



# Duke House Diaries

INSTITUTE of FINE ARTS

October 2012

## From the Director

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Autumn leaves now scatter our sidewalk and invitations have been issued to the Institute's famous Halloween Party. The semester is in full swing. Classes, colloquia, and conferences continue apace, as do oral examinations and Ph.D. defenses.

We have now had a chance to welcome our first Judith Praska Distinguished Visiting Professor in Conservation, Christine Frohnert, a specialist in contemporary art, who is offering a course with the intriguing title, "Art with a Plug." We have also welcomed our second Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Anton Schweizer, who, earlier this month held an illuminating seminar on his research project, *A Guardian for Sendai: Urban, Iconographic, and Rhetorical Spaces of Shrine Building in Seventeenth-century Japan*. Another welcome is due to Jennifer Raab's newly arrived son, Noah, born on September 22, not many hours after Jenny sent the manuscript of her book to Yale University Press. We congratulate Jenny on both of these life-changing events!

Warm congratulations are also due to Andrea Cirelli, who was married on September 29. Andrea has greatly enhanced our alumni activities in her role as Development Officer for Alumni and the Annual Fund. In September, we held our first and hugely successful reception for recent alumni at the gallery of alumna Cristin Tierney (with thanks to Cristin's co-organizers Adam Glick and Edmund Ryder) and next week, on October 30, alumna Kathryn Moore Heleniak is graciously hosting an alumni reception at her apartment. Both students and alumni are welcome to the reception. An invitation can be viewed [here](#). Andrea has also created an exciting schedule of Connoisseurs Circle events – special visits to exhibitions, to private collections, and to artists' studios. Many of these are open to IFA students, so please do not miss out on these opportunities and ask Andrea about what is available to you.

The various IFA committees are also hard at work. The Fellowship Committee is reading and advising on nominated fellowship applications. The Futures and Fundraising Committee is working with other Institute staff to meet the University's requirement that the IFA present budget projections according to different combinations of revenue and philanthropic support. This is a very daunting task, which involves complex calculations

and some very difficult decisions about the Institute's future. A related exercise is the production of the Institute's Strategic Plan, which is due at the Provost's office on October 31. Thanks to hard work by Professors Hay and Marincola, Hope O'Reilly, Keith Kelly, Sarah Johnson and contributions by many others on the staff, we are on target for that deadline with a plan that is candid about the challenges facing the Institute, but that also boasts of the strength of our students and faculty and of our many and manifold activities.

## Academic Office

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Congratulations to Adwoa Adusei, Emily Bauman, Sara Ickow, and Allison Young whose projects to create an interactive map of Caribbean cultural institutions and to create a timeline of technology-based artistic practices were selected as recipients of the Digital Art History Grant.

The Engberg Research Fellowship has been awarded to Jeffrey Uslip for his visit to the studio of Sally Mann in Lexington, Virginia.

## Digital Media Services

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Our livestream and lecture video recording services are a great success! Livestreaming allows simultaneous synchronous HD viewing of an event from remote locations via the Internet, and multiplies our audience many times over. When livestreaming will be provided, the needed information and link will be posted to the event's main landing page, so watch there for updates. Livestreaming ends as the event ends.

Video recordings of events, on the other hand, allow viewing at any time after the event, and are archived on our Vimeo page (<http://vimeo.com/ifa>). The latest additions to the video archive are highlighted on IFA's main web page (<http://www.ifa.nyu.edu>). Video recordings are usually posted within five days of an event. A point to note: we can record lectures and events only if we have permission to do so from all of the participants. If you have questions about livestreaming or video recording, please feel free to get in touch with Jenni Rodda ([jenni.rodde@nyu.edu](mailto:jenni.rodde@nyu.edu)) or Jason Varone ([jason.varone@nyu.edu](mailto:jason.varone@nyu.edu)).

## Public Affairs

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Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 22, 2012, 6:00PM

2012 Ettinghausen Memorial Lecture

Eloïse Brac de la Perrière, Paris-Sorbonne University, Maître de conférences,  
Histoire de l'art et archéologie du monde islamique

*Critical Perspectives on a pre-Mughal Koranic Manuscript: Research on the Gwalior Koran from the Aga Khan Collection*

Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 6:00PM

Latin American Forum sponsored by the Institute for Studies on Latin American Art  
Dawn Ades, Professor of the History & Theory of Art, University of Essex and  
Independent Curator

*Surrealism & the Surrealists in Mexico 1940-1947*

Thursday, October 25, 2012, 6:00PM

Colloquium on Art in Spain and Latin America

Robert Davidson, Associate Professor of Spanish and Catalan, University of Toronto

*The Revolution's Hilton: The Havana Hilton Hotel from Burt Glinn to Ramón Serrano*

Thursday, November 1, 2012, 5:30PM

Current Trends in Medieval Art History

Jeffrey Hamburger, Kuno Francke Professor of German Art and Culture, Harvard University

*Script as Image*

Friday, November 2, 2012, 6:00PM

Greek and Roman Seminar

Jaś Elsner, Humfrey Payne Senior Research Fellow in Classical Archaeology and Art, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University and Visiting Professor of Art History at the University of Chicago

*Art and Rhetoric in the Arch of Titus*

Friday, November 9, 2012, 6:00PM

The China Project Workshop

Linda Lin, Object conservator, Fellow, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Talk on *Liao dynasty amber* Moderated by François Louis (Bard Graduate Center)