

American University
Department of Art
College of Arts and Sciences
Art History Newsletter
Spring 2003
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### Fellow Alumni:

Spring semester at AU was so busy that we've slipped a little on our *ARTifacts* deadline. We apologize for the current issue appearing in early summer. If we continue to have such action-packed semesters, we'll have to change our spring/fall issues to summer/winter! Please excuse our tardiness this year.

Some of the action on campus has been surrounding Mary Garrard's retirement at the end of the spring semester. Dr. Garrard has been at AU for over thirty years and was a founder of the art history graduate program. There were several activities to celebrate Mary's career at American University and we've been enjoying all the various "send-offs." Although she will no longer be teaching full-time, we hope that Dr. Garrard will continue to be a part of the department and the art history program. Moving from active faculty to emeritus status will give Dr. Garrard some extra time to work on her many and various projects.

Of course, Dr. Garrard's retirement warranted a search for a new Renaissance faculty member. An extensive search and interview process resulted in the university offering the position to Dr. Kim Butler, from Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Butler will be joining the faculty in the fall and teaching Approaches to Art History and Early Renaissance Painting, both upper level courses.

The ARTifacts editors have been busy, too. Trish moved back to her native Kentucky last summer, where she works at Louisville's Speed Art Museum. In addition to her job coordinating the Speed's wonderful volunteers, she is also keeping busy by planning her wedding, set for September of this year. Kathe has just been elected president of the Visual Resources Association (VRA), the premier international association of visual media professionals. She is currently serving a one-year term as President-Elect and will become President in 2004. The VRA Board activity will keep her busy, with several conferences each year and mid-year Board meetings. During her tenure, Kathe plans to visit many visual resources facilities as both her professional and leisure activities take her to domestic and international destinations. On an informal basis, Kathe continues to meet with AU art history alumni across the country.

Enjoy the following pages of Art History Program news and information, have a fabulous summer, and please keep in touch!

#### Kathe Albrecht

Visual Resources Curator & Newsletter Co-editor E-mail: kalbrec@american.edu

#### Trish Ballard

Newsletter Co-editor E-mail: tballard@mindspring.com

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 25, 2003 AU Fall Classes begin

November 3-8, 2003 Museum Computer Network (MCN) Annual Conference "Balancing Museum Technology and Transformation" Las Vegas, Nevada. <www.mcn.edu/mcn2003/index.html>

October 29 to November 1, 2003 South Eastern College Art Conference (SECAC) Raleigh, North Carolina February 18-21, 2004 College Art Association Annual Conference Seattle, Washington

March 9-13, 2004 Visual Resources Association Annual Conference Portland, Oregon

• Know of an event that you think other AU grads would enjoy? Please send dates, locations, and other information to the ARTifacts editors.

### Faculty Update

- During the spring semester, Professor **Norma Broude** acted as chair of the search committee for the new tenure-track and sabbatical replacement appointments in art history. Preparing for her own sabbatical leave (scheduled for AY03–04), she continued her research and writing for two on-going projects, a book on Degas and gender, and an article, "Domestic Iconography in 18th-Century Patrician Villas of the Veneto."
- Mary Garrard was one of the retiring faculty members featured in the Summer 2003 issue of *American Magazine*. In the interview, she explains the best part of her job at AU "...is the freedom to define it. As a professor you get to invent the forms and structures, create your own syllabi and lectures, and then talk about important issues and ideas. It's really a wonderful creative opportunity." She also

discussed her future plans and explained that she will continue with her work but is looking forward to having more time to do so. She is involved in several new writing projects and is currently co-editing another anthology on feminism and art history with Norma Broude.

Mary Garrard's article, "Artemisia's Trial by Cinema" (*Art in America*, October, 1998), was reprinted, along with "Interview with Mary D. Garrard," in Kristen Frederickson and Sarah Webb, eds., *Singular Women: Writing the Artist*, University of California Press, February 2003. In April, Dr. Garrard spoke at Howard Community College, Columbia, Maryland, on, "Artemisia Gentileschi: The Reception and Repression of an Artistic Identity." She also traveled to Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, to present her lecture, "Artemisia's Hand."



• Dr. Mary Garrard (left) with former student Barbara Briggie-Smith at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Art History Luncheon. For more pictures, see pages 4–5.

• Helen Langa's review of Harmony Hammond's book, *Lesbian Art in America*, was recently published in *Woman's Art Journal* (Spring/Summer

2003). Her article on politicized readings of 1930s industrial prints will be published in the *Journal of Industrial Archaeology* in Fall 2003. This summer, Dr. Langa will be researching women printmakers who worked with Robert Henri for a catalog essay (part of a feminist study to be published by the University of California Press in 2005). She is also getting ready to teach Art: The Historical Experience with digital images in the fall. Dr. Langa will also be teaching a course in the fall for the Smithsonian Associates entitled Pivotal Works of Modern Art.

Summer activity for Dr. Langa includes a move in July to Calvert County, Maryland, for the coming year. Although it will be a long commute, the area is full of beautiful nature preserves along the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxtent River and great birding opportunities!

• Rachel Simons plans to continue research this summer on Jan van Eyck and to visit Paris in the fall. While in Europe, she hopes to travel to Antwerp to see some of Jan van Eyck's works.

### Departmental News

After a semester busy with conferences, Katzen Arts Center activities, retirement parties, faculty searches, and candidate interviews, the summer has brought about a change of pace. But the change does not entail the guiet summer's solitude to library is typically which the slide accustomed. This year, the slide library will become the hub of scanning and cataloging activities for three new on-line courses. And Dr. Langa will be on campus, teaching her course on American art, Visual Arts Since 1945, during the first summer session. So, before the busy summer gets fully underway, we'd like to highlight some springtime activities.

#### The Katzen Arts Center

To keep alumni up-to-date on the new arts building developments, we've reproduced excerpts from a recent (June 2) memorandum from **Don Myers**, AU's Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, addressed to the campus community:

The university is about to embark on one of the most ambitious construction projects in its history. The Katzen Arts Center will result in a tremendous improvement in the facilities that support the university's arts programs. The 324,000 square feet building will also feature an exciting new gallery to properly display the university's collection as well as artworks to be donated by Cyrus and Myrtle Katzen....

Construction work began two weeks ago, with preparation for the start of excavation, and is expected to take 20 months....During (the first) three month(s), approximately 7,000 truckloads of soil and rock will be hauled away from the site. Shortly thereafter, three tower cranes will be erected to serve the site and we will start pouring the 25,000 cubic yards of concrete that will form the building structure...

We will be providing regular updates on the project...via announcements....on a project Web site (www.american.edu/katzen). In the near future the Web site will also feature a Web cam, so you can get a view of the work as it progresses.

#### The MDID Project

The slide library has very successfully moved into the digital age. We have just completed our first totally digital art history course. During the spring semester, Dr. Langa taught Modern Art on-line, using the Madison Digital Image Database (MDID). This database application, developed at James Madison University, is available to academic institutions as free shareware. The software enables faculty to put together slide show lectures from computer workstations at home or on campus. It allows for the projection of high-resolution digital images in the classroom and also provides students with a Web-based study quide of images and text. The MDID software has been downloaded by over 400 institutions and is being used on campuses nationwide. MDID's recent inclusion in the ARTStor project, a national Mellon initiative, underlines the importance of this application for teaching. For more information on ARTstor, visit <www.artstor.org>. Will MDID become an industry standard as a presentation software? That remains to be seen, but certainly its use on AU's campus has opened up a world of possibilities for teaching.

For the academic year 2002-2003, art history graduate student **Susan Allan** was hired to scan and catalog the hundreds of images needed for Dr. Langa's course. This work was made possible by the College of Arts and Sciences. Susan also served as the teacher's assistant for the course and set up the digital projector and laptop for Dr. Langa's use in each class session. Using a remote "mouse" to control the lecture, Dr. Langa moved from image to image, zooming in to any area of a work, comparing images side to side or vertically, and otherwise easily manipulating the images as she lectured. By midsemester, Dr. Langa wished that all three of her spring courses were on-line, as it was flexible and fun to use, and she didn't need to spend any time "finding slides" in the slide library.

This summer, two graduate students will be working on the MDID project. New art history graduate assistant Laura Brower and seasoned MDID technical assistant Susan Allan will work under the supervision of Kathe Albrecht. They will scan images for Art: The Historical Experience, an undergraduate general

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education course that Dr. Langa will be teaching in the fall. In addition, they will scan images for Dr. Broude's graduate course, Post-Impressionism to Expressionism and images for her Modern Art course. Susan and Kathe are also developing training tools and manuals for future MDID users and catalogers. Workflow procedures will be examined and other scanning priorities will be established in the near future.

#### CAA Conference/Art History Alumni Reception

The College Art Association Conference, an annual gathering of artists, art historians, students, and other scholars in the arts, met this February in New York City at the Hilton Hotel and Towers. Many of our graduate students, faculty, and staff were in attendance. Scholarly sessions, committee meetings, gallery talks, and museum shows kept everyone busy during those few days in the winter and the two feet of snow that had newly-fallen over the city did not prevent attendees from enjoying this wonderful event. Many current AU students were experiencing their first CAA conference. And those of us on the AU faculty search committee managed to squeeze back-to-back candidate interviews into our hectic schedules and still found time to enjoy the city.

A highlight of the conference was the annual AU Art History Alumni Reception held on February 21 at the conference hotel. The staff at the Hilton provided a delicious buffet luncheon that drew admiring comments from attendees. There were over thirty alumni there, all eager to catch up with fellow alums, meet the new crop of graduate students, and find out what is new at their alma mater. News of the Katzen Arts Center, exciting digital initiatives, and the latest information on everyone's career paths kept folks chatting. Allison Lew (MA '92) is teaching at Wheaton College, Lisa Farrington (MA '80) caught us up on her latest publications on the work of Faith Ringgold, and Rebecca Easby (BA '80) talked with slide library assistants and Kathe Albrecht about the MDID database project. Leo Costello (MA '96), Sue Nalezyty (MA '96), and recent grads Marisa Vigneault (MA '02), Katie Poole (MA '02), and Karla Huebner (MA '02), were among the many attendees. Peggy Stone (BA '74, MA '78), recently reintroduced to the AU alumni group, told us about her Fine Arts Gallery (see Class Notes) and expressed interest in hosting our next reception in New York. She learned all about what is happening at AU and is looking forward to keeping in touch. Newly-minted alums gathered together for "old home week" and traded stories about their doctoral studies and life after AU. All in all, there were alums still networking while the Hilton crew cleared up.

#### New Alums: The Graduates of 2003

MAs from AU who will be going on to doctoral programs in the fall include Susan Allan and Asma Naeem. Susan will be attending Florida State University where she has received a generous financial package. She will be bringing along her MDID expertise to the university and will likely be the first instructor at FSU to teach with MDID images in the fall. Asma Naeem will be attending the University of Maryland. Bryna Campbell is working at AU in the History Department while her husband, Mike, finishes his graduate degree in education. Mandy Lampert will continue teaching in the fall at a private high school in Washington, D.C.. She teaches art history and a course on world history. And Sarah Gilmore is currently looking for a museum position in the Washington area.

#### **Current Students**

Carolina Alarcon will be living in France this summer—in a medieval castle–studying medieval art under the auspices of the Columbia University graduate program. Diane Brookreson is working with an art consultant in Georgetown while finishing up her degree. Lynn Clement-Bremer will begin a position at the Phillips Collection in the fall. She is currently working at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Yuko Teshima is finishing her coursework in the fall. Laura Brower is working in the Art Department this summer, but will also spend several weeks in Europe. She is currently working on her master's thesis for arts management. Courtney Wilson will be assisting Dr. Langa with MDID in the fall, when Dr. Langa teaches Art: The Historical Experience using digital images.

#### The 7th Annual Art History Luncheon

It is hard to believe that we just hosted the seventh annual art history program luncheon. It is truly an established tradition and students, faculty, and staff look forward to celebrating the end of the school year in this festive way. This year, in addition to awarding the Bob and Susan Pence Undergraduate Award, the luncheon served as a venue for celebrating the retirement of Mary D. Garrard. Invitations were sent to alumni to join us in this celebration. Alums from the '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s, and '00s were represented in addition to the art history faculty, chair Ron Haynie, Glenna Haynie, Chris Naffziger, and Kathe



 Drs. Garrard and Broude surrounded by current and former students.

Albrecht. CAS Dean Kay Mussell, Associate Dean Kathleen Kennedy-Corey, and Christal Cherry, assistant director of development and alumni programs, were also in attendance. It was truly a spectacular event.



Susan and Bob Pence.

Both **Bob** and **Susan Pence** were able to join us for this special event, despite the fact that Bob was scheduled to defend his doctoral dissertation at Yale University the following day. Bob awarded the Pence Award to senior art history major **Eve** 

**Haupt** for her outstanding work as an undergraduate art history student. She received a generous cash award and a scholarly book on art history.

Although Dr. Garrard may have had some idea that the luncheon would serve as a celebration of her years at AU and impending retirement, she had no idea the extent of the celebration. Alumni presented her with a diverse array of gifts

and testimonials. Artist **Daniel Nie** (MA '87) gave her a beautiful calligraphic art work. **Anita Reiner** (BA '69, MA '76) donated a work of art by New York artist **Doug Anderson** to the Watkins Collection in Dr. Garrard's name. Current students banded together and gave Dr. Garrard a stunning Mont Blanc pen and a congratulatory "ad" in the student newspaper. Many other alums from across the country wrote testimonials to include in an album of memories of their experiences with Dr. Garrard. The photos of the event captured the joyful celebration and several of them are included on these pages.



 Alumna Pat Marx (MA '76) leafing through the Memory Album as Class of '03 graduate students Bryna Campbell (L) and Sarah Gilmore (R) look on.

(The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Art History Luncheon, cont. page 6)

# More from the 7th Annual Art History Luncheon



(L to R) Helen Langa,
 Norma Broude, and alumna
 Diana Vogelsong (MA '81).



 Dr. Garrard catches up with alumna Enid Hyde (MA '81)



\* Front row (L to R): Art department staff Chris Naffziger, Bryna Campbell (MA '03), Julie Cole (MA '02), and Evi Haupt, Pence awardee and graduating senior. Back row: undergraduate art history students.



• (L to R) Dr. Garrard and Pence Award recipient Eve Haupt.



• (L to R) Dean Kay Mussell, Mary Garrard, and Associate Dean Kathleen Kennedy-Corey.

## Class Notes - Class Notes - Class Notes

- Susan Nalezyty (MA '96), doctoral student at Temple University, serves as technical assistant for the MDID digital imaging project on that campus. She is responsible for preparing all digital images and for training faculty users. In Fall 2002, Temple delivered its first class digitally, using the MDID system. It was a large lecture class team-taught by three faculty members, who were very pleased with the results and are looking forward to teaching all their courses digitally in the future. Sue has provided helpful insight to Kathe Albrecht and Susan Allan, who are working on AU's MDID courses.
- After spending the past few years at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., **Ginny Treanor (MA '02)** will be starting the doctoral program at the University of Maryland in the fall where she has been awarded a teaching assistantship. She is looking forward to getting back to what she loves most!
- Suzanne L'Heureux (MA '99), who has been teaching art history for several years, has developed an on-line course for the Academy of Art College in San Francisco. In the spring, she taught five sections of the course on art of the 20th century. In addition to her teaching load, Suzi is taking a studio course on site-specific sculpture.
- Patricia A. Marx (MA '76) has an article, "Athena on Early Panathenaic Amphoras," in the 2003 issue of *Antike Kunst* (Basel, Switzerland), which gives a new interpretation of the image of Athena on Panthenaic amphoras, large vases filled

- with 39 liters of olive oil. These vases were given as prizes for the winner of certain contests at the Greater Panathenaic Festival, held in Athens once every four years from c. 566 BC until Late Antiquity. Athena appears on one side of the vase, and an athletic event appears on the other.
- Gwen Griffiths (BA '01) informs us that she has been accepted to the Guggenheim internship program and will be spending the winter in Venice. She has also applied to the Courthauld Institute and Bryn Mawr and hopes to soon be settled into a graduate program.
- Peggy Stone (BA '74, MA '78) joined fellow alumni at the annual AU Art History reception held at the CAA Conference in New York City. Her gallery, The Lawrence Steigrad Fine Arts Gallery, is located just around the corner on East 76th Street. The gallery specializes in Old Master Paintings. For more information, please visit <www.steigrad.com>. The department recently received a copy of the latest Steigrad Fine Arts Gallery catalog, on the sixth annual exhibition of *The Affordable Face*, a collection of portraiture and other recent acquisitions.
- Meghan (Duffy) Newman (MA '95) has been promoted to Director of Institutional Gifts at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia. Meghan's responsibilities include raising money from foundations for operating, endowment, and special gift campaigns. Meghan reports that she and her husband Drew spend all their free time renovating their hundred year old home. ■

# Special Thanks from the Art History Program

Many thanks to Pat Wand, Diana Vogelsong, and Bender Library for support of the MDID program. The library purchased (for license) hundreds of digital images from Saskia, Ltd., and Davis Art Slide Co. These images are being added to the image database that forms the core of our new art history digital program. The support from Bender Library is greatly appreciated.

Our thanks also go to the College of Arts and Sciences and Dean Kay Mussell, without whose assistance the MDID project could not have been realized. By supporting the hiring of student workers for the project, this digital curriculum was made feasible.

# DO YOU KNOW ...

You can donate art books to the expanding Kassalow Collection? We are particularly interested in art reference books, monographs, and exhibition catalogs. Please contact Kathe Albrecht about donations.

# Full Time Faculty

- Norma Broude, Professor PhD, Columbia University (Modern European Art) E-mail: nbroude@american.edu
- Mary D. Garrard, Professor PhD, Johns Hopkins University (Italian Renaissance Art) E-mail: mdgarrard@aol.com
- Helen Langa, Professor
   PhD, University of North Carolina (American Art)
   E-mail: hlanga@american.edu
- Rachel Cropsey Simons, Assistant Professor PhD, University of Maryland (Northern Renaissance Art)
   E-mail: drsimons@erols.com

### Visual Resources Curator

Kathe Hicks Albrecht
 MA, American University
 E-mail: kalbrec@american.edu

## Adjunct Faculty

Elizabeth Higdon
 PhD, Bryn Mawr
 (Modern Art)



AU Art History Newsletter c/o Kathe Albrecht American University Art Dept. 4400 Massachusetts Ave. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016-8004

