

AU Alumni:

Thank you once again for your alumni news and feedback about *ARTifacts*. In this issue, you'll find an important status report on women in the field of art history from Dr. Mary Garrard, more career profiles of alumni, news of the AU art history webpage, and for those of us still living in Washington, information on lectures by two American University professors at upcoming major museum venues.

Please remember that the success of *ARTifacts* depends deeply upon you. We hope that we will continue to hear from you, whether you are near or far from Washington. We encourage you to keep us updated on your career experiences, conference attendance, continuing education, lectures, publications, or any other items of interest for fellow alumni and the current art history students. We look forward to hearing from you.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 8–May 26

Watkins Gallery, American University
Graduate Thesis shows.

April 12

Princeton University

Dr. Broude will present "Outing Impressionism: Homosexuality and Homosocial Bonding in the Work of Caillebotte and Bazille" at the Graduate Student Visiting Lecture Series.

April 23

American University

Third annual Art History Department luncheon at the Mary Graydon Center. The second annual Robert Pence Award will be announced.

May 1

National Gallery of Art

Twenty-Ninth Annual Session of the Middle Atlantic Symposium

in the History of Art. Professor Broude will serve as faculty sponsor for AU participating speaker, Alejandra Gimenez (M.A. '98; currently in the Ph.D. program at Temple University). Alejandra's paper is entitled: "The Quest for Self-Knowledge: Gurdjieffian Thought in the Art of Remedios Varo."

June 6

National Gallery of Art

Dr. Broude will lecture on "Cassatt and the Woman Artist in Nineteenth-Century Culture" during a special program for the opening of the exhibition "Mary Cassatt, Modern Woman." The Cassatt retrospective will be on view from June 6–September 6, 1999. For more information, check the NGA website, <http://www.nga.gov> in early May.

▪ **Dr. Norma Broude** will give a lecture on April 12, 1999 at Princeton University for the Graduate Student Visiting Lecture Series. Her lecture is "Outing Impressionism: Homosexuality and Homosocial Bonding in the Work of Caillebotte and Bazille." On June 6, Dr. Broude will lecture on "Cassatt and the Woman Artist in Nineteenth-Century Culture" at the National Gallery of Art. The lecture is in conjunction with the opening of "Mary Cassatt: Modern Woman," the first retrospective of Cassatt's work since 1970.

▪ **Dr. Mary Garrard** lectured on "Brunelleschi's Egg: Nature, Art, and Gender Ideology in Renaissance Italy" at Princeton University and New York University's Institute of Fine Arts. In May, Dr. Garrard will be awarded an honorary doctorate from Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi.

▪ In March, **Dr. Helen Langa** presented "Art as a Weapon: Printmaking and Social Justice in the 1930s" at the Southern Graphics Council conference in Tempe, Arizona. On April 10, she presented "Politics, Professionalism, and Privacy: Writing Women Artists' Biographies in the 1930s" for the National Museum of Women in the Arts colloquium "Researching Women Artists: Old Problems and New Directions." At the colloquium, Dr. Langa was joined by current AU graduate students Ginny Traner, Amy Gotzler, and Kelly Swain, and undergrad Brooke Rosenblatt, who also presented papers. This summer, Dr. Langa will teach a class entitled Twentieth-Century Women Artists of the Americas at AU.

▪ Over spring break, **Dr. Patricia Meilman** continued her research on Renaissance Dominican chapter houses at the Dominican archives at Santa Sabina and the Biblioteca Apostolica in Rome. Her article on Colgate University's *Holy Family* by Francesco Vecellio has been published in the 1999 Picker Art Gallery Journal.

▪ Departmental News ▪

THE FINE ARTS BUILDING

A planning committee was recently formed to assist in the renovation of the Cassell Building. Don Kimes, who represents the Art Department, said that the committee is projecting the building's completion by the fall of 2001 and that issues of space allocation are currently being considered. During this process, there will be broad input from members of the art department. Art history faculty and staff will pay particular attention to having Cassell classrooms equipped with technologically advanced methods of image delivery and Don assures us that new technology issues will be

seriously considered. In addition, we are hopeful that the existing slide collection and new media equipment, departmental assets worth well over \$500,000, will be housed in a humidity controlled, expanded space.

AU ART HISTORY LAUNCHES A NEW ART HISTORY WEBPAGE

Recently the art history faculty and staff realized that AU art history was not well represented on "on the web." So we enlisted the able assistance of Kristin Kaineg, a graduate of AU's design program and the designer of the art history poster created last year for the department. Kristin has developed a splendid new webpage that highlights the art history program at AU. The new site was launched in March 1999 and is available to anyone with access to the Internet. The site will serve to market both the graduate and undergraduate art history programs to a vast array of potential students. Visit the website at <http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/cas/art/arhistory/index.html>. Please note that this site is still "under construction." One of the features we will be adding is a section on our Alumni, which may include an online version of *ARTifacts*.

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW

As many of you know, the Art History program just completed a mandatory review of the masters program. Although we have not heard from the provost's office about the outcome of the review, we are confident that the University will continue to support this outstanding program. Many thanks to those alumni who wrote letters of support. Not only were the letters submitted with the review, but we also very much enjoyed hearing from so many of you. Thanks again for your kind and thoughtful remarks and for taking the time to write about your own AU experience.

SUMMER CLASS OFFERING

This summer the art history program will be offering a course on Twentieth-Century Women Artists of the Americas. The course will be taught by Dr. Helen Langa during the first summer session, May 24-July 1 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 8:40 p.m. Dr. Langa explains that women artists have made enormous contributions to the visual arts of painting, sculpture, and photography in the United States, Canada, and Latin America during the 20th century. The course explores the history of women's artistic ideas, their careers, and their professional and social activism. The class meetings will include lecture and informal discussions, videos, case-study reports, panel presentations, and more.

(Departmental News, continued on page 3)

For further information contact the department at (202) 885-1670.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC SYMPOSIUM

Join current faculty, staff, and students at the Middle Atlantic Symposium on the History of Art on May 2, 1999. This all-day symposium will take place at the National Gallery of Art and will feature speakers from selected graduate art history programs in the region. Recent alumni Alejandra Gimenez will be representing American University. Alejandra will be speaking on the art of the Spanish artist Remedios Varo.

ART HISTORY LUNCHEON

The third annual Art History Luncheon will be held on Friday, April 23 at the Mary Graydon Center on the American University campus. The luncheon will mark the second time that American alumnus Robert Pence will present an AU art history student with the award endowed by Mr. Pence and his wife Susan.

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We want your news
and views.

Contact

t-ballard@nga.gov

or

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Class Notes ■ Class Notes ■ Class Notes

- **Debbie Campbell** (B.A. '93) is currently working towards her M.A. in Information Resources and Library Science at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona with an emphasis on museum librarianship.
- **Ruthann R. Uithol** (M.A. '89) is the collections manager at the Hillwood Museum in Washington, DC.
- **Robert Delehanty** (M.A. '91) now works at the US Patent and Trademark Office as a Design Patent Examiner.
- **Vanessa Rocco** (B.A. '92) is currently a project curatorial assistant at the Guggenheim in New York and is enrolled in the Ph.D program at the Graduate Center, CUNY.
- Following the birth of her baby, **Elizabeth O'Brien [née Barthold]** (M.A. '91) is working part-time as an architectural historian at John Milner Associates Inc. in Alexandria, VA.
- **Cordula Grewe** (M.A. '92) has been appointed to a three-year position as a research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC. where she will continue work on her postdoctoral thesis. In other news, Cordula is engaged to University of Pennsylvania professor Warren Breckman, and the two plan to wed in Germany on July 3, 1999.
- **Meghan Duffy** (M.A. '94) is now the head of the east coast office of Sculpture Placement in Washington, D.C.
- **Jennifer Mock** (B.A. '97) is currently working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and is enrolled in the M.A. program at Hunter College in New York.
- **Erica Debruyne** (B.A. '98) is enrolled in the M.A. program at Sotheby's Institute.
- **Alejandra Gimenez** (M.A. '98) will be representing American University at the Mid-Atlantic Graduate Symposium at the National Gallery of Art. She will present her paper (based on one of her two extended research papers for her AU M.A.) "The Quest for Self-Knowledge: Gurdjieffian Thought in the Art of Remedios Varo," on May 1st. The lecture series is open to the public and begins at 10:00 A.M.
- **Suzanne Gould** (M.A. '98) is currently working as a curatorial research assistant at the Art Institute of Chicago.
- **Marisa Ruiz** (M.A. '98) recently became Editorial Assistant for *American Art* at the National Museum of American Art.
- **Katja Zigerlig** (M.A. '98) presented her paper entitled "Nostalgia and Nurturance: Czech Landscapes of Recollection and Premonition" at the Mid-Atlantic Slavic Society in New York on March 20. She then flew to Great Britain to present the paper for a second time at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge for the British Association for Slavic and Eastern European Studies.

Careers in the Arts

■ Since her graduation from American University, **Ann M. Kenny** (M.A. '93) has been working as a research assistant for the Curator for the Architect of the United States Capitol. Ann has worked with the Curator, Dr. Barbara Wolanin on her recent publication, *Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol*. She is currently working with architectural historian, William C. Allen on a construction history of the Capitol. The book is due for publication in time for the Bicentennial of Congress in 2000.

Ann recently described her AU experience in a letter to the department: I returned to school after many years to earn a masters' degree in art history in order to make a career change. I needed to find a program which was highly regarded in the Washington area and which could demonstrate an excellent record in job placement. After much researching I chose the program offered by AU. The faculty was well known, widely published and an integral part of the art and museum world in the Washington area, indeed, throughout the country.

My studies at AU were exciting and intellectually stimulating. I was continually challenged and guided to think about and question issues being discussed by art historians everywhere. During my final year at AU, I participated in the internship program at the National Museum of American Art. That program introduced me to and prepared me for the varied opportunities available in museum work. I worked with curators, registrars, and collection managers. It was through my connections there that I found my first job.

The AU art history program's academic excellence, networking opportunities, and strong support among the faculty prepared me well for my work at the AOC. My educational experience at AU also helped foster in me a continuing appreciation of the creative process and a sense of life long learning.

■ After nearly five years as the Head of Education at the Kreeger Museum in Washington, D.C., **Marlisa Mizerak [née Post]** (MA '95) recently took the position of Volunteer Coordinator at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington. The Kreeger, a Philip Johnson-designed home-turned-museum, first opened to the public in June 1994.

Joining the Kreeger soon after its opening, Marlisa handled visitor services, established the education programs, and gave a series of

public lectures each fall at the museum. She also developed the docent training program, which included teaching a nine-month art history course and giving continuing education lectures.

In November 1997, she married Ron Mizerak, an architect with Sheridan, Behm, Eustice & Associates in Arlington. She and Ron live in Arlington with their Siberian Husky, Nikki.

Although Marlisa has left the Kreeger to pursue a career outside the art field, she hopes to continue her involvement in the arts through volunteer service at one of the local museums.

Have your career
profiled
in the next

ARTifacts

MARY GARRARD REPORTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AT CAA PANEL

At the recent College Art Association (CAA) conference in Los Angeles (February 1999), I participated in a panel on the status of women and people of color in the arts professions, sponsored by the CAA Committee on Women in the Arts. My role was to compare the first CAA survey on the status of women in art history, which I conducted in 1978-79, with the most recent survey of 1995-96. Together, these surveys give us the most complete picture we have ever had of the changing—or perhaps not so changing—status of women among art history faculty in academia.

The 1979 survey represented responses from 43 of 45 Ph.D-granting institutions surveyed. The 1996 survey represented responses from 167 of 230 M.A./Ph.D/M.F.A.-granting institutions surveyed (140 responded to the art history section). (Because the first survey did not include race as a factor, we have no basis of comparison in that area.)

Presently, women hold 48.5 % of all full-time faculty positions. They now hold close to half of all tenured positions, 45%, whereas in 1978, they held only 17% of tenured positions. They hold 62.5% of the entry level positions, a category they held 46% of in 1978, and they are 55% of the Associate Professors (formerly they were 30%). In 1978, women were only 10% of the full Professors; today they are 37%.

Clearly, this represents progress. However, the picture is not as rosy as it first seems. For the past twenty years, 65-75% of students in Ph.D programs have been female. Today, something like 77% of the PhDs granted in art history go to women. If women had been hired and retained and promoted and tenured in proportions reflecting their share in the market, we would be seeing percentages in the upper ranks (i.e., full and associate professor) in the 60s and 70s, not in the 20s and 30s!

We must recognize that for all the affirmative action we have had and measured, the 23% of new Ph.Ds that is male is still the favored cohort. And as the number of males in art history doctoral programs shrinks, the new danger is de facto affirmative action for males at the entry levels, while men still dominate the ranks of the tenured and still hold 63% of the full professor positions.

**DO YOU KNOW...
ANY OF THESE
"LOST" ALUMS?**

If you keep in touch with the following AU alums, please let them know we'd like to add them to our mailing list.

Ms. Monica Paprocki, M.A. '92

last known address:

Herndon, VA

Maya Milatovic M.A. '91

last known address:

Los Angeles, CA

Full Time Faculty

- **Norma Broude**, Professor
Ph.D., Columbia University
(Modern European Art)
- **Mary D. Garrard**, Professor
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
(Italian Renaissance Art)
- **Helen Langa**, Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of North Carolina
(American Art)
- **Patricia Meilman**, Visiting Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Columbia University
(Italian Renaissance Art)

Visual Resources Curator

- **Kathe Hicks Albrecht**, M.A., American University

Adjunct Faculty

- **Ellen Cooper Erdreich**
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University
(Medieval Art)
- **Nancy Lodge**
Ph.D., Boston University
(Renaissance Art)
- **John Poppeliers**
Ph.D., Catholic University; former chief,
Historical American Buildings Survey
(Architecture)
- **H. Diane Russell**,
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University;
Curator Emeritus of Old Master Prints and
Drawings, National Gallery of Art,
(Graphic Arts, Baroque Art)
- **Rachel Cropsey Simons**,
Ph.D., University of Maryland
(Northern Renaissance Art)

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