

AU Alumni:

We were very pleased with the positive response we received about *ARTifacts* from alumni all over the world. Thanks to all of you who contacted us about the initial newsletter. We heard from folks as far away as Germany and learned about new jobs and exciting developments from many of you. Check out the alumni profiles in this issue to find out what we discovered. We plan to publish *ARTifacts* twice a year and hope it will become a vital link between the department and the art history alumni for years to come. Look for your spring issue sometime in March and please keep us posted with your news and any changes in address.

As you read through this issue, you will see that 1998 was an extremely active year for the department. A new building proposal, faculty activities and travel, a new undergraduate award, an image database program, and many other exciting developments kept faculty, staff, and students busy. And early 1999 promises to keep apace with four AU Art History representatives participating in the CAA Conference in L.A. (Dr. Broude, Dr. Garrard, Dr. Langa and Kathe Albrecht). If you plan to attend the conference, please let us know.

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C A L E N D A R O F E V E N T S

November 2–21

Watkins Gallery

Mark Oxman, *Jason and the Argonauts*

Opening Reception, Saturday, November 7, 4–6 P.M.

November 13

Art Institute of Chicago

Dr. Broude's Keynote Address for the "Women as Artist and Subject" symposium.

February 12–15

College Art Association Conference

Los Angeles, CA

For more information on the conference, see
<http://www.collegeart.org/caa/>.

February 13–March 5

Watkins Gallery

Sarah Baker Retrospective. Baker, a former American faculty member, was one of the twenty-five original artists who donated works that would go on to become the Watkins Collection.

March 7–12

Watkins Gallery

First-Year M.F.A. Candidates' Exhibition.

February 13–March 5

Watkins Gallery

Graphic Art students' Design Expo.

April 1–7

Watkins Gallery

Undergraduate Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking Exhibition.

April 8–May 26

Watkins Gallery

Graduate Thesis shows.

Faculty Update

▪ **Dr. Norma Broude** was interviewed by the Dutch Television News Service in September on her thoughts concerning the Van Gogh exhibition at the National Gallery of Art. Dr. Broude continues her public appearances with a keynote address at the Art Institute of Chicago in November. At the AIC symposium entitled "Woman as Artist and Subject: Mary Cassatt, Julia Margaret Cameron and 19th century Art and Culture," she will address the topic of "The Woman Artist and Nineteenth Century Culture." In February 1999, Dr. Broude will present a paper at the College Art Association annual conference in Los Angeles, California.

▪ **Dr. Mary Garrard** was a guest lecturer at Millsaps College in March, 1998, where she spoke on "Artemisia Gentileschi: A Major Painter of the Italian Baroque." After the American release of the controversial film *Artemisia* by Agnes Merlet, Dr. Garrard was broadly cited in various publications, including *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *New York Magazine*, *LA Times*, *London Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, *the Guardian*, *Le Monde* and *Salon*. In addition, she was interviewed about the film on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* in May and June. Uproar over the film continued and Dr. Garrard and Gloria Steinem circulated a leaflet entitled, "Now That You've Seen the Film, Meet the Real Artemisia Gentileschi." A number of current American students also voiced their opposition to the film's historically incorrect portrayal of Gentileschi by staging a demonstration outside the D.C.'s Uptown theatre where the film was being shown. In May, Dr. Garrard participated in a symposium, "Artemisia Gentileschi, The Artist and the Film: Interpretations," at the Richard L. Feigen Gallery in New York in May.

More recently, Dr. Garrard's research on Artemisia Gentileschi brought her to Seville, Spain in September to examine a work which hangs in that city. In October, *Art in America* published Dr. Garrard's essay, "Artemisia's Trial by Cinema."

▪ **Dr. Helen Langa** has a forthcoming article in *American Art* (Spring, 1999) entitled "Two Anti-Lynching Art Exhibitions: Politicized Viewpoints, Racial Perspectives, Gendered Constraints." She will also be presenting a paper on "Destabilizing Differences: Activist Women Artists in the Late 1930s" at the South Eastern College Art Conference in October 1998 in Miami. In addition, she will be presenting a paper at the CAA conference in February on the topic, "American-Style Tikkun Olam: Jewish Immigrant Artists, Liminal Identities, and Labor Iconography." Finally, Dr. Langa will round out her appearances as an invited speaker for a plenary session on "Art and Society" at the Southern Graphics Council Conference, March 1999, in Tempe, Arizona.

▪ **Dr. Patricia Meilman** is teaching the graduate level Renaissance course this semester. In the Spring, she will be teaching a graduate course on the Art of Islam. This course will focus on architecture, painting, textiles, and other arts, studied within the context of Islamic culture, religion, and history. Dr. Meilman is currently developing a web site for the course. Visit the website at <http://gurukul.american.edu/islam/home.html> to learn more about this exciting course offering. In other exciting news, Dr. Meilman's book *Titian and the Altarpiece in Renaissance Venice* is due for publication in March, 1999, by Cambridge University Press. Also forthcoming from Cambridge University Press is the *Companion Guide to Titian*. Dr. Meilman will serve as both editor and contributor to this anthology.

Departmental News

THE NEW FINE ARTS BUILDING

Many AU alumni have been following the saga of the new fine arts facility proposed for the site of the existing Watkins and Kreeger buildings. The building project has been discussed periodically for the past ten years. This summer, however, University administration announced that an alternative proposal has been accepted and that the existing Cassell building will be transformed into a "Center for the Arts." Cassell (located just off of Ward Circle) will be completely gutted and renovated and will house Art History, the Fine Arts (Painting, Sculpture, Printmaking), Design, Dance, and Theatre programs. Plans also include an expanded space for the Watkins Collection and Gallery. Art Department faculty, staff, and current students are excited about the proposal and understand that the move will bring the department a higher campus profile as the University "anchor" on Massachusetts Avenue directly across from the main gates. Unlike a new building proposal, the renovation of an existing building can be completed in a timely manner and zoning issues will be less problematic. We will keep you posted on fundraising efforts and renovation schedule in upcoming newsletters.

WATKINS GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

The year will be an exciting one for the Watkins Gallery. The department has hired a new collections curator, Tom Raneses, who is also an adjunct studio faculty member. The Gallery opened with an exhibition by Blaine Larson and continued in October with an installation by Israeli artist, Nahum Tevet. In November, AU faculty member Mark Oxman will exhibit his recent works around the theme of Jason and the Argonauts. Later exhibitions will include Ricky Calloway, a Sarah Baker retrospective, and Design and Master Thesis Shows. Local alums are invited to attend openings to meet the artists and visit the department. Look for the exhibition dates in the calendar section of this and upcoming newsletters.

(Departmental News, continued on page 3)

FROM THE SLIDE LIBRARY

Our automation efforts continue with a new image database for the slide collection, electronic slide labeling, and web pages for three art history courses. The slide library has expanded into an annex off the art history office, giving much needed space for the department's electronic initiatives. In addition to departmental developments, electronic resources for art history students have been augmented this year through Bender Library, with on-line versions of BHA and other resources now available. A new electronic lab in the library is for student use. In conjunction with her work on electronic resources for the art history program, Kathe Albrecht will be presenting a paper at the College Art Conference in Los Angeles on issues of access to digital images on college campuses.

THE ROBERT AND SUSAN PENCE AWARD

In the Spring, the department announced a new undergraduate award for an outstanding art history student and Robert and Susan Pence have endowed the award on an ongoing basis. Presentation of the first award took place at the art history luncheon in April 1998. The recipient was graduating senior Sybil Keats-Bjorkstn whose outstanding scholarship was noted by Mr. Pence as he presented her with both a cash award and a multi-volume set of scholarly books on Michelangelo. Mr. Pence, in recent years a trustee of American University and a former student of Mary Garrard, extends his already impressive commitment to the University with this new annual endowment. Departmental faculty, staff, and students are grateful for the Pences' support and interest.

Send us your ARTifacts

We want your news
and views.

Contact

t-ballard@nga.gov or
kalbrech@american.edu

Class Notes ■ Class Notes ■ Class Notes

- After ten years at the Museum of Modern Art, alum **Lisa Farrington** (M.A. '80) went on to receive her Ph.D. from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She is currently teaching Haitian, African-American, and survey courses at Parsons School of Design and is a recent recipient of MAGNET and Mellon fellowships. Her new book on the artist Faith Ringgold is expected to be published this fall.
- **Joy Hotchkiss** (B.A. '90) (née Auer) is the Marketing and Public Relations Manager at OVATION, a cable network dedicated to the arts. She recently worked on publicizing the PBS/WETA co-production of "Rings of Passion: Five Emotions in the World Art," a television program with an adjoining website. The Rings of Passion webpage (<http://www.pbs.org/ringsofpassion>) was chosen as the Pick of the Day by Yahoo! editors on October 4. She and her husband Ross live in Alexandria. She can be reached at jhotchkiss@ovationtv.com.
- **Robert Delehanty** (M.A., '91), has left the National Gallery of Art to join the U.S. Patent Office, where he researches design copyrights.
- **Meghan Duffy** (M.A., '94) will marry Drew Newman November 28th. The couple will continue to reside in Washington, D.C.
- **Debby Katz** (née Gross) (M.A. '94) plans to run in the New York Marathon on November 1.
- **Marc Infeld** (M.A., '96), a Visual Resource Curator, is upgrading the slide library's collection at George Washington University. He is also heading a CD-Rom project with GW design students on the work of Edgar Degas, which will be used as a study tool. Recently, Marc and his wife Annelise became the proud parents of a daughter, Madeleine.
- **Kimberly Drummond** (B.A. '97) has taken a new position in the Education Department of the National Museum of American Art.

■ **Cordula Grewe** (M.A. '92) is currently a Visiting Scholar at the "Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte" in Paris. In July of this year, she was awarded her Ph.D. in Art History from the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität in Freiburg, Germany. The focus of her thesis was the artist Wilhelm von Schadow, a nineteenth century German painter of religious and allegorical subjects. In recent years, Cordula has been prolific in her writing and publishing as a co-author for a catalog on the Landesmuseum Hannover, a contributor to a publication on the seventeenth century artist Ernst Thomann, as well as an author of numerous pieces for dictionaries, book and exhibition reviews, and art journals. Her latest article, "The Invention of the Secular Devotional Picture," will be included in an upcoming edition of *Word & Image*.

In addition to her published works, Cordula has given numerous papers in the United States, Germany, and Great Britain. The most recent of her travels was to the 34th International Congress on Medieval Studies, held at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Cordula not only presented two papers at the congress, but also gave an additional paper entitled "The Reawakening of Religious Feeling in German Art and Music in the Nineteenth Century" at the Bach festival at a nearby college. Since graduation, Cordula has also lent her expertise on nineteenth century German art to numerous auction houses and private galleries in Germany and Switzerland.

In 1999, Cordula will be relocating from Europe to Philadelphia. She can be reached via email at CordulaGrewe@compuserve.com.

■ **Ellen Keiter** (M.A. '94) is Curator of Exhibitions at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers, New York. The museum, dedicated to exhibitions and programs on American art, history, and science, has an extensive permanent collection of Hudson River School paintings. In addition, museum holdings include 19th and 20th century prints, photographs, sculpture, costumes, decorative arts, ephemera, and local history documents. Situated along the picturesque Hudson River, the museum complex consists of a Victorian mansion, a modern exhibition wing, and a planetarium. Visit their website at <http://www.hrm.org> for information on the museum and upcoming events.

Ellen has been with the Hudson River Museum for four years and participates in the production of every exhibition. Before being promoted to her current position, Ellen served as Assistant Curator and was mainly involved in modern and contemporary art exhibitions. Last year's exhibition "Hanging by a Thread" highlighted contemporary artists working with textiles—fabric, fiber, and filament. Miriam Schapiro's fabric and acrylic piece entitled *The Poet*, Bettye Saar's *Shadows of Silence* collage and the draped felt *House of Vetti II* by

Robert Morris were among the works selected for the show. The informative exhibition catalog essay "Unraveling Art" was written by Ms. Keiter.

Ellen lives with her husband, Jordan, two cats, and a Newfoundland puppy, in Goldens Bridge, New York. She enjoyed the premiere issue of *ARTifacts* and looks forward to keeping updated on alumni and faculty activities. Her excellent suggestion of a "Careers in the Arts" column was adopted by the editors and her own activities contribute to our first such column.

■ Upon finishing her Master's degree, **Julie Charles** (M.A. '96) returned to her home state of California where she is now the Docent Coordinator at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA). Julie is responsible for recruiting and interviewing all potential docents at the museum. She organizes all aspects of their year-long training and personally conducts some of their courses. There are approximately 300 docents currently at SFMOMA giving specialized adult or childhood educational tours. Following their training, Julie is in charge of evaluating all the docents' tour debuts.

Julie also helps to oversee activities and events pertaining to, and attended by, the docents. Her success with the SFMOMA docents was recently recognized in an article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Priceless Art Work-Museum docents share their passion with the public—and are invaluable." The article praised the "unsung heroes" of the art world who volunteer at museums in San Francisco. Julie and the SFMOMA docents are extremely busy with the fall 1998 exhibition schedule, which includes retrospectives of Alexander Calder and California native son, Richard Diebenkorn.

Have your career
profiled
in the next
A R T i f a c t s

FY.I. will be a section on topical items related to, but not limited by, life after American University's Art History Department. Have a subject you're curious about or especially knowledgeable about? Contact the Art History department or one of the editors to talk about contributing to an issue of ARTifacts.

Degree in hand or your theses safely signed, sealed, and delivered—what next? If an additional dose of academia is not in your plans, most art history graduates know the drill. You seek out the latest copy of *CAA Careers* or *AVISO*, call various joblines, and ask everyone you know if they have heard of any future openings in an arts field....anywhere.

While job newsletters like *Careers* and *AVISO* are still good places to begin job research, there is an expanding new source for arts-related job listings and career development information—the Internet. For what seemed like forever, any job listings found on the WWW were almost exclusively targeted for programmers, system analysts, or network engineers. But slowly, perhaps somewhat cautiously, cultural classifieds have established a valid internet presence.

The information on the internet sites below is as current as possible. Some sites that sounded wonderful and were referenced as links many times (such as MERC, the Museum Employment Resource Center), were inaccessible when this article was being researched.

- **American University Career Center–Jobtrak** (<http://www.jobtrak.com/>)

Jobtrak is the American University's online career research tool. Alumni can access the system after creating a user profile and obtaining the school password from the AU Career Center at (202) 885-1800.

- **Art Design and Career Employment** (http://www.nmu.edu/departments/AD_Career-Jobs.html)

Operated by Northern Michigan University's art department, this website is best used for its many links to other career-related sources such as "New York City Employment, Careers, Jobs, and Resources" site, and the "Communication Arts" webpage.

- **Artswire** (<http://www.artswire.org/current/jobs.html>)

This website is maintained by the New York Foundation for the Arts. It incorporates listings from a variety of multidisciplinary arts organizations. It appears to be updated regularly and offers a wide range of geographical job listings in such locales as New York, the District of Columbia, California, and Canada. Listings are fairly substantial in their descriptions.

- **Careerpath** (<http://www.careerpath.com>)

The best site of the bunch. Careerpath searches job listings from over seventy newspapers' classifieds. Job seekers choose "Art" from a list of career categories, and may narrow their search by the addition of a keyword or limit their search to listings of specific newspapers. Nearly all major U.S. newspapers are available for searching. The site also includes helpful employer profiles and other links to career resources on resume building and networking.

- **Career Alternatives for Art Historians** (<http://www.nd.edu/~crosenbe/jobs.html>)

This web page was created by Dr. Charles M. Rosenberg, a professor at Notre Dame. This site is good for pre-graduates who are curious about jobs that draw upon the interests of art history students but are not strictly based in academic research. No actual job listings per se, but an interesting site to visit if curious about what jobs are out there beyond teaching.

Museum-L

Although not a website, the museum listserv does offer up-to-date listings of museum jobs. To subscribe to the list, email "listserv@home.ease.lsoft.com" with the message "subscribe Museum-L *your name*." You can also search listings on the listserv without joining by visiting the archives page of Museum-L at <http://home.ease.lsoft.com/archives/museum-l.html>.

- *Many thanks to Meghan Duffy for calling our attention to these internet sites.*

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.

Susan Berg, B.A. '75

Susan Littlefield, B.A. '76

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 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)

ART *ifacts*

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