

THE DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: REBECCA FENTON

Building on previous experience in Mali, I am conducting field research in Senegal and France in 2016-2017 for my dissertation on the significance of dress in Mande diasporas. Across West Africa, dress is both an important art form and a major economic force. Highly esteemed artisanal cloth and custom outfits from Mali and Senegal drive a network of commerce, travel, and skill within those countries and in their diasporas. I examine dress from the perspectives of artisans, traders, and fashionable people.

Mande ethnic groups have deep histories of long-distance trade as well as renowned cloth production;

one of my goals is to contextualize 'globalized' contemporary dress within traditions of enduring aesthetics that are nevertheless technologically open and dynamic. Today, local reputations and histories of cloth remain vital parts of the web of meanings of self-presentation. For West Africans abroad, cosmopolitan cloth sustains material and intangible connections among communities and offers individuals a means to negotiate new identities.

This dissertation research is supported by a College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Year Research Fellowship and a Theodore R. Bowie Fellowship from the Department of Art History.



NEW FACULTY RESEARCH: JULIE VAN VOORHIS ON THE BUSTS OF LUCIUS SEPTIMUS AND JULIA DOMNA



The pair of marble portrait busts in the collection of the Eskenazi Museum of Art is among the finest works of Roman imperial portrait sculpture in the United States, yet they have received little scholarly attention since their acquisition in 1975. Julie Van Voorhis, Associate Professor of Art History, and her colleague Mark Abbe, Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of Georgia, have undertaken an ambitious research program on the busts that includes technological, art historical and provenance studies and will result in a

book and an exhibition at IU's Eskenazi Museum of Art.

UV and X-ray fluorescence has revealed traces of ancient paint on both portraits, and marble samples taken from busts are currently undergoing testing to determine the quarry from which the stone originated. More traditional research focuses on the portraits within the context of the time period's marble sculpture production and workshops, imperial ideology, and the display and public reception of busts like these in antiquity.

FACULTY NEWS: FAYE GLEISSER & CORDULA GREWE



Our newest faculty member, Assistant Professor Faye Gleisser, joined us this Fall as our contemporary art specialist after finishing her Ph.D. at Northwestern University. She will also serve as an affiliated professor in IU's Cultural Studies graduate program. She is an authority on the intersection of performance art, biopolitics, and technologies of surveillance in the 1960s and 70s. This fall she taught a graduate seminar titled "Radical Resourcefulness: Artists and the City" and is currently teaching undergraduate courses on contemporary art and the history of depictions of race in photography. She has been a curatorial fellow at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and is the 2017 Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Post-doctoral Research Fellow.



The Department of Art History welcomes Cordula Grewe, who will join us in Fall 2017 as an associate professor. Formerly a faculty member at Columbia University, Professor Grewe is a specialist in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century art and aesthetics, and German art from 1750 to 1920. Among her many publications are *Painting the Sacred in the Age of Romanticism* (Ashgate, 2009) and *The Nazarenes: Romantic Avant-garde and the Art of the Concept* (Penn State University Press, 2015), which was "Highly Recommended" by *Choice*. She will be teaching a variety of classes including a graduate seminar, "Religion, Art and Conflict Between the French Revolution and World War I," and an upper level undergraduate course entitled "The Arabesque from Kant to Comic Strip."

UNDERGRAD STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ADAM PEASE



Adam Pease is a joint major in Art History, Spanish, and History. Following a very successful junior year of overseas study in Madrid last year, Adam is currently working with Professor Gleisser on his senior Honors project, a study of the disconcerting photographic series *Real Dolls* by Martín Gutierrez and the social issues of gender, sexuality and race surrounding these images. Adam is also a teaching assistant in the Hutton Honors College for a course on empathy, an editorial assistant for the *Indiana Magazine of History*, and serves as the only undergraduate board member for the Patten Lecture Series Foundation nominating committee. His commitment to the wider community has led him to serve on the boards of the Gay Straight Alliance and the Collins Living-Learning Center, and during his year abroad he worked as a volunteer in the Sociedad San Vicente de Paul Legal Clinic, Madrid. Looking to the future, Adam is thinking about ways to make a difference in society while continuing to combine his passions for contemporary art and literature with social issues.

HEIDI GEALT

We are delighted to announce that Professor Heidi Gealt, Director Emerita of the Eskenazi Museum of Art, has begun teaching courses for the department. Gealt, who was the Director of the Museum from 1986 to 2015, has been a member of the faculty since 1989. She has published widely, particularly on the art of Domenico Tiepolo, seventeenth- and eighteenth-century art, and artists' depictions of their own families; received numerous grants, including from the American Philosophical Society, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation; and organized dozens of exhibitions. She will be teaching undergraduate and graduate courses focusing especially on eighteenth century art and art in the Eskenazi Museum collections.

ALUMNI NEWS

Dorothy Stites Alig (MA 1990) left the conservation lab of the Indianapolis Museum of Art in 2004 to concentrate on her studio work as printmaker and painter. In 2016 she had shows in New York, Chicago, and Northern Michigan and was honored to have a series of sixteen paintings titled “Consider Yourself” commissioned by Cummins for their new Distribution Headquarters in Indianapolis. Visit dorothyalig.com for images of current work.

Carly Dannemueller (MA 2015) is a Library Associate at Butler University Libraries in the University Archives, Rare Books & Special Collections department. Her duties include original cataloging of photographs, books, and other historical documents the library acquires through donations, purchases, and auctions. Prior to her position at Butler, Carly served as the Database Coordinator for Major Gifts at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Lindsey Hansen (PhD 2016) successfully defended her dissertation, “The Bishop Performed: Sculpture, Liturgy and Episcopal Identity in Thirteenth-Century France,” in August 2016. The same year saw the publication of her first scholarly essay: a chapter in *The North Transept of Reims Cathedral: Design, Construction and Visual Programs* (Routledge, ed. Jennifer M. Feltman). She also works as an editor and contributor for *The Lordship and Commune Project: A Collaboratory*. Lindsey is currently living in France, where she works as the Paris Co-Director of the International Medieval Society.

Lisa Hughes (PhD 2001) is currently finishing up a five year term as Associate Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Calgary, Canada. Last year she published a co-authored paper, “Using

Visual Art And Collaborative Reflection To Explore Medical Attitudes Toward Vulnerable Persons,” in the *Canadian Medical Education Journal*. She is looking forward to a research leave to finish the monograph *Non-Elite Women in Early Imperial Rome: Funerary Art, Ritual, and Law*, under contract with Taylor and Francis.

Valerie Lazalier (MA & MLS 2014) is the Collections and Gallery Assistant at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. In this role, she helps present five exhibitions a year, cares for 3,800 art objects, and manages student interns.

Allison Martino (MA 2011) is a PhD Candidate in the History of Art at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She is currently the 2016-2017 Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellow at the University of Michigan Museum of Art. In 2014, Allison received a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award that supported research for her dissertation, “Stamping History: Stories of Social Change in Ghana’s Adinkra Cloth.”

Jenny McComas (PhD 2014) has been the Curator of European and American Art at the Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University, since autumn 2015. In 2016 she presented talks on the museum’s Nazi-era provenance research project at the Getty Research Institute and the Israel Museum, Jerusalem. Her current exhibition, *Abstract Painting in Europe, 1949-1968*, opens at the Eskenazi Museum on March 11, 2017. Jenny’s recent publications include a chapter on American exhibitions of German Expressionism in the anthology *Re-envisioning the Contemporary Art Canon*, published by Routledge in December 2016 (Ruth Iskin, ed.).

Barbara Mitchell (PhD 1975) taught at the college level in New York City and the San Francisco Bay Area for many years. Currently, she volunteers as a docent at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, and lectures on religious art at Bay Area parishes.

Bart Pushaw (BA 2013) has become a celebrity in Estonia as a result of his game-changing exhibition “Conductors of Colour: Music and Modernity in Estonian Art” on view at Kumu, Tallin’s art museum until August 2017. “Conductors of Colour” looks into the parallels between the development of painting and drawing as expressions of identity in Estonia, and the development of music. He’s the cover story on the January 2017 issue of *The Baltic Guide*, the English-language cultural journal documenting events in Estonia.

Donna Sadler’s (PhD 1984) recent publications include the monograph *Stone, Flesh, Spirit: The Entombment of Christ in Late Medieval Burgundy and Champagne* (Brill, 2015) and reviews of *New Perspectives on the ‘Man of Sorrows,’ Gendered Identities in Bernard of Clairvaux’s Sermons on the Song of Songs: Performing the Bride*, and *Pious Memories: The Wall Mounted Memorial in the Burgundian Netherlands*.

Edna Carter Southard (PhD 1978) is now very involved in local government, and continues to write and publish in art history and museum studies, always with an interest in connections between art and politics. She teaches in Miami’s Institute for Learning in Retirement, including this coming spring on Tuscan Trecento art. Recent publications include chapters in *The Bible Retold by Jewish Artists, Writers, Composers, and Filmmakers* (Sheffield Phoenix, 2015) and *National Responses to the Holocaust: National Identity and Public Memory* (University of Delaware, 2013).

Emily Wilson (MA 2013) is celebrating her one year anniversary as Assistant Curator at the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana.

Madeline Yurtseven (MA 1989) moved to Manhattan six years ago with her husband and has been volunteering at the MET for five years in the departments of Membership, Visitor Services, and Special Events.

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CAA RECEPTION

If you're headed to the annual CAA conference in New York City this February, we hope you'll join us at the IU School of Art and Design and Department of Art History Reception! We'll have drinks and refreshments on the conference's Thursday night: February 16, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Central Park West Room of the Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel. More information is available on the official CAA website and at <https://college.indiana.edu/landing-pages/NYC.html> where you can RSVP.

CONGRATULATIONS PATRICK MCNAUGHTON ON RETIRING

After 34 years at IU, Professor Patrick McNaughton will retire in Spring 2017. Professor McNaughton shaped the field of African art, both through his groundbreaking publications, including *The Mande Blacksmiths: Knowledge, Power, and Art in West Africa* (1988) and *A Bird Dance Near Saturday City: Sidi Ballo and the Art of West African Masquerade* (2008), and through the more than 40 graduate students he supervised. Professor Patrick O'Meara best summed up his impact: "African art as a field of study is thriving today in the United States because of the teaching, research and exhibitions of all of these gifted scholars."

Professor McNaughton's dynamic teaching and thoughtful mentorship will be sorely missed in the department.

He will be celebrated with a symposium and reception on April 15, 2017. Guest speakers include Dr. Kassim Kone of SUNY Cortland and Dr. Susan Gagliardi of Emory University. Department alumni are invited to return to Bloomington to attend, and those interested in celebrating should contact the department for details by email to dpcase@indiana.edu or by phone at 812-855-9390.