

ARTifacts

The American University
Art History Newsletter
Spring 1998

AU Alumni:

Welcome to the premier issue of *ARTifacts*, the American University Art History alumni newsletter. The introduction of this newsletter realizes a long-standing goal of the Art History program to establish and maintain a communicative link between the students, faculty, and our diverse alumni. The newsletter will serve as part of a dedicated effort to maintain a strong relationship with AU students after they graduate.

It is our hope is that this periodic publication will encourage alumni to renew contact with their alma mater, keep current with departmental developments, and foster a continuing involvement with the Art History program and its ongoing activities.

Your support for this venture is important. In this issue, you will find a form to complete and return. What kinds of articles and information would you like to see addressed in future issues? How would you like to participate in departmental activities and alumni networking? Please keep us up-to-date with your career moves, mailing information, and other news.

We hope you enjoy reading the premier issue of *ARTifacts* and we look forward to hearing from you in the near future!

Trish Ballard
Newsletter Editor
t-ballard@nga.gov

Kathe Albrecht
Visual Resources Curator
kalbrec@american.edu

Norma Broude
Director, Art History Graduate Program
nbroude@american.edu

Helen Langa
Assistant Professor, American Art
hlanga@american.edu

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

February 13-March 6 *Watkins Gallery*

American University's on-campus art gallery will display the recent works of Louis Silva, the newest addition to the studio art department's faculty.

February 21 *College of Arts and Sciences Symposium*

Nine art history students will be participating in AU's College of Arts and Sciences graduate symposium. Seven students will be presenting on a panel on Michelangelo, with each of the students discussing on aspects of the artist's oeuvre. Dr. Patricia Meilman, who is the sabbatical replacement for Dr. Garrard this year, is coordinating the panels. Participating students are Kim Donfeld, Alejandra

Gimenez, Suzanne Gould, Michele Kovach, Jobi Okin, Paul Ruth and Jennifer Seoanes. Sue Brietkopf will be discussing Edward Hopper's *Nudes* and Katja Zigerlig will discuss Toyen. Local alumni are welcome to attend the sessions.

All sessions are to be held at the Mary Graydon Center, from 9 am to 5 pm. To find out more information or R.S.V.P., call (202).885.2446 or email aboose@american.edu.

February 26 *College Art Association Conference*

Katja Zigerlig, art history graduate fellow, will be presenting a paper at the College Art Association conference in Toronto. Her paper, "Fossilized and Fetishized: Feminine Presence in Toyen's Drawings and Paintings" is part of the session "Confronting the Past: Recent Research on Visual Culture of Russia, Eastern Europe, and the NIS."

Faculty Profiles

Professor **Mary Garrard**, who is on sabbatical this year (1997-98), has been busy with lectures and writing. In October she gave a paper, "Artemisia Gentileschi: A New Painting and Another Identity," at a conference at the Instituto Storico Italo-Germanico in Trento, Italy. In November, she gave a plenary session address, "Artemisia's Women and the Italian Legal System: Victims or Donne Crudeli?," at a symposium sponsored by the Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies, University of Maryland. In addition, she spoke on "Artemisia Gentileschi: Some Problems and Triumphs of an Early Modern Woman Artist," at Mary Washington College. Dr. Garrard has just completed a short book, *Artemisia and Non-Artemisia, c. 1620-22: Two Case Studies in identity Formation*. She continues her research on another book, *Brunelleschi's Egg: Nature, Art and Gender in Renaissance Italy*.

Look for additional profiles of faculty members in upcoming issues of *ARTifacts*.

Alumni Profiles

▪ **Liz Raymond (née Sherman)** (M.A., '95) oversees the daily operations of Gold Leaf Studios, a small conservation studio (in Washington, DC) specializing in the restoration of gilded antiques. She and her co-worker manage studio projects from beginning to end, including writing conservation or fabrication proposals, co-ordinating client projects with the craftsmen, and maintaining a database of the active proposals - insuring all work is billed for upon completion of various projects. Clients include private collectors, galleries, useums, and institutions. The diverse client base provides the opportunity to handle rare works of art and meet other people who also work in the art world. Recently, Gold Leaf Studios provided several frames for the Thomas Moran show at the National Gallery of Art, participated in the historic restoration of the Georgetown Post Office, and fabricated a 18' x 13' x 12" wide carved mahogany and gilded frame for the Ohio State House Rotunda.

Liz can be reached at liz@goldleafstudios.com until July, when she and her husband are expecting their first child.

▪ **Meghan Duffy** (M.A., '94) heads the Washington office of Sculpture Placement, Ltd., a company specializing in the representation of artists, and particularly the bronze sculpture of J. Seward Johnson, Jr. The Washington and Los Angeles offices of Sculpture Placement together are responsible for all sales, exhibitions, publicity, and maintenance of Johnson bronzes around the world. Clients include individual and corporate collectors, as

well as civic groups, museums, and galleries. In the Washington area, Johnson's *Awakening* can be seen at Hain's Point, along the Potomac River.

The small office size (2 people per office) of the company allows for a great breadth of responsibilities, including all contact and correspondence with current and potential clients, writing press releases, conducting interviews for newspaper, radio and television, overseeing national print advertising campaigns, and the coordination of shipping, installation and even planning for exhibitions internationally. Johnson recently premiered his latest series of work at the Galleria Ca'D'oro and the Piazza di Spagna in Rome, and he will be opening a South American Tour in Rio di Janheiro in March.

▪ Departmental News ▪

▪ This is the second year that AU Art History has offered web pages for undergraduate art history courses. Both Modern Art (07.210) and Art: The Historical Experience (07.105) are now "on the net." Students enrolled in the courses can access the sites from campus computers and even networked home computers. Response has been very positive from both students and faculty. The digital images, along with online resource listings and course syllabi provide an invaluable benefit to students at AU. We are grateful to the College of Arts and Sciences for helping to get this new technology project started. A generous curriculum development grant enabled us to purchase necessary projector equipment and to hire two student assistants. The web page project was the subject of two papers that Kathe Albrecht presented recently at the Visual Resources Association/College Art Association conference in New York and at the South Eastern College Art Conference.

▪ As many of you know, AU has been participating in the Museum Educational Site Licensing (MESL) project, a national digital initiative that explores educational use of museum images and information. The project is coming to a close this year, with evaluation to be completed soon. A comprehensive report on MESL, to be published by the Getty Information Institute, is due for release in both print and electronic form in 1998. Kathe Albrecht has contributed an article for this publication. In her article, she examines the effects of the project on the AU campus and, in particular, on the slide library and art department. Access to MESL on the net is limited to the participating organizations, but information is available on the project itself at <http://gurukul.ucc.american.edu/MESL/home.html>.

▪ In other news this year, the art history faculty and staff have developed a dynamic new poster for the Art History graduate program. This poster, created by an AU design student working closely with the department, was distributed in November to 2,500

(Departmental News, continued on page 3)

- Name:
- Undergraduate / Graduate
- Date of Graduation:
- Email address:
- Do you have access to the internet?: y / n
- News to share:
- What topics would you like to see covered in *ARTifacts*?:
- If you are working in an arts-related field, what skills do you think best aided you in getting your job?
- Would you be interested in participating in art history alumni networking?

* Any news can be sent to me via email at t-ballard@nga.gov

▪ Class Notes ▪ Class Notes ▪ Class Notes

▪ An article by **Nancy Yeide** (M.A. '85) entitled "Hector Brame and Nineteenth Century Taste" will be appearing in the March 1998 issue of *Apollo*. Research on the article was conducted in the archives in France and was sponsored by the Robert H. Smith Fellowship Program of the National Gallery of Art, where she currently works as the Head of Curatorial Records and Files.

▪ **Robert Delehanty** (M.A., '91), who currently works at the National Gallery, will have a show of his ceramics from June 20-July 19 at the Jolt'N Bolt coffee house in Washington, DC. A fall show is also planned at Utopia Bar and Grill.

▪ **Debby Katz (née Gross)** (M.A. '94) is currently working in Manhattan at a special events planning company. She and her husband Jeremy live in Brooklyn.

▪ **Allison Levy** (M.A. '92), **Gretchen Bender (née Holtzapple)** (M.A. '94) and **Leo Costello** (M.A. '96) are currently working toward their Ph.D. degrees at Bryn Mawr College.

▪ **Lisa Coldiron** (M.A. '94) works at the National Gallery's Department of Twentieth-Century Art.

▪ **Alejandra Gimenez** (M.A. projected graduation, '98) is a doctoral student in Temple University's new Art History Program in Philadelphia, PA.

▪ After an internship at the Slide Library of the National Gallery of Art, **Marc Infeld** (M.A. '96) recently became the Visual Resources Curator in the Art History Department of George Washington University.

▪ **Ingrid Cartwright** (M.A. '96) is at the University of Maryland working on her Ph.D.

▪ **Jere Daly** (M.A. '96) is currently pursuing a Ph.D in New York City at Columbia University.

▪ **Kimberly Drummond** (B.A. '97) recently took a position in the Special Events department at the National Gallery of Art. She will assist the director of the department planning events connected with the gallery's special exhibitions, such as the upcoming "Degas at the Races." She can be reached via email at k-drummond@nga.gov.

▪ **Lori Johnson** (M.A. '97) is enrolled in the Ph.D program at Princeton University.

(Departmental News, continued from page 3)

colleges throughout the United States. This marketing tool has the potential to reach a broad audience and attract students interested in working with our reknowned faculty here in the nation's political and cultural capital. It is hoped that the poster will be distributed on a regular basis.

▪ In September, the slide library served as the venue for the second annual art history reception. New students met returning students and everyone had the opportunity to chat informally with faculty. We hope to hold the second annual luncheon in May to celebrate the end of the school year. These events are a great opportunity for everyone to get together outside the classroom.

DID YOU KNOW ?

- 100 % of AU Art History M.A. graduates from the past three years are currently working in some aspect of the art history/museum profession or are currently enrolled in doctoral programs?

Art History 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)



AU Art History Newsletter
c/o Trish Ballard
1825 Summit Place NW #202
Washington, DC 20009

