

History of Art Department Alumni Newsletter Issue 3. Apr 2011

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, please email admin@hoa.ox.ac.uk



Department News:

People

In December, **Craig Clunas** visited Taiwan, where he gave talks at the National Palace Museum and at Tsinghua and National Taiwan Universities (as well as buying books and looking at exhibitions). He has also lectured at the V&A/RCA History of Design programme and to the Institut Belge des hautes études chinoises. He gave two talks in Cambridge in February, which saw a first outing for some of the ideas due to go into the Mellon Lectures he will deliver in Washington DC in 2012, tentatively entitled 'Chinese Painters and their Audiences'.

Craig is using a term's leave in Hilary 2011 to work on the lectures. He published 'Antiquarian Politics and the Politics of Antiquarianism in Ming Regional Courts', in Wu Hung ed., Reinventing the Past: Antiquarianism in Chinese Art and Visual Culture (Chicago, 2010), pp. 229-54





Hanneke Grootenboer delivered the Tomas Harris lectures at UCL this year. This month, an article on The Pensive Image will be published in the Oxford Art Journal (example illustration, left).

Geraldine Johnson is planning to use an upcoming sabbatical to complete her book entitled *The Sound of Marble: The Sensory Reception of Art in Renaissance Italy* (Cambridge University Press). After a wait of nearly five years, her essay on sculpture and touch is finally in press for an Oxford University Press anthology entitled *Art and the Senses.* Her *Very Short Introduction to Renaissance Art* has been reissued with additional illustrations (all now in colour) under a new title, *Renaissance Art: A Brief Insight* (Sterling Publishing), an imprint of Barnes & Noble in the



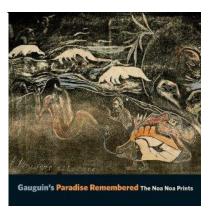
Geraldine recently gave a lecture at the Warburg Institute in London and has been invited to speak at Plymouth University later in the Spring. She dashed to New York in Hilary Term for research at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and to attend the College Art Association conference as a member of CAA's International Committee.

Luca della Robbia, 'Madonna and Child', 15th century, glazed terracotta. (New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art) [Photo: G.A. Johnson]

Gervase Rosser has been thinking about black holes in a famous painting of the early Renaissance, the high altarpiece of Siena Cathedral by Duccio, and about the comparison between art and poetry. This has led to a paper given recently at the Courtauld Institute, and to an article which will appear next year in *Art History*. He has continued to work, with his wife Jane Garnett, on a book on miracle-working images, which should be completed this year. He remains attached to the YourPaintings project, which from the summer of 2011 will make available online a resource containing all of the oil paintings in public collections in the UK.

Alastair Wright co-curated "Paradise Remembered: Gauguin's Noa Noa Suite", an exhibition of Paul Gauguin's prints that opened at the Princeton University Art Museum in September. The exhibition features an essay in which he examines Gauguin's printmaking in relation to late 19th-century technologies of image

reproduction.



Alastair also wrote on Gauguin for *Artforum*, gave talks on Gauguin and John LaFarge at Princeton and Yale in October, participated in a symposium 'Myths of the Artist' at Tate Modern in November, and recently lectured at the University of Essex. He continues to serve as editorial chair of the *Oxford Art Journal*.

Admin Office

Christine Robertson and Rachel Woodruff have both had exhibitions of their artwork over the Easter break. Christine showed some of her life drawings in Faringdon Tourist Information Office. Rachel held an exhibition of her seascapes, '100 miles from the Sea', at the Jam Factory in Oxford; more information: www.rachelwoodruff.me.uk



Visual Resources Centre

Vicky Brown has been awarded funding to carry out research into the adoption of electronic visual resources within the UK & Ireland in comparison with the USA. This will be a collaborative project with a colleague at University College Falmouth and will include their attendance at this year's joint ARLIS/NA (Art Libraries Society of North America) & VRA (Visual Resources Association) conference in Minneapolis.

Meeting of the Centre for Visual Studies 2011

This year's workshop will be themed around the senses and will take place on Friday 27th May. More information to follow...

Courses

A new BA Third Year Special Subject will be offered by Hanneke Grootenboer from next year, entitled 'The Dutch Golden Age: 1618-1672'.

Museums

Following the success of this year's placements at Christ Church Picture Gallery and the Pitt Rivers Museum, the number of Oxford Collections Internships available to Second Year BA students has increased for 2012, including opportunities to work on collections in the Ashmolean Museum, the Bodleian Library and Modern Art Oxford.

Thanks to funding

through the History

able to upgrade the

Department website.

Faculty, we have been

made available

Dept on the Web



History of Art, at the University of Oxford
History of Art at the University of Oxford disays on a targ and deep leadure at seating and study.

A link to our new <u>Facebook page</u> has been posted on the Department website; you don't need a Facebook account to be able to view it, but you will need one to be able to 'like' it!

It is also possible to listen to a number of History of Art lectures on <u>iTunes U</u>, including Leonard Barkin's 'Michelangelo: A Life on Paper' given last November in the History Faculty.

New Funding Award

The <u>Inger Lawrance Awards</u> were established in 2010 'to promote the study and practice of, and the visual response to, form, construction and colour in the visual arts and art history.' The awards are available to two first year graduate students each year, one each respectively in the History of Art Department and in the Ruskin School of Drawing.

Summer School

The UNIQ Summer School will be taking place again in summer 2011 following on from the success of the 2010 School. Students will be experiencing life as a History of Art undergraduate from 17th – 22nd July, when they will be based in a college and spend the week engaging with the subject alongside academics as well as current students.

Student News:



The Edgar Wind Society launched their HT11 journal with an event held in St John's College in January. The journal's theme is 'Materiality and Temporality' and it functions dually as both a calendar and a collection of writings. The 12 writings, on objects based in Oxford, were contributed by University staff members and students. Copies are still available from the Admin Office.

The Leverhulme-sponsored 'Godwin's Diary' digitisation project on which Kate Barush (DPhil 2007 -) was a research assistant for the past three years has been launched. A two-day conference in July introduced scholars to the new resource and aimed to explore the distinctive light it sheds on our understanding of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century intellectual and social culture. Kate chaired a panel on 'Visual Culture' and delivered a paper on James Barry, Godwin, and 'The Language of Forms', published in the April edition of the Bodleian Library Record. She has been writing art and exhibition reviews for the British Association for Romantic Studies Bulletin and Review and has been invited to give lectures at the Institute for American and English Studies at the Universität Osnabrück, Germany, The University of Oxford Newman Society, and the Oxford English Faculty. She is currently writing up her thesis on art, visual culture, and pilgrimage in nineteenth-century Britain.

Nathan Flis (DPhil 2008-) is curating an exhibition entitled 'Francis Barlow, Painter of Birds & Beasts' at Clandon Park, near Guildford, which runs from 10th May until 24th July, with the aid of historian of science, Michael Hunter (Birkbeck College) and members of the National Trust. The exhibition reflects Nathan's doctoral project and also introduces the work of Francis Barlow (c.1626-1704), an English painter, draftsman, and etcher. Organised around the six oil paintings by Barlow at Clandon, the display illustrates Barlow's work as it relates to various facets of life in Interregnum and Restoration England: the rise of natural history, political life, hunting & recreation, and decoration & design. Exhibit times during the day: Tues, Weds, Thurs and Sun, 11:00 -16:30. No booking required. Normal admission charges to Clandon Park apply. Directions: Clandon Park is located at West Clandon, Surrey, entrance off of A247, 3 miles East of Guildford. If using A3 follow signs to Ripley to join A247 via B2215. Postcode for Satnav: GU4 7RQ (again, entrance off of A247). Nearest Train Station: CLANDON



Richard Gaywood after Francis Barlow, etched title page to *Diversae avium species* (London, 1658), 13 x 17.5 cm. Image courtesy of the British Museum.



Allison Goudie (PRS 2011 -) won the AAH dissertation prize this year and was presented with her award during the AAH convention in Warwick. The title of her dissertation is: 'The Wax Portrait Bust As Trompe-L'oeil? A Case Study of Queen Maria Carolina Of Naples'.

Wax portrait bust of Queen Maria Carolina of Naples

Alex Taylor (PRS 2010 -) has been awarded a Getty Foundation Library Research Grant and a J. Walter Thompson Research Fellowship at Duke University for archival research towards his doctoral dissertation on the corporate uses of 1960s art. His article 'Father Figure: Reconsidering Henry Moore and his Australian Influence' is forthcoming in Art Monthly Australia.

Alumni news:

In 2010, Clemena Antonova (DPhil 2006) spent six months as a Fellow at VLAC at the Royal Academy of Belgium. In June 2011 she will embark on a two-year position at the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, where she will be working on her second book project "Pavel Florensky and the Nature of Russian Religious Philosophy". This research project reflects her work on early twentieth-century Russian art criticism and philosophy. Clemena's thesis, supervised by Professors Martin Kemp and Paul Crowther, was published under the title 'Space, Time, and Presence in the Icon' (Ashgate Publishers, 2010). While at Oxford and since she has been working on the problem of "reverse perspective", i.e. the principle of pictorial space in the medieval icon. This work is reflected in her recent article in the Leonardo journal ("On the Problem of 'Reverse Perspective': Definitions East and West", Leonardo, vol.43, number 5, 2010, pp.464-470).

Nicola McCartney (MSt 2008) is still painting (see below) and has a studio in London. She is doing a residency with START, run by Art Dubai, Jordan, this month, and has recently had a public billboard commission in Sheffield. She is currently working for Apollo Magazine as Online Editor, representing them at The European Fine Art Fair 2011 (TEFAF) in Maastricht, and has just been accepted onto a PhD course in Art History at Birkbeck College beginning in October researching 'The Artistic Multitude'.

Nicola had her first review, on Camden Arts Centre, printed in The Spectator last month and is working as Gallery Manager for Riverside Studios on a parttime basis.

All writing and art can be found through www.nicolamccartney.co.uk



Some History of Art alumni returned at the beginning of February to speak at the Dept Careers Seminar: **Eloise Maxwell** (BA 2010) spoke about internships and the work experience she has gained since graduating last summer; **Erik Bijzet** (MSt 2008) gave us an insight into working as a sculpture specialist at Sotheby's London; and **Ana Hoare** (MSt 2003) told us about her role as Corporate Development Manager at the National Gallery London and the path that led her there.

Volunteers for next year's seminar needed!

And finally:

For details of forthcoming lectures and seminars, including Departmental Research, Art History Research (Ashmolean) and news, keep checking the **new** <u>Department website</u>.

With thanks to all contributors.