

Center for Visual Cultures // October 2019 Newsletter

Center for Visual Cultures

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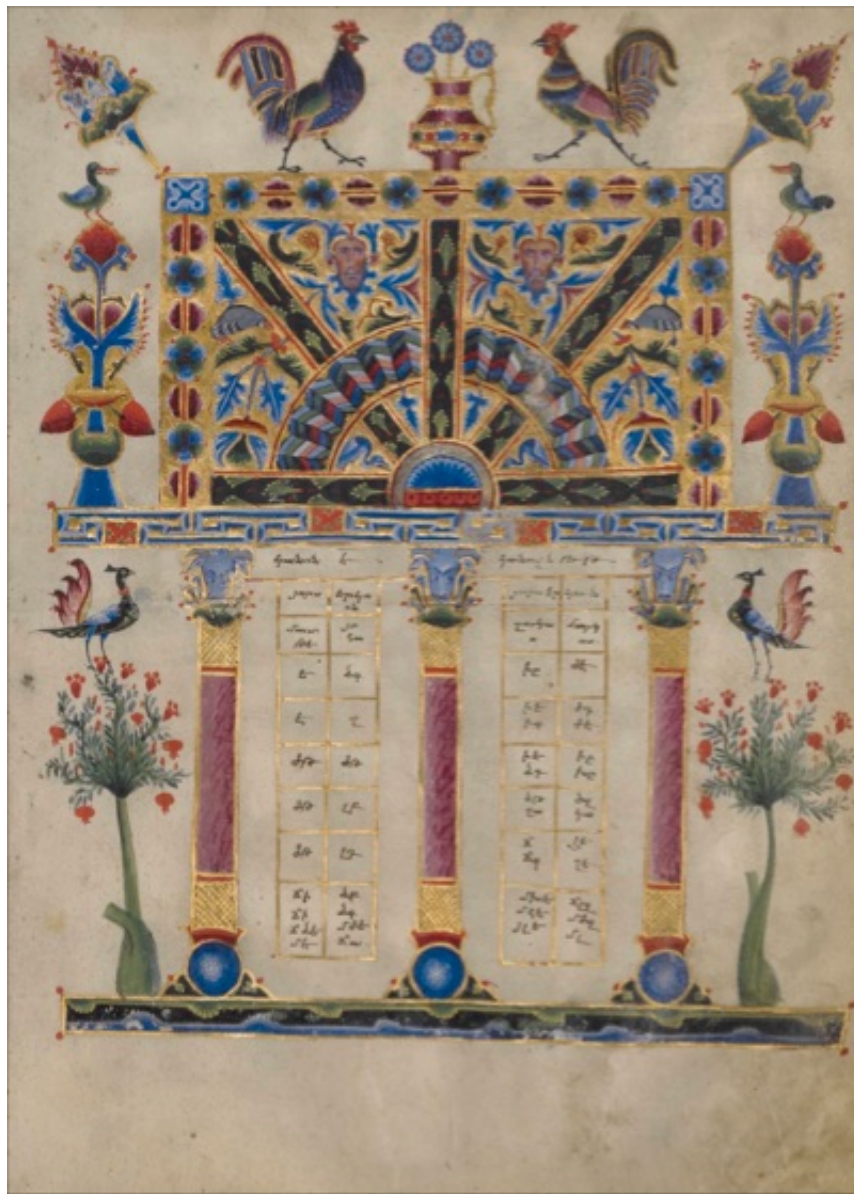
To: The Center for Visual Cultures <cvc@mailplus.wisc.edu>

- October 2019 -



CVC Fall 2019 Programming

[Heghnar Watenpaugh](#)



Canon Tables Zeytun Gospels Getty fol. 6

Public Lecture:

"The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript from Genocide to Justice"

Thursday, October 24, 2019

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Room L150

Lecture:

Art history, histories of genocide, cultural heritage, and the questions of the continuity of the medieval and the modern intersect in the biography of a medieval Armenian Gospels manuscript. Eight of its illuminated pages were discovered in the J. Paul Getty Museum in 2010, prompting a lawsuit. The tale of the separation of the pages from the manuscript tells a story of genocide and survival, and makes the case for a human right to art.

Biography:

Professor Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh specializes in the history of art, architecture, and urbanism in the Middle East, including architectural preservation, museums, and cultural heritage. Her first book, *The Image of an Ottoman City: Architecture in Aleppo*, was awarded the Spiro Kostof Book Prize from the Society of Architectural Historians. She has also received the Best Article Award from the Syrian Studies Association, and the Omer Lutfi Barkan Article Prize from the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association. Her second book, *The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript, from Genocide to Justice*, was published by Stanford University Press in 2019. Her research has been supported by fellowships from the J. Paul Getty Trust, National Endowment for the Humanities, Fulbright-Hays, Social Science Research Council, the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art, and the Office of the President of the University of California. She has served on the boards of the Society of Architectural Historians, the Syrian Studies Association, and the Historians of Islamic Art Association, among other professional organizations.

Public Workshop:

"The Social Lives of Art Objects"

Thursday, October 24, 2019

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

University Club, Room 212

Institute for Research in the Humanities Seminar Room

***To attend the workshop and to receive PDF files of the readings,
please RSVP to cvc@mailplus.wisc.edu**

Workshop:

In recent years art historians have paid renewed attention to dimensions of the life of art objects beyond the moment of their creation. In a book interrogatively entitled *What Do Pictures Want?* (2005), WJT Mitchell suggested that depictions have ‘lives’ and that these lives are only partly controlled by those who create art objects – artists or patrons. We humans may create images; but, once created, objects exist in the social world independently of their creators. One way in which art historians have studied the biographies of objects has been through the study of provenance – an area of art history that has attracted critical attention recently (Feigenbaum, and Reist). Provenance, often presented as a dry list of successive owners of an art object, can reveal much more – an “alternative history of art.” Disagreements over provenance are often at stake in disputes over the ownership of an object and often figure in restitution battles. In this workshop we will consider the social lives of art objects, broadly conceived, and the place of provenance in contemporary art historical debates.

Readings:

Gail Feigenbaum, and Inge Reist, “Introduction,” pp 0-4 and Gail Feigenbaum, “Manifest Provenance,” 6-28, in Gail Feigenbaum and Inge Reist, eds. Provenance: An Alternate History of Art (Los Angeles: Getty Research Institute, 2013).

Heghnar Watenpaugh, “Prologue” and “Chapter 1: Survivor Objects,” in *The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript, from Genocide to Justice* (Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 2019)

Sponsors:

Both of these events are possible thanks to the generous financial support of the UW Anonymous Fund. The Center for Visual Cultures would also like to thank the Department of Art History, the Buildings, Landscapes, Cultures Program, LACIS, the Middle East Studies Program, and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.



Aerial view of the Villa of Séviac (France). Photograph: medieval.eu

Public Lecture:

**"Travelling statuettes and traveling aristocrats?
Networks of acquisition in the statuary
collection at the
late antique villa of Séviac (France)"**

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Room L150

Lecture Abstract:

The luxury décor of the Late Roman villa of Séviac (France) includes mosaics and

statuary, including heirlooms, locally-made elements, and imported items. Though most surviving fragments of statuary are physically small, they provide evidence for up to ten marble statues and statuettes, some of which originated in the East Mediterranean. Moreover, an exceptional portrait wearing an Eastern-style toga suggests a connection to the imperial court or administration. The statuary collection at Séviac provides an opportunity to examine aristocratic networks of acquisition in Southern Gaul around A.D. 400, a period when easy connectivity within the Mediterranean world was declining. Personal travel and networks probably account for the imported items at Séviac.

Biography:

Dr. Lea Stirling is Professor of Classics at the University of Manitoba and held the Canada Research Chair in Roman Archaeology 2002-2012. One stream of her research investigates the role of Roman and late Roman statuary in society. She is the author of *the Learned Collector: Mythological Statuettes and Classical Taste in Late Antique Gaul* (Ann Arbor 2005) and has published statuary from France, Greece, and Tunisia. Another long-term interest is the archaeology of North Africa, and for many years she codirected excavations at the Roman site of Leptiminus (Lamta, Tunisia). She is the editor (with David Stone) of *Mortuary Landscapes of Tunisia* (Toronto 2007).

Public Workshop:

"Old Data and New Research: Working with Legacy Data, Archives, and Old Periodicals in Archaeology and Art History"

Tuesday, November 5, 2019
Time and Location TBA

Sponsors:

These events are possible thanks to the generous financial support of the UW Anonymous Fund. The Center for Visual Cultures would also like to thank The Department of Art History, The Buildings, Landscapes, Cultures Program, and The

Affiliate & Co-sponsored Events

Africa at Noon: A Dynasty of Album Cover Arts



**Wednesday, October 2, 2019
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
206 Ingraham Hall**

Lemi Ghariokwu is a pioneering professional album cover designer in Nigeria. He has over 2,000 album covers to his credit, but he is perhaps best known for his collaborations with legendary Nigerian musician and creator of Afrobeat music Fela Kuti. His presentation is about his career, work process, relationship, and collaboration with musical activists.

[Read more](#)

Hilldale Lecture in the Arts and Humanities 2019-2020

[William Chester Jordan](#)



"'Now Avenge Us': Jewish Martyrdom and the First Crusade"

Thursday, October 3, 2019

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Room L140

The lecture sketches out the background to the call for the First Crusade, narrates a few of the major events as context for the main story of the lecture, and then concentrates on what has been and can be learned from the Hebrew and Latin sources for the Jews' responses. It concludes by raising the question of the appropriateness of the language of trauma to categorize the European phase of the crusade and its impact on the continent's Jews.

[Read more](#)

[William Chester Jordan](#)

Public Workshop:

"Confrontation and Dialogue: Issues of Race and Racism in Medieval Studies"

**Friday, October 4, 2019
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Hagen Room (150)**

*To register for the workshop please contact Prof. Thomas Dale, Director of Medieval Studies at tedale@wisc.edu.

Part of “Thinking Race: Migration, Representation, Appropriation in the Middle Ages and Beyond,” a Borghesi-Mellon Interdisciplinary Workshop in the Humanities.

[Read more](#)

MMoCA Gallery Night



Friday, October 4, 2019

[Check MMoCA's website for more information, including the list of venues](#)

"Race and Globalism in the Roman Empire and Medieval Venice: A Conversation"

**Monday, October 7, 2019
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
University Club, Room 212**

Medieval Studies Brown-bag Research Colloquium featuring Nandini Pandey (CANES) and Thomas Dale (Art History).

[Read more](#)

[Peter Sturman](#)



Public Lecture:

"Presenting Mortality: Shen Zhou's Falling Blossom's Project"

Thursday, October 10, 2019

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Room L150

The renowned artist Shen Zhou (1427–1509) began to explore the theme of falling blossoms as a subject for poetry, painting, and calligraphy in his very late years. Shen's intention was to record his meditations on the passage of time and human mortality, but the act of writing these verses transformed when Shen shared them with a number of prominent cultural figures in the Jiangnan region. Rhymed by admirers, and then re-rhymed by Shen Zhou, the poems turned into a greater project that ultimately became a highly self-conscious reflection on mortality and its presentation through art.

The lecture focuses on the evolution and scope of Shen Zhou's Falling Blossoms project, the motivations and concerns behind Shen's activities as reflected by revealing texts, and the manner in which Shen chose to illustrate the theme in painting. Three paintings— a fan in the Shanghai Museum and hand-scroll compositions in the Nanjing Museum and the National Palace Museum (Taipei)— demonstrate how Shen utilized a rich store of iconographical and stylistic models to establish the theme of contemplating mortality. The lecture ends with consideration of a very late composition, Shen's 1507 rendition of *Misty River, Layered Peaks* (Liaoning Provincial Museum), an ambitious painting that seemingly voices a defiant resolution to some of the existential questions posed by Shen's Falling Blossoms.

This program is a part of the Borghesi-Mellon Interdisciplinary Workshops in the Humanities, sponsored by the Center for the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with support from Nancy and David Borghesi and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

[Read more](#)

Anthony Cutler



Public Lecture:

"The Contagion of the Gaze: A Persistent Motif in Medieval Art and Modern Theory"

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Conrad A. Elvehjem Building, Room L150

This public lecture by Prof. Anthony Cutler (emeritus, Art History, Penn State) will explore the artistic device in which one or more individuals depicted within an image regard us, even while we regard it from outside. Already extant in Greek red-figure vase painting, the motif recurs in the art of Late Antiquity, Western Medieval and especially Islamic miniatures, and the Renaissance. Following experiments of this sort in late nineteenth-century posters, the heyday of the form comes in the art of the mid-twentieth century, in Magritte's *Not to be Reproduced* (1937), implicitly in Orson Welles's film *Citizen Kane* (1941), and Jasper Johns's *Target with Four Faces* (1965). Since there can be no question of "influence" across this huge field, some sort of theoretical scrutiny, emic or etic, of this all but perennial and universal

motif is called for. Even sophisticated contemporary videogames, predicated on the aesthetics of mutual observation and the metaphysics of reciprocity, remain unhelpful in this respect.

[Read more](#)

Elena Boeck

Public Lecture:

**"Re-Claiming The Original 'Degenerate Art':
Disability, Alterity and Byzantine Studies"**

Thursday, October 17, 2019

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Chazen Auditorium within the Chazen Museum of Art

There will be a reception to follow in the Chazen Lobby

**UW-Madison's
Fall 2019 Visiting Artist Colloquium**

For more information, please visit

ART.WISC.EDU/PUBLIC-PROGRAMS



[Glenn Adamson](#)

Wednesday,
October 2, 2019
5:00 - 6:15 PM

2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street



[Joey Fauerso](#)

Wednesday,
October 9, 2019
5:00 - 6:15 PM

2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street



[Julia Bryan-Wilson](#)

Wednesday,
October 16, 2019
5:00 - 6:15 PM

2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street



[Gloriann Langva](#)

Wednesday,
October 23, 2019
5:00 - 6:15 PM

2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street



[Lynne Allen](#)

Wednesday,



[Donna Polseno](#)

Wednesday,

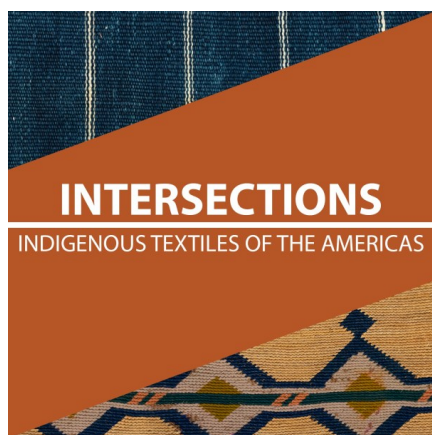
October 30, 2019
5:00 - 6:15 PM
2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street

November 6, 2019
5:00 - 6:00 PM
2650 Humanities Building
2nd Floor
422 N Park Street

Exhibitions

Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection

Intersections: Indigenous Textiles of the Americas



September 5 - December 6, 2019
Lynn Mecklenburg Textile Gallery

Indigenous scholars Kendra Greendeer (Ho-Chunk) and Dakota Mace (Diné) co-curate an exhibition exploring material interrelationships among cultures with long histories of exchange across the Americas. Select textiles and objects from the Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection and the Little Eagle Arts Foundation, a Ho-Chunk arts organization,

Points of Departure: Inspirations from the Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection



September 18 - November 24, 2019
Ruth Davis Design Gallery

Former Collection directors Jody Clowes, Martha Glowacki, and David Wells identified a pool of talented regional and national artists to participate in this exhibition project. And while many participants are textile artists, the list also includes makers in a wide variety of styles and mediums.

Artists participating in Points of Departure include Mary Bero (Madison),

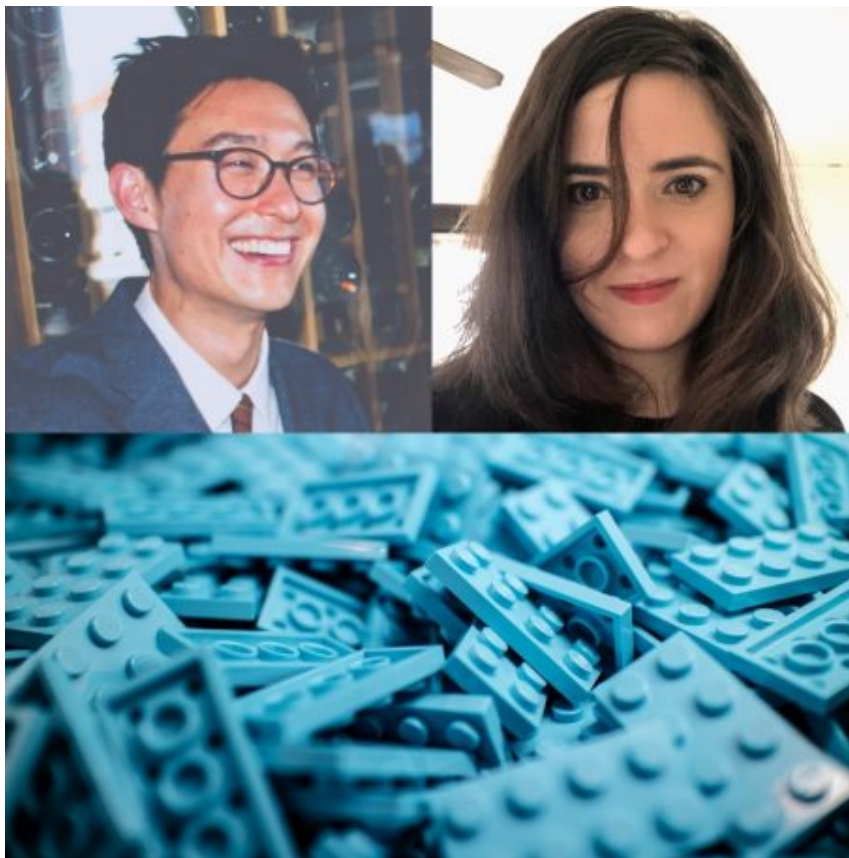
provide a deeper understanding of the intersecting lifeways, movement, and stories of people throughout the western hemisphere and spanning more than a thousand years of history. Learn more at sohe.wisc.edu/intersections.

Intersections was developed with the support of Jane and David C. Villa.

Craig Clifford (Appleton), Theresa Faris (Madison), Craig Grabhorn (Appleton), Christiane Grauert (Milwaukee), Emelia Haglund (Middleton), Mary Jaeger (New York City), Haichi Jihn (Whitefish Bay), Yevgeniya Kaganovich (Milwaukee), Dakota Mace (Madison), Nirmal Raja (Milwaukee), Bird Ross (Madison), Jason Ruhl (Madison), Maggie Sasso (Saint Francis), Diane Sheehan (Madison), and Michael Velliquette (Madison).

Opportunities

Aaron Fai and Fernanda Villarroel's Public Humanities Professional Development Workshop



Tuesday, October 8, 2019
10:00 AM - 12:45 PM
University Club, Room 313

Assistant Director of Public Humanities Aaron Fai will facilitate a small group workshop of common professional development skills for publicly minded humanities scholars. Joining the workshop will be our 2019 Humanities Without Walls fellow, doctoral candidate Fernanda Villarroel (Art History). Workshop attendees will be paired with a scholar with similar professional goals to identify individual goals, and discuss career possibilities as well as challenges.

This workshop is by registration only and will be capped at twelve. Lunch will be provided. To register, please submit one paragraph (300-words maximum) describing your interest in a public humanities career (whether academic or non-academic) and one associated goal for the next year. Also please let us know of any food concerns. Submit your request directly to Aaron Fai (fai@wisc.edu).



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