daytrip to the monastery-palace of San Lorenzo el Real de El Escorial included a wine-filled lunch of roasted meats, Castilian cheeses, and piles of vegetables. Food was central to the seminar, which included at least eight group meals that turned dining tables into impromptu settings for intellectual and communal exchange about places and spaces experienced day-to-day. Upon returning to campus, students wrote reflective papers taking on the vantage of 17th-century ambassadors and time-travelers, offering comments on interpersonal experiences, encounters with monumental architecture, and direct engagements with works of art including paintings, prints, and drawings. Escobar couldn't be more pleased that students came away with as much enthusiasm for Spain's cuisine and wine as for its art and architecture.

1. Summer seminar group at the monastery-palace of San Lorenzo el Real de El Escorial.

2. Professor Escobar with Kat Caribeaux, Arianna Ray, Sasha Artamonova (front row), Anna Cohen, Ben Weil, Melina Gooray, Ruslana Richtzier, and Ashleigh Deosaran (back row) on the Grand Staircase of the Palacio Real de Madrid.

3. Summer seminar class at Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía with Dr. Carmen Gaitán Salinas of the Spanish National Research Council.

4. Melina Gooray, Ashleigh Deosaran, Kat Caribeaux, Ruslana Lichtzier and Professor Escobar on the roof of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.



# 11

# GRADUATE STUDENTS

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## SASHA ARTAMONOVA

Sasha Artamonova spent this academic year in Paris as a Fellow of the Paris Program in Critical Theory. In the Winter, she traveled to Germany, the Czech Republic, and Poland as part of her 2022-23 Ailsa Mellon Bruce Predoctoral Fellowship. Now she is enrolling for *cotutelle* of her thesis at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences in Paris and preparing to relocate to Berlin where she will spend a year as a Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Fellow.

Artamonova with her comrades C.C. McKee (Ph.D. 2019) and Stephanie Lee (Ph.D. candidate) at the exhibition *Manet / Degas* in the Musée d'Orsay in Paris.



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## JESSY BELL

Jessy Bell returned from research abroad in Serbia, Croatia, and Slovenia, continued work on her dissertation, gave papers at both College Art Association and Society of Architectural Historians conferences, and taught the Chicago Objects Study Initiative undergraduate seminar on contesting space.

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## GABRIELLE CHRISTIANSEN

This year, Gabrielle Christiansen received funding from the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities to continue her work in supporting the Prison+Neighborhood Arts/Education Project. This Summer, she looks forward to a funded research fellowship at SPACES Archives in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, as well as a residency in Whitesburg, Kentucky, with the media institute Appalshop, where she will provide archival assistance.

Christiansen (bottom right) pictured with Prison+Neighborhood Arts/Education Project colleagues and students at Stateville Correctional Center for the Fall 2022 graduation of University Without Walls' second cohort.



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## ANNA COHEN

Supported by a Shanley Travel Fellowship and a Liz Warnock Graduate Research Grant, this Summer Anna Cohen visited archives in the U.K. and Belgium to begin research for her dissertation on the decoration of Flemish music manuscripts and learned Dutch through an immersive program. On campus, she spent the year preparing for her exams and teaching. Cohen will miss interacting with the undergraduate students as she returns to Belgium in the Fall as a Fulbright Research Fellow.

Cohen enjoying an evening along the Amsterdam canals, a favorite pastime from her month-long language course in the Netherlands.



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## OLIVIA DILL

This year, as a 24-month Diamonstein-Spielvogel Fellow at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Olivia Dill continued her technical art historical research into the materials of early modern watercolors depicting iridescent insects. She looks forward to another year in New York as she enters the second year of her fellowship.

Dill at The Metropolitan Museum of Art with some of the works she curated as part of an installation of selections from Drawings and Prints Department.



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## SARAH DWIDER

Sarah Dwider began her year opening *Taking Shape* at the Block Museum of Art. She co-curated the Block's iteration of the traveling exhibition and organized programming around the show. Since January, she has been based in Cairo for dissertation research. Dwider looks forward to continuing her work in Cairo next year with the support of the American Research Center in Egypt.

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## DAVID JONES

This year David Jones visited MoMA's Drawings and Prints Study Center to examine Sudanese multidisciplinary artist Ibrahim El-Salahi's *Prison Notebook* (1976). Following this trip, Jones presented his research on El-Salahi at the Myers Foundations Symposium "Forms of Liberation," co-organized by Hannah Feldman and Rebecca Johnson (Department of English). In the coming months, and with the help of a Shanley Travel Fellowship, Jones looks forward to archival visits in Paris and London.

Detail from Ibrahim El-Salahi's *Prison Notebook* (1976) at MoMA's Drawings and Prints Study Center.



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## ADRI KÁCSOR

Adri Kácsor enjoyed a second year of research and writing as a Leonard A. Lauder Fellow at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Besides working on her dissertation, Kácsor published her research on transnational communism in *Art History* (co-authored with alumnus Douglas Gabriel (Ph.D. 2019)) and in the *Getty Research Journal* (forthcoming in August 2023). Kácsor successfully defended her dissertation "Migrant Aesthetics: Hungarian Artists in the Service of Soviet Internationalism, 1919-1945."

Kácsor in the archives in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.



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## ÖZGE KARAGÖZ

Özge Karagöz spent the year as a Leonard A. Lauder Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She presented parts of her dissertation at their annual Fellows Colloquia and at a graduate workshop organized by the Association for Modern and Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran, and Turkey.

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## EMMA KENNEDY

This year, Emma Kennedy spent her year in residence in Chicago working on a dissertation chapter. In the Fall, she served as a Graduate Student Instructor for Escobar's upper-level course Art and Architecture of Colonial Mexico, which was an incredible group of undergraduate scholars. Next year, Kennedy will be a Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellow in American Art.

Kennedy visiting the Phillips Collection in Washington D.C. over Thanksgiving break.



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## TAMAR KHARATISHVILI

This year, Tamar Kharatishvili enjoyed making progress on her dissertation, "Technology as Refuge: Sonia Delaunay-Terk's Multi-Media Production, 1913-1937." In the Fall, she convened the Myers Foundations Symposium, "Never Not in Crisis: Forms of Calamity in Catastrophic Times." Her first peer-reviewed publication is forthcoming in *Sonia Delaunay: Designing a Life* (Yale University Press, 2024).



**EKATERINA KULINICHEVA**

Ekaterina Kulinicheva presented research at two international conferences. In the Fall, she remotely delivered a paper on the history of the Olympic parade uniforms and their artistic programs at the conference, “Fashioning the Body for Sport and Leisure: A History of Dress and Textiles” organized by The Association of Dress Historians in London. Then, in the Winter, she presented remotely on mediating age and aging in the late Soviet fashion media at the conference, “The Social and Cultural History of Ageing, 1945-1991” at the University of Basel. In February 2023, her peer-reviewed article, “The Semiotic Heritage of Grunge and the Distressed Sneakers Trend,” was published in the *European Journal of Cultural Studies*. While relocating to the United States proved challenging, she is grateful for the study and research opportunities at Northwestern. She also tried her best to help refugees from the Russia-Ukraine war remotely.



Kulinicheva in Chicago during one of her weekend trips to explore local architectural treasures.

**BRIAN LEAHY**

Brian Leahy spent the year as the Morgan-Menil Dissertation Fellow, splitting time between New York and Houston. He presented dissertation chapter work at multiple conferences, including at the College Art Association Annual Conference, and gave public lectures at the Menil Drawing Institute.

Image: Sarah Hobson.

**STEPHANIE LEE**

Stephanie Lee co-organized a panel at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference and presented her paper, “Postcards, Laundry, and the Intimacy of Scale from the Government General of Chosŏn.” As a Paris Program in Critical Theory Fellow, she spent this academic year between Paris and Gréz-sur-Loing, like the Franco-Japanese artists in her dissertation.

**THOMAS LOVE**

Thomas Love defended his dissertation, “Queer Exoticism: Strategies of Self-Othering in West Germany, 1969–1994,” and received his Ph.D. in March. He will be joining the School of Visual Studies at the University of Missouri as a Preparing Future Faculty – Faculty Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in Fall 2023.

**UCHE OKPA-IROHA**

This year, Uche Okpa-Iroha, in collaboration with MoMA New York and the Nlele Institute Lagos, organized the Lagos Portfolio Review and Workshop in Lagos, Nigeria. The objective of the initiative is to identify and mentor new Nigerian talents in photography. In May 2023, he visited the related exhibition *New Photography 2023* at MoMA.

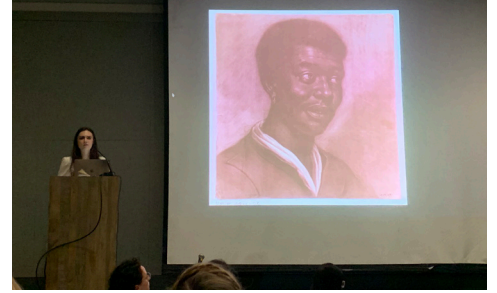
Okpa-Iroha standing beside the exhibitors list at MoMA *New Photography 2023*.



## ARIANNA RAY

This year, Arianna Ray advanced to candidacy and conducted research for her dissertation in the Netherlands supported by a Shanley Travel Fellowship. She also presented a portion of her research at the Renaissance Society of America conference in San Juan. The print rotation she curated for the Art Institute of Chicago's Allerton galleries as the department's 2022 Chicago Objects Study Initiative Mellon Curatorial Intern was on view through November.

Ray presenting her research at the Renaissance Society of America conference in March 2023.



## ALISSA SCHAPIRO

Alissa Schapiro's co-curated exhibition, *Life Magazine and the Power of Photography*, opened at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in October 2022. In addition to giving several talks accompanying the exhibition, Schapiro guest lectured at Princeton University and Williams College, and spoke at Yale University. In February 2023, Schapiro became Associate Curator and Collections Specialist at the Skirball Cultural Center, Los Angeles's Jewish museum.

## McKENZIE STUPICA

As a 2022-23 Chicago Objects Study Initiative Curatorial Fellow in the Architecture and Design Department at the Art Institute of Chicago, McKenzie Stupica has spent the last year working alongside curator Alison Fisher (Ph.D. 2014) on the upcoming museum exhibition highlighting works by American graphic designer Dan Friedman, set to open in early September 2023. She is also continuing to progress on her dissertation project titled, "Making Ulm Work: Latin America's Experiments in Design Pedagogy, 1958-1973."

## JAKE WAITS

Jake Waits completed his first year of coursework at Northwestern in 2022-23. In Summer 2023, he is participating in the Summer Seminar Abroad in The Bahamas and looking forward to research travel across East-Central Europe.

(From left) Uche Okpa-Iroha, Waits, and David Jones at the Art Institute of Chicago.



## BENJAMIN WEIL

Benjamin Weil attended an Italian Paleography Institute at the Newberry Library and presented his research on images of San Gimignano at the Vagantes Conference on Medieval Studies. Next year he will travel to Padua with a Gladys Kriebel Delmas Venetian Research Grant to conduct research for his dissertation, "Constructing Identity: City Representation and the Formation of Community in Fourteenth-Century Italy."

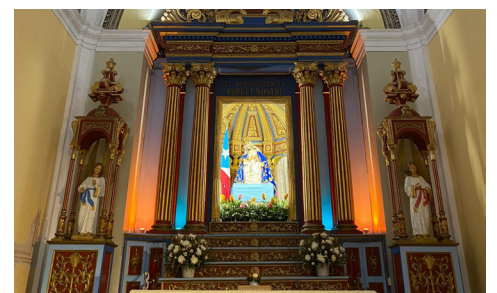
Weil in Bologna, with the Basilica of San Petronio in the background.



## EMILY WOOD

This past Spring, Emily Wood organized two panels on visualizing comparative antiquities at the Renaissance Society of America conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In the Fall, she will begin work as Assistant Curator at the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum.

Side chapel in the Catedral de San Juan Bautista, San Juan, Puerto Rico.







NAR members at EXPO Chicago 2023.



Panelists at NAR's 2023 career panel.

The Northwestern Art Review (NAR) is proud to have accomplished another outstanding year. Following a successful recruitment cycle, the club welcomed additional members who have not only worked hard to execute events and projects but brought enthusiasm to establish a profound sense of community.

The beginning of the year marked a period of laying the groundwork and processes coupled with new, creative directions. With half of the executive board abroad, it was impressive to see the communication and efforts that both remote and on-site members exhibited. The thoroughly fleshed-out outreach process for the journal—thanks to co-editor-in-chiefs Grace Wu (B.A. 2023) and Reyna Patel—began in the Fall, which was pivotal to the success of the journal. Fall also marked a plethora of bonding activities, including trips to the Art Institute of Chicago. Additionally, NAR had the privilege of launching a weekly artist column thanks to Aimee Resnick. The online editors, Madie Giaconia and Catarina Peixoto, did an excellent job in sourcing a diverse range of articles, from the architectural analysis of the Ottoman Renaissance to the analysis of Taylor Swift's "Look What You Made Me Do" music video.

Winter at NAR was marked by a few pivotal events thanks to the event-planning team's ability to push boundaries. A long-time goal of NAR was to give back to the community. In March, the Abandoned Art Auction raised more than \$2,400 in conjunction with Evanston Township High School Interact Club, Northwestern Rotaract Club, and the Haile-Manas Academy Interact Club to buy school supplies for elementary students in Ethiopia. Additionally, NAR was able to host a journal theme selection party, an event that had not occurred since prior to COVID-19. NAR members enjoyed a night of food and joyful laughter as we voted on our theme "Fine, Art."

Spring at NAR was a culmination of a year of hard work on significant projects coming to fruition. The career panel this year featured Adrian W.B. Randolph (Weinberg College of the Arts and Sciences, Dean), Gary Metzner (Sotheby's, Senior Vice President), Donna Ryu (Future Firm, Architect; Assistant Professor, University of Michigan), Caroline Kent (Artist; Assistant Professor, Art Theory & Practice), and Alicia Caticha. Additionally, we were fortunate enough to attend EXPO Chicago as a group and see behind the scenes of the art fair as well as interact with galleries. While there were many bonding events in between, NAR's last formal event was the Student Art Show, curated with the same theme as the journal which was simultaneously released. Special thanks to the design team led by Kelsey Carroll on the layout of the journal. Overall, the show welcomed over a hundred students, who mingled with the artists and each other over a lively DJ set in the background.

Looking back upon my time at Northwestern, it has been a privilege to serve as the co-president of NAR alongside Ellie Lyons in my final year. I cannot begin to express my thanks to all the support the club has received from the Department. Additionally, I would like to thank our faculty advisor, Professor Byrd, for his relentless support, as well as Professor Escobar for his guidance. Lastly, I would like to thank staff members Steven Adams and Elizabeth Upenieks for their kindness and generosity helping NAR achieve our goals this year. I am thrilled to see what NAR will accomplish next under the guidance of Aimee Resnick and Theo Faugeres.

Grace Shi (B.A. 2023)  
Co-president, NAR



# FUTURE EVENTS

**OCT 18  
2023**

**Fall 2023 Warnock Lecture**

Mapping the Ephemeral: Decolonizing Durational Imagination  
Swati Chattopadhyay  
University of California, Santa Barbara

**FEB  
2024**

**College Arts Association Annual Conference**

Alumni Reception

**FEB 13  
2024**

**Winter 2024 Warnock Lecture**

Christiane Gruber  
University of Michigan

**APR 8-9  
2024**

**Myers Foundations Workshop**

Mughal Art and Space in the British Empire  
Organized by Yuthika Sharma

**APR 25-26  
2024**

**Myers Foundations Workshop**

Text and Artifact: Approaches to Cultural Interaction in the  
Eastern Mediterranean in the Early First Millennium BCE  
Organized by Ann Gunter

**MAY 22  
2024**

**Spring 2024 Warnock Lecture**

Rita Lucarelli  
University of California, Berkeley

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## Warnock Publication Grant



Ph.D. Alumni who have graduated in the past 15 years are eligible to apply for a Warnock Publication Fund. This fund is intended to support the scholarly work and professional development of recent graduates by providing subventions for book publication. Alumni are welcome to request up to \$8,000. The deadlines for 2023-24 are Friday, November 10, 2023 and Friday, May 5, 2024. Please visit the following link to submit your application and view more details <https://bit.ly/WarnockPubFund>.

## Giving to Northwestern



As a Department, we accomplish a great deal in partnership with campus friends. Additionally, we are grateful to alumni and other friends who make individual contributions to support our programming, from lectures and symposia to undergraduate and graduate research travel. If you would like to make a gift to the Department, the easiest way to do so is to give online at <https://arthistory.northwestern.edu/about/donate.html>. You may designate the Department of Art History as the direct recipient of your gift. Thank you for your continued support of the Department of Art History.

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