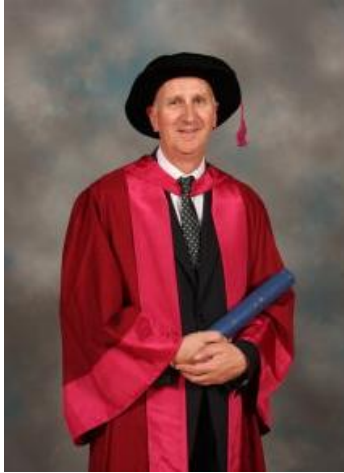


The Newsletter is produced twice a year to keep alumni informed about the activities of the Department – and each other! If you are not a member of the HoA Alumni Network and would like to be, or have items for inclusion in the next issue (New Year 2011), please email rachel.woodruff@hoa.ox.ac.uk

Department News:

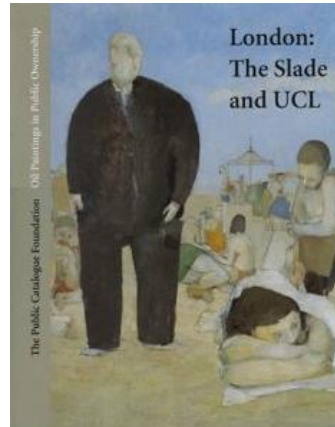
People



In July, **Craig Clunas** received an Honorary Degree from the University of Warwick. [Further Details](#). Craig also spoke to the Friends of the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin and at a conference on 'Living Legacies: The History of East Asian Art Reconsidered' in Heidelberg, as well as contributing to the Radio 4 series, 'A History of the World in 100 Objects'. [Listen here.](#)

Last year, **Hanneke Grootenboer** joined the editorial board of the Oxford Art Journal. She gave a lecture at the University of Essex, which was later published in Art History on "How to Become a Picture: Theatricality as Strategy in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Portraits", and another talk at the University of Cambridge on "The Pensive Image" which will be printed as an article in the Oxford Art Journal. Currently, Hanneke is putting together a panel on the use and meaning of wax figures in visual culture for the next AAH. In November, she will lecture at the Freie Universität on The Image of the Gaze. Her first German publication came out this Spring in volume on Zeigen. Die Rhetorik des Sichtbaren, as part of an earlier Basel Eikones Project.

Geraldine Johnson gave an invited lecture at Durham University entitled "Sensual Sculpture in Renaissance Italy" and spoke to the Oxford Italian Association in the Spring. She has also been working on her book on the sensory reception of sculpture during a year-long Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship. Geraldine has also completed several essays and articles related to this project and to her on-going research on the photography of art, including "A Taxonomy of Touch: Tactile Encounters in Renaissance Italy" which will appear in a volume to be published by Ashgate Press, and "Using the Photographic Archive: On the Life (and Death) of Images" for a book that will be published by the Deutscher Kunstverlag.



Since 2008 **Gervase Rosser** has been working with the [Public Catalogue Foundation](#) on a project which, in collaboration with the BBC, will make available online an image database of oil paintings in public collections in the UK. The total number of paintings eventually to be included in the project is estimated to be up to 200,000.

Digital capturing of these has almost reached the half-way point. The public resource, known as YourPaintings, will go live, hosted on the front page of the BBC website, in spring 2011. The academic and public implications of this launch are considerable. At present 80 per cent of the original images in question, although in public ownership, are in practice inaccessible to the public. One of the aims of the project is to raise interest in the collections themselves, with a view to raising funds for conservation and gallery maintenance. Projects are envisaged to engage schools and local communities with the online collection. It is also anticipated that the availability of so large a body of art historical material in a single, searchable site will enable new kinds of academic research. Much work remains to be done to enhance the visual database with relevant information. Work on the structure of the site was assisted during 2009-10 by **Aimee Blackledge** (DPhil 2010), who was supported for this project by the Oxford University Fell Fund. It is hoped that future Alumni Newsletters will contain news of Oxford-based research arising from this project.

Alastair Wright has co-curated an exhibition of Paul Gauguin's prints at the Princeton University Art Museum. "Paradise Remembered: Gauguin's Noa Noa Suite", which will be on view from September 2010 to January 2011, focuses on the revolutionary woodcuts created by Gauguin in 1893 following his first Tahitian voyage. The [exhibition catalogue](#) features an essay in which Alastair examines Gauguin's printmaking in relation to technologies of image reproduction.

Sarah James leaves us at the end of September after a year as Departmental Lecturer. She will take up her new post as Lecturer in the History of Art: 1945 - Present, for the History of Art Department at UCL in October. Sarah's contribution to teaching and research in the Department has been much appreciated and warmly received by all, and we wish her every success in her new job.

Meeting of the Centre for Visual Studies 2010

Photography: Image & Object, the second event bringing together all parties within the University interested in 'the visual', took place on 4th June. Papers under themes including Political Bodies & the Photographic Document, Photographs as Objects: Archives & Collections, Deconstructing Images: Photography & As Methodology and Photography's Spaces & Places were given by colleagues from Anthropology, Archaeology, English, History and the Ruskin School of Drawing.



Visual Resources Centre

This summer we have embarked on a project to weed out poor quality and duplicate slides from the 35mm collection: this has been fuelled by the decrease in slide usage and circulation over the past two years especially and the move across to digital. Slides that have been singled out have been checked against ARTstor's holdings (a digital image database containing over a million images which the University subscribes to): for those that are not currently represented in this digital library, we are attempting to track their provenance, with a view to either creating or purchasing a legal digital equivalent. The plan is to store the withdrawn stock for a limited period to see whether they are requested by any VRC patrons. The surviving bulk of the collection will continue to remain accessible to all members of the University and to our alumni and continues to be a fantastic image reference resource. Should you ever wish to consult it, please contact either [Vicky](#) or [Christine](#) who will be delighted to hear from you.

Courses

New Courses

A new Preliminary core course, *European Art 1400-1800*, was taught for the first time in Trinity Term, focusing on looking at objects and taught in the University Collections. Hanneke also taught a new 2nd Year BA Further Subject, *Northern European Portraiture*.

This Easter the students taking the Master's option on Gothic Art travelled with their course tutor, **Gervase Rosser**, to Paris to visit major monuments of the period. The group is pictured here before the facade of Chartres Cathedral, where the sun obligingly shone through the recently cleaned stained glass windows. The short tour also visited an exhibition of Gothic art at the Cluny Museum in Paris, curated by Academic Visitor **Meredith Cohen**.



With thanks to Lia Costiner for the photo!

Departmental Research Trip

This year's end of year visit was to The Henry Moore Foundation in Perry Green, Herts. Staff, students and academic visitors enjoyed guided tours around the grounds, studios and home of Henry Moore, and managed to dodge the drizzle long enough to pose for photographs!



Projects

History of History of Art

A new website has been created to document the history of the Department, including previous Professors and students, see [History of HoA at Oxford](#). If you have any suggestions/contributions for the site, please email [Rachel](#).

Lee Johnson Archive

Professor Lee Johnson, the leading scholar on Delacroix, bequeathed his archive to the Department of History of Art on his death. The archive consists of papers and photographs relating to Johnson's research for the acclaimed *Critical Catalogue of The Paintings of Eugene Delacroix* published by OUP between 1981-1989. The archive also contains records of his correspondence with owners, galleries and auction houses as to the known ownership changes of pictures, new paintings by Delacroix and his opinions on the authenticity of new attributions. The archive has recently been rehoused in conservation quality archival boxes and folders for long-term storage and indexed for consultation by researchers, with thanks to BA student **Katie Slee** and Zoe Galloway (with supervision by DPhil student **Fiona Gatty**).

For further information about the archive please contact [Rachel](#) or [Vicky](#).

WebLearn



On behalf of the Department, **Rachel Woodruff** and **Vicky Brown** received an OXTALENT award in June for the work 'supporting a course or programme of study' in WebLearn, the University's virtual learning environment.

A related Teaching Award will be presented by the Vice Chancellor in Michaelmas Term. [Further information](#).

Museums

Oxford Collections Internship

The Department, in partnership with a number of Oxford Museums, Libraries and Colleges, has secured a first round of internships for Second Year BA students for 2010-11, with students successfully placed at the Pitt Rivers and Christ Church Picture Gallery. This offers an introductory curatorial working experience in one of Oxford's famous institutions. The Ashmolean, Bodleian Special Collections and MAO will join the scheme for 2011-12.

Student News:

Yu Ping Luk (DPhil 2007-) has been appointed to a Lectureship at Lingnan University in Hong Kong which she will start in September on completion of her DPhil.

Oxford Careers Network

OCN is a database of former Oxford University undergraduates and postgraduates, who have volunteered to share their experiences of employment, further study and gap year activities. Students really value reading the case studies and contacting volunteers for more advice and information.

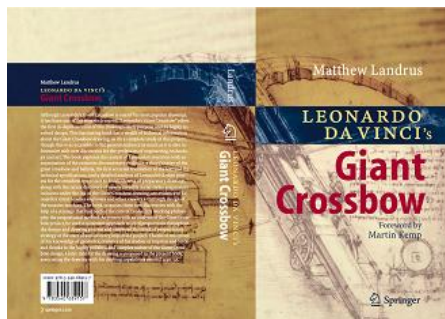
They use the Network to find out about: employment sectors; a particular job; a specific organisation. Further details can be found at <http://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/alumni/>

Alumni news:

Emily Roy (BA 2010) is undertaking two internships this year. As well as being awarded the Department's Waddesdon Internship, she has been photographing the Pissarro collection housed in the Ashmolean Print Room for a web-based project to go live shortly.

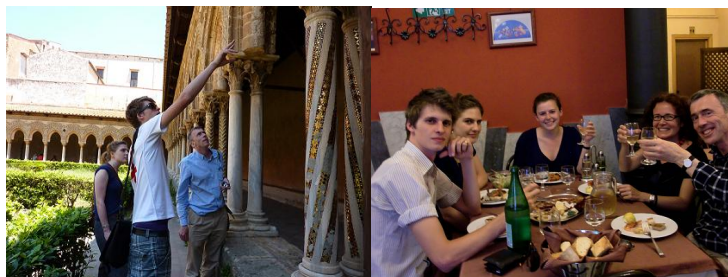
Ruth Mason (BA 2010) has been awarded the Oliver Ford Scholarship 2010 for the V&A/RCA History of Design MA course. The award is offered to one student on the MA specialism in Design and Material Culture, 1650 to the Present, with preference given to candidates who intend to undertake research into an aspect of the design of the domestic interior.

Matthew Landrus (DPhil 2006) has organised a one-day conference to take place on Friday 22 October in St John's College and the Ashmolean Museum, on the relationship between scientific models in nature and the theory and practice of art, entitled 'Approaches to art and science after Berenson'. It will address results of forty years of progress in approaches to the histories of art and science, in honour of Emeritus Professor **Martin Kemp**, a former Hon. President of the Leonardo da Vinci Society, who retired from the University of Oxford in 2008. [Further information](#).



Recent publications by Matt include *Leonardo da Vinci's Giant Crossbow* and *Weapons and Machines of War* (Drawings by Leonardo from the Codex Atlanticus).

This summer a group of second-year BA History of Art students took part in a week's study tour of Sicily, led by Dr Gervase Rosser from the Department and **Alessandra Buccheri** (DPhil 2009), now organising cultural programmes in her native Palermo (see <http://www.passagetosicily.com/>).



And finally:

For details of forthcoming lectures and seminars, including Departmental Research, Art History Research (Ashmolean) and Slade, and news, keep checking the [Departmental website](#).