

# HAAppenings

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UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH | DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE



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### CONTRIBUTORS

#### Published by the Department of History of Art and Architecture

Editor..... Barbara McCloskey,  
Chair, Art History

Assistant Editor ..... Corrin Trombley

#### Department of Communications Services

Editor..... Marygrace Reder

Editorial Assistant..... Sarah Jordan Rosenson

Art Director..... Rainey Opperman-Dermond

Production Manager..... Chuck Dinsmore

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**ON THE COVER:** The Nicholas Lochoff Cloister of the Frick Fine Arts Building

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



### Welcome!

I'm pleased to share with you this first edition of our *HAApenings* newsletter for the Department of History of Art and Architecture (HAA) in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. I wish to thank everyone for their help on this launch, including one of our graduate students, Jackie Lombard, who came up with the inspired title! We'll be using this forum to keep you up to date with some of the many activities that go on each year in Pitt's very busy Frick Fine Arts Building. This newsletter will feature some of the latest about our creative ecology in Frick, with programming that brings faculty and students together around the outstanding research and pedagogical resources housed in the building. As you will read, these resources include the University Art Gallery, the Visual Media Workshop, the Frick Fine Arts Library, and HAA's neighbors in the Department of Studio Arts. We are especially proud of our graduate and undergraduate students, who continue to raise the bar on achievement, and of our faculty accomplishments, which help us to

maintain our position as the flagship for the humanities at Pitt. Meanwhile, our wonderful staff members—Linda Hicks, Veronica Gazdik, and Corrin Trombley—continue to keep everything running smoothly.

This is the second year of our \$1 million Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant, which was awarded to HAA in January 2015 and will continue to fund our initiatives through 2018. The grant supports efforts to establish mutually beneficial relationships among HAA and museums, libraries, and archives in the Pittsburgh area for the purpose of providing our students with enhanced research and professionalization opportunities. The grant also supports our work to foster collaborative research, exhibitions, and publication projects and helps to expand public engagement with the extraordinarily rich art and artifact collections that are part of Pittsburgh's historical and cultural landscape. In fall 2015, Pitt Chancellor Patrick Gallagher and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh President and CEO Jo Ellen Parker joined us to celebrate the Mellon award and the founding of our Collecting Knowledge Pittsburgh consortium, which we have assembled with the help of the grant. Founding partners in the consortium are the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Andy Warhol Museum, the Senator John Heinz History Center, the Frick Pittsburgh, Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation at Carnegie Mellon University, the Society for Contemporary Craft, and Pitt's University Library System.



We've already accomplished quite a lot with our Mellon grant, beginning with the hiring of Erin Peters, who joined us in fall 2015 and holds a joint appointment as a lecturer in curatorial studies in HAA and assistant curator at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. She has arrived amid booming undergraduate enrollments in both our museum studies minor and our academic internship program, which has our students gaining invaluable professional experience with our Collecting Knowledge Pittsburgh consortium partners. The Mellon grant also has enabled us to host guest speakers, conduct workshops, and develop other exciting programming that we will be reporting on in future editions of *HAAppenings*. In the meantime, you can follow all current department events on our Web site, [haa.pitt.edu](http://haa.pitt.edu).

I want to extend a special thank-you to our many Friends of Frick Fine Arts, who generously support HAA with funds for student research travel each year. Our friends help us to maintain and grow the excellence of our graduate and undergraduate programs. You'll see ample evidence of that in the student biographies included in this newsletter. Thank you again for helping to make these students' impressive level of achievement possible!



**Barbara McCloskey**  
Chair, Art History

## Department Receives Mellon Grant



The Department of History of Art and Architecture (HAA) held a celebration of its receipt of an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant at the University Club on November 12, 2015.

**Seated, left to right:** Lugene Bruno, curator of art at Carnegie Mellon University's Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation; Chris McGinnis, chief curator of Rivers of Steel Arts; Robin Nicholson, director of the Frick Pittsburgh; and Janet McCall, executive director of the Society for Contemporary Craft

**Standing, left to right:** Terry Smith, Barbara McCloskey, and Erin Peters of HAA; Jo Ellen Parker, president and CEO of the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh; Pitt Chancellor Patrick Gallagher; Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patricia Beeson; Catherine Evans, Carnegie Museum of Art chief curator; N. John Cooper, Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences at Pitt; and Maureen Rolla, director of strategic initiatives at the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh †



This reproduction of "The Expulsion from the Garden of Eden" by Masaccio appears in the Nicholas Lochoff Cloister of the Frick Fine Arts Building.

## Joseph Koerner Gives 2016 Wilkinson Lecture

In November 2016, Joseph Koerner, Victor S. Thomas Professor of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University, delivered the Department of History of Art and Architecture (HAA)'s annual James and Susanne Wilkinson Lecture on Outstanding Scholarship in Pre-modern Art, "The Moment of the Fall in Renaissance Art: The Ethical Challenge of Adam and Eve," to a standing room-only crowd in the Frick Fine Arts Building.

The department invites top scholars to deliver this lecture in honor of James and Susanne Wilkinson, who sponsor the James and Susanne Wilkinson Research Prize for Outstanding Scholarship on Topics in Premodern Art. The prize is awarded to an HAA graduate student each year in support of summer research travel. Through their generosity, the Wilkinsons have helped us to build the profile of our graduate program and maintain HAA's tradition of scholarly excellence. More information about the Wilkinson Prize and Lecture can be found under Events at [haa.pitt.edu](http://haa.pitt.edu).

# GALLERY UPDATE

As always, the University Art Gallery (UAG) has had a busy exhibition calendar this past year. Highlights include UAG curator Isabelle Chartier's collaboration with Aaron Henderson and Michael Morrill from the Department of Studio Arts and Mathew Rosenblum from the Department of Music to launch *Portal*, a site-specific multimedia work installed in the UAG rotunda. The installation debuted in September 2015 as part of the studio arts faculty exhibition and will remain a spectacular fixture of UAG. In fall 2015, the gallery hosted the highly successful museum studies exhibition titled *Exposure: Black Voices in the Arts*, led by Janet McCall of the Society for Contemporary Craft. This fall,

UAG also unveiled the second of its Constellations-based exhibitions, titled *Data (after)Lives*, a curatorial effort led by Alison Langmead, director of the Visual Media Workshop, in collaboration with Josh Ellenbogen, Chartier, and history of art and architecture graduate student Paulina Pardo.

In keeping with its role as an incubator of innovative collaboration and pedagogy, UAG, along with the Frick Fine Arts Library (FFAL), partnered with the School of Information Sciences at Pitt in summer 2016 on an initiative that allowed graduate students from the library and information science master's degree program to conduct provenance research on items from the UAG and FFAL collections.

FFAL and UAG have an intertwined history. Both collections were originally created with the support of Helen Clay Frick in 1927, when Pitt's fine arts department was located in the Cathedral of Learning. Following the relocation of the department to the Frick Fine Arts Building in 1965, the gallery and the library received their own spaces, and items from the collections were redistributed.



Photo courtesy of Aaron Henderson

*Portal*, a multimedia installation in the UAG rotunda by Aaron Henderson and Michael Morrill (with accompanying sound piece by Mathew Rosenblum), 2015



Today, FFAL falls under the jurisdiction of the University Library System, whereas UAG remains under the purview of the Department of History of Art and Architecture. Some prints and artist books that were at one time added to UAG are now part of the FFAL collections. Very little documentation exists on these items, and their provenance remains, in most cases, unknown.

The provenance of the items in the collections is exactly what graduate students from Nora Mattern's Museum Archives course investigated. With the guidance of Chartier and FFAL head librarian Kate Joranson, students spent the summer term looking through gallery files, searching library resources, and exploring the University Archives in the hope of finding relevant clues that would help to determine the provenance of selected items from the collections.

The students' work improved the documentation for items in the gallery and library collections, which are both used by faculty and students for teaching and research. With UAG's new collection management system and online cataloging of the collections, students' research helped to update information about the objects and increase accessibility of and knowledge about these artworks.

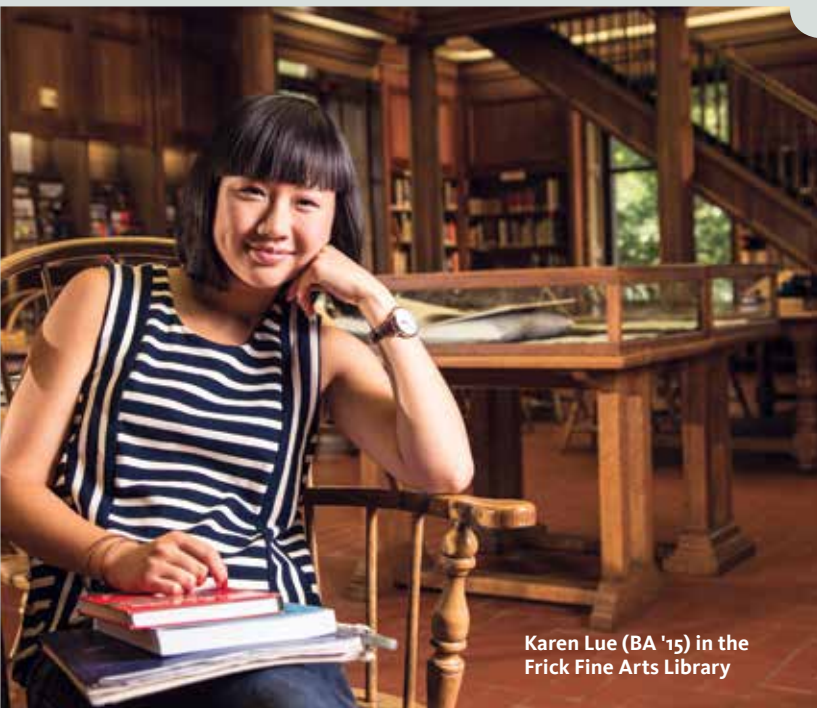
The 2016 course was the second iteration of this collaborative documentation project that began in the summer of 2015, and it is our hope that it can continue in the coming years, as it gives students the hands-on and transferable skills necessary to pursue a career in libraries and archives. ✦

# Frick Fine Arts Library News

**H**ow can we help students to engage fully with an image or text? How can we create an environment where they learn what it is like to be immersed in meaningful work? Such questions extend to many areas of the University of Pittsburgh and offer rich territory for collaboration. Head librarian Kate Joranson and her staff in the Frick Fine Arts Library (FFAL) are exploring meaningful ways to engage undergraduates by pondering these questions.

Undergraduate students taking history of art and architecture courses often have a library research experience as part of their course work. FFAL librarians have worked with faculty members to develop a curriculum that supports exhibitions, exploration of primary sources and archival materials, and in-depth online research. Several classes have had curated browsing experiences in the library, where students explore a preselected group of books and electronic resources that relate to the course and represent diverse perspectives. Students record their observations and questions as they read and look and then share those observations. As they discuss the curiosities and connections that emerge, they search for resources to address new questions that arise. Curated browsing sessions make scholarly thinking processes visible to students who have had no prior exposure to such processes and provide time for deep reflection for more advanced students.

In addition to supporting course work, the library has partnered with the Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity to offer the new Archival Scholars Research Awards, which invite undergraduates to conduct independent research while receiving training from librarians and archivists. FFAL hosted history of art and architecture major and archival scholar Leslie Rose to conduct research on themes of gender and identity in the artist book collection. Her work helped to make the collection more accessible and has prompted several faculty members to use artist books in their teaching. Future archival scholars will build on Rose's work while mining the collection for answers to their own research questions. ✦



Karen Lue (BA '15) in the Frick Fine Arts Library

# visual media WORKSHOP

The Visual Media Workshop (VMW) is a humanities lab focused on the investigation of material and visual culture—whether historical or contemporary—in an environment that encourages technological experimentation. As director of VMW, Alison Langmead oversees many achievements in and new prospects for the lab. Sustaining MedArt, the lab's National Endowment for the Humanities-funded digital preservation project, continues to thrive as it enters its third phase of production and as student assistants in the workshop endeavor to perform digital forensics on the Web site Images of Medieval Art and Architecture. VMW faculty and students also attended the International Congress on Medieval Studies to perform research this past May and welcomed new members to the team. Aisling Quigley (project manager) and Langmead (principal investigator) are steering the research, aiming to do the groundwork for a socio-technical road map by the start of 2017.

The lab's long-running project, *Itinera*, will build on the extensive foundational work on people and places already implemented and this year will focus on the mobility of objects and their intricate relationships to their corresponding humans and locations under the guidance of history of art and architecture graduate student and project manager Lily Brewer. The VMW team also is working this year to update the project's network visualization.



Photo courtesy of Alison Langmead

Data (after)Lives exhibition team field trip to the Whitney Museum of American Art

Decomposing Bodies, the lab's project exploring human identity and documentation within the Bertillon system of measurement, is now being managed by S.E. Hackney, a doctoral student in library and information science at Pitt's School of Information Sciences. The project's focus for 2017 will be on building a unified online collection and corresponding data set for the more than 40,000 Bertillon cards in the collection as well as making that data accessible.

In preparation for the Data (after)Lives exhibition in the University Art Gallery this fall, Langmead visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art this past summer with her curatorial team of graduate students and faculty members to coordinate research for the show. ✦



# FACULTY NEWS



## Saskia Beranek

Saskia Beranek is beginning the second of her two years at Pitt as a visiting assistant professor in the Department of History of Art and Architecture (HAA). She participated in the architectural studies trips to Philadelphia, Pa., and France and provided the art history

students in her spring 2016 Rembrandt, Vermeer, and Their Age class with direct contact with Rembrandt prints at the Carnegie Museum of Art. She also presented her research on 17th-century Dutch garden design at a conference in Düsseldorf, Germany, and gave a talk on court portraiture at the Sixteenth Century Society & Conference in Brugge, Belgium. Beranek also was excited to attend the exhibition celebrating the 500th anniversary of the death of Hieronymus Bosch in his hometown of 's-Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands. This year, Beranek is looking forward to presenting research on the collecting of portraits in 17th-century Amsterdam, Netherlands, at the Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC) in Roanoke, Va., as well as the publication of her article on portrait galleries in the *Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art*.



## Isabelle Chartier

In addition to the many exhibition projects she oversees as curator of the University Art Gallery, Isabelle Chartier continues to work with student interns and researchers involved in the gallery's ongoing efforts to inventory and document artworks on public display

around the Pitt campus. In April 2015, she was invited to give a lecture on Virgil Cantini's 1970 *Aerial Scape*, an enamel mural now installed in the new lobby of Pitt's School of Dental Medicine. In May 2016, she also presented a paper at the annual conference of the Association of Academic Museums and Galleries in Washington, D.C., as part of the plenary session Museum + Library Partnerships: Creating a New Collaborative Paradigm.

## Melissa Eppihimer

Melissa Eppihimer continues to publish the results of her project examining the early modern reception of ancient Near Eastern seals. Her article "Caylus, Winckelmann, and the Art of 'Persian' Gems" appeared in the *Journal of Art Historiography* in December 2015, and a study of seal illustrations dating to the 17th and 18th centuries is now in press. She also is preparing a book manuscript about the modern and ancient legacies of Akkadian art and kingship. During the last academic year, Eppihimer presented papers at conferences in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, Pa., and Atlanta, Ga., and co-organized with (Carrie Weaver, a faculty member in Pitt's Department of Classics) a departmental field trip to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., to see an exhibition of Hellenistic Greek bronzes.



## Muna Güvenç

In June 2016, HAA postdoctoral fellow Muna Güvenç conducted fieldwork on informal settlements and neoliberal urbanism in the postconflict situation of the Sur district of Diyarbakir, Turkey, for her book manuscript, *Whose City? Neoliberal Urbanism and the*

*Grounds of Kurdish Identity*. She presented a paper, "Kurdish Frontier: The Articulation of the Kurdish Bloc in Urban Space," at the invited panel session Political Representation in Crisis? Movements, Parties, and New Activisms at the American Sociological Association 2016 Annual Meeting on August 21, 2016, in Seattle, Wash. Her recent paper "Rethinking 'Urban Spectacle' as Capacity to Conduct Opposition Politics in the City" is under peer review at the journal *CITY: Analysis of Urban Trends, Culture, Theory, Policy, Action*.

She will be presenting her paper "The Kurdish Way: Legitimizing Neoliberal Urbanism and Articulating National Identity" at the Fifteenth Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments in Kuwait on December 19, 2016. By December 2016, Güvenç will be submitting her general entry on "globalization" to the *Encyclopedia of Vernacular Architecture of the World*.



An example of informal housing from the Sur district of Diyarbakir, Turkey, June 2016; photo courtesy of Muna Güvenç



## Holger Hoock

Holger Hoock, the J. Carroll Amundson Professor of British History, is delighted to join the department through a secondary appointment and looks forward to continuing to serve on graduate committees and participate in departmental activities. Hoock recently

completed his book *Scars of Independence: America's Violent Birth*, which will be published in May 2017. He published "Mangled Bodies: Atrocity in the American Revolutionary War" in *Past & Present* in February 2016 and continues to serve as editor of the *Journal of British Studies*. Over the past year, Hoock collaborated with Alison Langmead and other colleagues in launching the Pitt Digital History Initiative. Hoock has been designated the next associate dean for graduate studies and research in the University's Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and will assume his core duties by early summer 2017.



## Di Luo

Di Luo will present "Sutra Repositories (*Jingzang*) in Medieval China: The Buddhist Cosmos in Miniature" at the session Questions of Scale: Micro-architecture in the Global Middle Ages at the 2017 Annual International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians in Glasgow, Scotland.

(continued on page 8)



Figure 4 Plate 18, from Anne-Claude-Philippe, comte de Caylus, *Recueil d'antiquités égyptiennes, étrusques, grecques, romaines et gauloises*, vol. I, 1752. Paris: Desaint & Saillant



The collaboration between the Department of Egyptian Art and the Digital Department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art shows what one scene on the exterior of the Met's Temple of Dendur could have looked like fully painted with projection mapping technology.

studies interns began diving into research this past summer for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's planned exhibition Egypt on the Nile.

## Erin Peters

The highlight of Erin Peters' year was the public opening of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Color the Temple project, which shows a hypothetical recreation of what the ancient painted surface of the Met's Temple of Dendur could have looked like using projection mapping technology. Peters' research was the foundation for the project, and she was asked to speak at the public kickoff in January. She also presented the project to the Egyptology community at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt in Atlanta, Ga., this past April. Building on her research of temples in ancient Egypt, she and HAA museum

studies interns began diving into research this past summer for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's planned exhibition Egypt on the Nile.



## Mrinalini Rajagopalan

Mrinalini Rajagopalan's first monograph, *Building Histories: The Archival and Affective Lives of Five Monuments in Modern Delhi*, will be published by the University of Chicago Press this December. She is currently a faculty fellow at the Humanities Center at Pitt and

will be on research leave in spring 2017, having received a midcareer fellowship from the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art. This fellowship is making it possible for Rajagopalan to develop a new project on the architectural works of a woman patron who lived in north India during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.



## Kirk Savage

Kirk Savage gave a Wyeth Lecture in American Art at the National Gallery of Art (NGA) in Washington, D.C., in October 2015. The lecture, "The Art of the Name: Soldiers, Graves, and Monuments in the Aftermath of the Civil War," is available as a podcast

through NGA Web site. In spring 2016, his edited volume, *The Civil War in Art and Memory*, was published under the auspices of NGA and Yale University Press. For the past year and a half, Savage has been serving as academic curator of the university-museum consortium in Pittsburgh funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's grant to HAA. In this role, he co-led (with fellow HAA faculty member Shirin Fozi) a weeklong workshop for Pitt faculty and graduate students on the theme of race and the museum. Participants have developed several exciting projects involving consortium partners that will unfold over the course of this year.

## M. Alison Stones

M. Alison Stones, professor emerita, edited *Cahier de Fanjeaux 51, Culture religieuse méridionale: Les manuscrits et leur contexte artistique (29 juin–2 juillet 2015)*, papers of the conference she chaired in 2015.



The generous support of Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences N. John Cooper made it possible to publish all the illustrations in color for the first time in the Cahiers series. Stones also coedited, with Thomas Falmagne, the catalog *Les Manuscrits de Cadouin*, and

she published six articles (in French) and reviews in *Scriptorium* and *The Medieval Review*. She contributed three entries to the catalog of manuscripts in Boston, Mass., area collections titled *Beyond Words: Illuminated Manuscripts in Boston Collections*. She presented papers at conferences in St. Louis, Mo.; Oxford, England; Limoges, France; Orléans, France; and Vienna, Austria, and presented on a selection of the manuscripts of the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal at the British Archaeological Association's meeting in Paris, France. She received a European Studies grant for her series New Studies in Illuminated Manuscripts; the first volume, *Valère Maxime en français à la fin du Moyen Âge: Images et tradition* by Anne Dubois of the Université Catholique de Louvain, appeared in October 2016. Stones was elected a fellow of the Medieval Academy of America and a *correspondant étranger honoraire* of the Société nationale des antiquaires de France, where she occupies the chair vacated by the distinguished manuscript scholar Florentine Mütherich, who died in 2015 at age 100.



## Alex Taylor

HAA's newest faculty member, Alex Taylor, came to Pitt in September. Over the summer, he presented a paper on the coinage designs of 1960s sculptors at the Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University

as part of an ongoing series of international events on art and economics on which he is collaborating. He also led a conversation on the colored sculpture of David Smith to coincide with an exhibition of Smith's work at Hauser & Wirth in Zurich, Switzerland, and participated in a workshop on public art in Chicago, Ill., hosted by the Terra Foundation for American Art. Taylor has a variety of forthcoming online publications resulting from his time as a research fellow at the Tate Modern in London, England, including digital projects on Louise Nevelson, Theodore Roszak, Kenneth Noland, James Rosenquist, and Sue Fuller. He also is contributing to the exhibition catalog for Australia's Impressionists, the first display of Australian painting ever to appear at the National Gallery in London and opening in December 2016.



## Carrie Weaver

Carrie Weaver began the fall term as a visiting assistant professor of classics with a secondary appointment in HAA. Last September, her monograph, *The Bioarchaeology of Classical Kamarina: Life and Death in Greek Sicily*, was published by the University Press of Florida.

Throughout the course of the 2015–16 academic year, she presented aspects of her work at the annual meetings of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Archaeological Institute of America, and Eastern International Region of the American Academy of Religion. Her most recent article, "Encounters with Death: Was There Dark Tourism in Classical Greece?," appeared in the *Journal of Greek Archaeology* in October 2016. †



# TOP ACHIEVERS: UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



Mariah Flanagan



Abigail Meloy



Stefan Poost

WE ARE PLEASED TO FEATURE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THREE OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN OUR PROGRAM.

**Mariah Flanagan** is one of the department's 2016 Milton Fine Museum Profession Fellowship recipients. Flanagan worked with lecturer and assistant curator for the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh Erin Peters this past summer, conducting research on funerary practices in ancient Egypt to prepare for the redesign of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's Egyptian collection. An anthropology major with minors in museum studies, history, and American Sign Language, Flanagan intends eventually to apply to graduate school for museum studies. Prior to working on the Egyptian collection project, she assisted with two studies at the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh that collected quantitative and qualitative data on visitor engagement and response (in particular, with *She Who Tells a Story*, an exhibition of photography by women artists from the Arab world). In the summer of 2015, she assisted with a cataloging project at the American Academy in Rome. She is currently preparing an honors thesis project on the ethical ramifications of the display of human remains and funerary artifacts in museum collections.

**Abigail Meloy** also received a 2016 Milton Fine Museum Profession Fellowship. She is working at the Society for Contemporary Craft with Executive Director Janet McCall this academic year. She is devoting time to several of the organization's centers of operation: exhibitions, retail, marketing, development, and education. Meloy is a history of art and architecture major also pursuing a minor in museum studies as well as a major in marketing through Pitt's College of Business Administration. She has held internships at the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia, Pa.; Quantum Theatre in Pittsburgh; the Carnegie Museum of Art; and the research center of the Belvedere Museum in Vienna, Austria. Last March, she won a fellowship to participate in the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences' New York City Field Studies program, for which she compared the marketing and branding strategies of the Neue Galerie New York and El Museo del Barrio. Her work involved thinking about the ways in which museums communicate particular identities and connect with different audiences and communities. Meloy is currently preparing an honors thesis project with assistant professor Christopher Nygren on northern Renaissance art.

**Stefan Poost** is the winner of a 2016 G. Alec Stewart Student Achievement Award from the University Honors College, an award that recognizes outstanding Pitt juniors who have demonstrated academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, and social consciousness in their work inside and outside the classroom. Poost is an architectural studies and ecology and evolution major who is developing an honors thesis that will analyze best practices in green infrastructure projects in the Pittsburgh region, supervised by Director of Architectural Studies Drew Armstrong. Poost intends to pursue graduate degrees in landscape architecture and restoration ecology. Two formative experiences have led him to these goals: Christopher Guignon's Design Studio 3 on Sustainability course and a 2015 internship with the Design Center in Pittsburgh, where Poost researched and organized information to educate residents of Pittsburgh's North Side neighborhood about the equitable planning mechanisms for urban development and forces of gentrification. He is a member of Pitt's Engineers for a Sustainable World, with which he helped to develop a bioretention system at the Wingfield Pines Conservation Area in Upper St. Clair, Pa. Currently, Poost is working in Distinguished Professor Tia-Lynn Ashman's plant biology lab, assisting on a project that studies plant-pollinator interaction in vacant urban spaces. Poost also is a talented cellist and a member of Pitt's Heinz Chapel Choir. ✦

The Cathedral  
of Learning



# GRADUATE Student NEWS

WE ARE THRILLED TO SHOWCASE SOME OF THE OUTSTANDING RESEARCH BEING CONDUCTED BY OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS.

## Rae Di Cicco

With the support of the Nationality Rooms' Austrian Room Committee Scholarship, Rae Di Cicco conducted research abroad this past summer on the subject of her dissertation, Erika Giovanna Klien and the Viennese Kineticists. Di Cicco will present the results of her research at the premier conference for the discipline of art history, the College Art Association Annual Conference, in February 2017. In the spring, Di Cicco will conduct research in archival collections in Italy with the support of a travel fellowship from the Center for Italian Modern Art. This year, Di Cicco also will serve as editor in chief

of the second thematic issue of the scholarly journal *Contemporaneity: Historical Presence in Visual Culture*, which is edited by history of art and architecture graduate students.

## Jennifer Donnelly

After returning from a fruitful research trip for her dissertation on physiognomy and the Musée national des Monuments français, Jennifer Donnelly collaborated closely with Aisling Quigley as a design associate for the Data (after)Lives exhibit at the University Art Gallery during the fall term. Donnelly is again actively involved in the planning of the annual architectural studies field trip with Director of Architectural Studies Drew Armstrong; this year, the destination is Chicago, Ill. Next summer, Donnelly will be chairing a roundtable discussion on intersections of architectural design and art history research at the Society of Architectural Historians annual meeting in Glasgow, Scotland.

## Annika Johnson

Annika Johnson began her work as a predoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., in September 2016. Her dissertation research on artistic exchange between Eastern Dakota American Indians and Euro-Americans in the 19th century has taken her to collections



Annika Johnson viewing Nadia Myre's installation in Culture Shift, the third Contemporary Native Art Biennial, in Montréal, Québec, Canada

throughout the Smithsonian Institution, including the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Anthropological Archives. In spring 2016, *First American Art Magazine* published an exhibition review

on contemporary Native photography at the Portland Art Museum that Johnson coauthored with Marina Tyquiengco. In February, Johnson traveled to Finland to review the first major exhibition of Japan's influence on Nordic art, published in fall 2016 in the *Journal of Japonisme*. In May, she reviewed Culture Shift, Montréal, Québec, Canada's third Contemporary Native Art Biennial.

## Jungeun Lee

In December 2015, Jungeun Lee's article "*Jaseok jangsik ui jeong'chi'seong* 좌석 장식의 정치성 [Politics of Formal Display in the Muromachi Period]" was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Misulsa nondan* 美術史論壇 in Seoul, South Korea (Han'guk Misul Yon'guso). This work was based on her talk "Displaying Collections as Strategies of Legitimation in

Medieval Kyoto," presented at the 44th Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies annual conference. With a Dean's Summer Research Travel Grant and conference grants from the U.S.-Japan Council and Korea Council, she also spent a productive summer in Japan and South Korea conducting research for her



Jungeun Lee

dissertation, which is nearing completion, on the sociopolitical and socioeconomic contexts of Ashikaga collections and their formal display in medieval Kyoto, Japan. Lee also presented two papers while in Japan: "Displaying Authority: Ashikaga Shoguns' Chinese Collections and Their Formal Display" at the 20th Asian Studies Conference Japan in Tokyo and "Choson Folding Screens of One Hundred Fans: A Case Study in Artistic Transmission" at the Association for Asian Studies-in-Asia in Kyoto. Lee secured special viewings of artworks important for her dissertation research at the Tokugawa Art Museum in Nagoya, the Tenryu-ji temple in Kyoto, and the Tokyo National Museum and Nezu Museum in Tokyo. In addition, Lee attended



an academic workshop related to a special exhibition called Discoveries from the Sinan Shipwreck at the National Museum of Korea in Seoul.

### Allison McCann

This past summer, Allison McCann traveled through the Czech Republic, Austria, Slovenia, and Croatia as the program assistant for Director of Architectural Studies Drew Armstrong's course Architecture and the City in Central Europe: 19th and 20th Centuries. She had a blast learning about a time period (modernity) and medium (architecture) that, as a medievalist, she rarely gets the chance to study. After the completion of the course, she returned to Prague, Czech Republic, to conduct research on 14th-century devotional manuscripts with the generous support of a Czechoslovak Room Committee Scholarship. She saw a number of exhibitions, including Charles IV and Prague—700 Years, and spent many hours reading and writing in the Baroque reading room of the National Library of the Czech Republic.



Allison McCann at St. Rupert's Church in Vienna, Austria

### Elizabeth Self

With the assistance of a Dean's Summer Research Travel Grant, Liz Self traveled to Japan in April for a research trip as she neared the final stages of her dissertation work. She initially carried out research in the National Diet Library and then traveled to Kyoto, where she visited Yōgen-in, a 17th-century Buddhist temple dedicated to the memory of the daimyo Azai Nagamasa. One of the chapters of her dissertation deals with the history of patronage by elite women at this temple. Finally, Self visited the city of Obama, in rural Fukui Prefecture, where the curators at the Wakasa History and Folklore Museum were kind enough to give her a private showing of the 17th-century portrait of Jōkō-in, an elite woman and the subject of another chapter of Self's dissertation. Self also visited the temple founded by Jōkō-in and met with the head priest.



Liz Self with the head priest of Jōkōji, the temple that owns the portrait of Jōkō-in

### Henry Skerritt

In fall 2016, Henry Skerritt was appointed curator of the indigenous arts of Australia at the Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of the University of Virginia. During 2016, he curated two touring exhibitions: Yimardoowarra: Artist of the River, which opened at the Australian embassy in Washington, D.C., before traveling to the Kluge-Ruhe, and Marking the Infinite, which opened at the Newcomb Art Museum at Tulane University before traveling to five museums in the United States and Canada. Skerritt edited the accompanying exhibition catalog for Marking the Infinite, published through Prestel Publishing, and also contributed an essay to the catalog accompanying the exhibition Everywhen: The Eternal Present in Indigenous Art from Australia, which opened at the Harvard Art Museums in February.



Henry Skerritt

### Contemporaneity

Edited each year by a team of dedicated history of art and architecture graduate students, the department's online journal, *Contemporaneity: Historical Presence in Visual Culture* ([contemporaneity.pitt.edu](http://contemporaneity.pitt.edu)), continues to grow in stature, with regular contributions to each edition by outstanding faculty, graduate, and curatorial scholars. *Contemporaneity* released its fifth edition, "Agency in Motion," in October 2016. This is the journal's first thematic issue, for which an international set of authors submitted contributions contending with the dual concepts of agency and reenactment in many forms, including performance, photography, architecture, and curating. "Agency in Motion" includes a special section on curatorial agency and critical reviews of art exhibitions.



Thanks to the many contributors to our successful EngagePitt fundraising campaign, which will help to support the publication of *Contemporaneity's* sixth edition, "Who, When, Where: Art and Identification across Borders," due out in October 2017. As *Contemporaneity's* second thematic issue, the sixth edition will seek to publish scholarship and artwork concerning the complexity of art and identification in time and space. ❖





# University of Pittsburgh

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences  
**Department of History of Art and Architecture**  
104 Frick Fine Arts Building  
650 Schenley Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Web [haa.pitt.edu](http://haa.pitt.edu)