



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

YOUR ALUMNI NEWS

April 2020 | Issue 4

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Alumni and Friends,

We had initially planned to send you this newsletter in early March with news of upcoming lectures and events. However, with the rapid escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic, our focus changed as the final three weeks of classes were switched to online modes of delivery and the exam period was modified. It has been quite a challenge, but students and instructors alike have adapted tremendously well. I am immensely proud of all those in our department who have been so supportive of one another as we weather this storm together while apart. Our staff have been working remotely for a month now, making sure the undergraduate courses keep running, offering support to our graduate students in their classes and research activities, and ensuring payments are processed and budgets are monitored. Even though the physical library is closed, there is much activity behind the scenes as our librarian assists with course guides for new classes and continues with research on our important Sound Art collections. We will offer a number of summer courses over the coming months, and these too will be held online. Fortunately, we are a discipline that can work relatively well online — though the reopening of galleries and museums is of course eagerly anticipated by students and instructors alike. Indeed, some of our students take on internships over the summer, and we are funding a new Art History Undergraduate Internship at the ROM. There were many applicants for this position, and we would like to congratulate our student Khushi Nansi as the inaugural intern!

Stay safe, and we very much look forward to seeing you at our events when we can welcome you back on campus. In the meantime, keep in touch and share with us any art history news you may have.



- Carl Knappett
Professor & Chair

NEWS AND EVENTS



Welcome to New Faculty

We are delighted to announce that [Mikinaak Migwans](#) has been appointed as Assistant Professor of Indigenous Contemporary Art in Canada in the Department of Art History and as Curator at the University of Toronto's Art Museum. A multimedia artist by training, Migwans has expanded their work to include research, teaching, curation and community engagement. Migwans brings a diversity of expertise in combining curatorial and academic practices to this role, and we hope you will join us in offering Migwans a very warm welcome to our department and to U of T.



Congratulations to Our Doctoral Students!

The Department of Art History is pleased to announce that several of our graduate students have been awarded celebrated positions following the defence of their dissertations:

- Elizabeth Rice Mattison: Graduate Intern in the Department of Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the Getty Museum
- Michaela Rife: Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Michigan's Society of Fellows
- Akshaya Tankha: Post-Doctoral Fellowship in South Asian Studies at Yale University

You can read more about their achievements on the [Department of Art History website](#).

ART HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Events Postponed

As the COVID-19 pandemic was rapidly evolving, the Department of Art History cancelled or postponed all upcoming events. These included [Professor Nasser Rabbat's](#) visit as the 2020 W. Bernard Herman Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Art History and Professor [Irad Malkin's](#) 2020 J. Walter Graham Lecture. Depending on how the situation unfolds over the next few months, the department is hoping to reschedule these events during the 2020-21 academic year. Please visit the [Department of Art History website](#) regularly for news and updates as they arise.



Keep Up With Us!

Follow us on social media, where our undergraduate and graduate programs are very active. Find information on resources, event listings, student and faculty publications, photos, videos and more!

Undergraduate: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

Graduate: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

Have a story or event that may be of interest to our students, colleagues and affiliates? We would love to hear from you to share it across our social media channels.

Margins of Error: Otherness and the Arts

7th Annual Wollesen Memorial Symposium

On March 6, the Graduate Union of Students of Art held the 7th Annual Wollesen Memorial Symposium at Hart House. The symposium, Margins of Error: Otherness and the Arts, focused on marginalia in art history and visual culture, and featured keynote addresses by [Kajiri Jain](#) (U of T), as well as Siobhan Boyd (Senior Manager of Education & Adjunct Curator) and Sequoia Miller (Chief Curator) from the [Gardiner Museum](#). Please join us in congratulating our graduate students on another successful symposium.



Uncovering Museum Collection Secrets

U of T News published an article in December 2019 about a group of students from two very different disciplines (art history and the sciences) working together to uncover secrets behind a museum collection that spans prehistory to the mid-20th century. Read about this interdisciplinary Jackman Scholars-in-Residence project that investigated the Malcove Collection at U of T's Art Museum and brought together art history, physical and environmental sciences, chemistry and arts management students via [U of T News](#) or on our [website](#).



Welcome to New Affiliate Faculty

We are pleased to announce the following faculty appointments to the department:

- Lisa Ellis, Adjunct Professor. Lisa Ellis is a Conservator, Sculpture & Decorative Arts at the Art Gallery of Ontario.
- Caroline Shields, Assistant Professor, status only. Caroline Shields is an Associate Curator & Head of European Art at the Art Gallery of Ontario.
- Karine Tsoumis, Assistant Professor, status only. Karine Tsoumis is a Curator at the Gardiner Museum.



Support the Department

Our department is committed to the education of our talented students in a broad range of artistic endeavours from prehistory to the present. We strongly believe that students capable of critically reflecting on the power of art and architecture to shape culture and society will become responsible and sensitive global citizens. Please consider [supporting us](#) and our ongoing dedication to excellence.



Department of Art History

100 St. George Street

web: <https://arthistory.utoronto.ca/>

give: <https://donate.utoronto.ca/give/show/50>

