

Sharon C. Smith, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2009 Ph.D. Binghamton University, State University of New York
Department of Art History
Dissertation: "Planned Grandeur: A Commensurate Study of
Urban Expansion in Early Modern Italy and Mamluk Egypt"
Co-chairs: Charles Burroughs and Barbara Abou-El-Haj

1997 M.A. San Jose State University, Art History

1992 B.A. San Jose State University (with Great Distinction), Art History

Area(s) of specialization: Middle Eastern art and architecture; Early Modern
Italian art and architecture

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2011 - present Program Head (Director of Special Programs)
Aga Khan Documentation Center
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA

January 2012 - present Co-Director, Archnet.org (<http://archnet.org>)
Aga Khan Documentation Center, MIT/Aga Khan Trust for Culture
Cambridge, MA/Geneva, Switzerland

October 2013 - March 2014 Consultant
Museum of Islamic Art
Doha, Qatar

January 2011 - present Imaging Consultant (Editor)
Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Cultures of the Islamic World
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA

August 2003 - August 2011 Visual Resources Librarian for Islamic Art and Architecture (2010-2011)
Visual Materials Cataloger for Islamic Art (2003-2010)
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture Documentation Center

Fine Arts Library
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA

- 2007 Instructor
Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
Outreach/Primary Source
Cambridge, MA/Watertown, MA
- 2002 Contributor, *Arab Art & Architecture*
General Consultant
National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education
(NITLE)
Arab Culture and Civilization Web Resource
- 2002, 2000, 1999 Lecturer
Department of Art History
Binghamton University, SUNY
Binghamton, NY

SERVICE/AWARDS/HONORS

- 2013 - Board of Directors
Middle East Outreach Council (MEOC)
- 2013 - Fellow of the Institute
Tangier American Legation Institute for Moroccan Studies (TALIM)
- 2013 Delegate
Librarians and Archivists to Palestine
- 2011 - Member-at-large
2013 Middle East Librarians Association
- 2011 - Board of Trustees
American Institute of Pakistan Studies
- 2011 - Board of Directors
American Institute of Yemeni Studies
- 2010 - Editor
2012 SAHARA (SAH Architecture Resources Archive)
Society of Architectural Historians
- 2004 Bernardo Travel Award, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies,
Binghamton University
- 2002 Rosa Colechio Travel Award for Dissertation Research Enhancement,
Binghamton University

- 2001 Chancellor's and University Award for Excellence in Teaching, Binghamton University
- 1996 IIC education scholarship, Istituto Italiano di Cultura (IIC) of San Francisco
- 1994 & 1995 Violet Lannis Speddy and Catherine Urban Scholarship, San Jose State University
- 1990 Dean's Scholar, San Jose State University

Member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
 Member of Golden Key National Honor Society

COURSES DEVELOPED

- Doorways to Islamic Art (an all-day workshop for K-12 teachers)
- Persian Art and Architecture
- Istanbul Not Constantinople: The Transformation of an Imperial City
- Transmission and Tension: Byzantium and the Mediterranean World from the Founding of Constantinople through the First Crusade
- Islamic Painting

PRESENTATIONS (selected)

Guest Lectures

- 2014 "Welcome to the New Archnet: A Unique Scholarly Resource"
 Department of Architecture and Urban Planning
 Qatar University
 DAUP Public Seminar #5
 Doha, Qatar
- 2013 "If We (re)Build it, Will They Come? Construction and Community in the Digital World"
 Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, Qatar
- 2012 "Mamluks and Medici: A Tale of Contact, Trade, and Receptivity"
 Tuesday Night Lecture Series
 San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
- 2011 "Encounters and Exchanges Along the Silk Road(s): Art and Culture"
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
- 2011 "Architecture and Identity: The Case of Amir Azbak min Tutukh and the Development of Azbakiyya in Mamluk Cairo"
 State University of New York, College at Oneonta, Oneonta, NY

- 2009 “Islamic Art and Architecture: An Introduction”
Bunker Hill Community College, Boston, MA
- 2008 “The Reception of Middle Eastern Forms in the European Renaissance”
Boston University, Boston, MA
- 2007 “Introduction to Islamic Architecture” (fall and spring semesters)
Northeastern University, School of Architecture, Boston, MA
- 2007 “Islamic Architecture”
Qutbi Masjid, North Billerica, MA (sponsored by SAH, New England Chapter, and Anjuman-e-Ezzi [Boston] - the Congregation of Dawoodi Bohras)

Conferences

- 2014 “Reading the Politics of Digitization”, panel co-chair
Middle East Studies Annual Meeting
Washington, DC (forthcoming [November 2014])
- 2014 “Gathering Knowledge: Evolving Systems of Documentation in Islamic Environmental Design”
The Orangi Pilot Project and Legacy of Perween Rehman in Karachi, Pakistan
Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, MIT
Cambridge, MA
- 2013 “Behind the Curtain Wall: Building the New Archnet”, presenter
Middle East Librarians Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- 2012 “Archnet: Architecture and Outreach”, presenter
MEOC (Middle East Outreach Council): Nuts and Bolts Workshop for Outreach Coordinators, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO
- 2011 “New Tools: Introduction to Archnet 2.0”, presenter
Middle East Librarians Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
- 2007 “Teaching with Media Resources in Middle Eastern Studies”, presenter
NITLE (National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education) Symposium, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL
- 2007 “Commensurate Studies in Art History: An Approach in the Post-*Orientalism* Era”, presenter
Graduate Student Research Day, *Making a Difference through Research*, Binghamton University, SUNY, Binghamton, NY
- 2006 “A passage to India: urban change in Alexandria and Cairo in the fifteenth and nineteenth centuries”
co-author (with Cristina Pallini, Ph.D., Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy)
Twelfth International Planning History Conference, Cross National Transfer of Planning Ideas and Local Identity, New Delhi, India

Workshops

- 2011 Instructor: “Encounters and Exchanges Along the Silk Road(s): Art and Culture”
Primary Source Summer Institutes (in collaboration with Boston University)
Crossroads of Culture: Interconnections in Asia from 600-1500 CE
Sackler Museum, Harvard University
- 2007 Instructor: “Doorways to Islamic Art”
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Outreach, Harvard University and Primary Source
(Two full day workshops: Warwick, RI; Pembroke, MA)

Public Lectures

- 2000 “Problems in the Classroom: A Video Casebook,” TA Orientation, Graduate School of
Binghamton University, SUNY, 24 August 2000

EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 Curator, “Mohamed Makiya and the Khulafa Mosque Project(s)”, Rotch Library,
MIT, Cambridge, MA, June-August 2013
- 2009 Collaborator (contributing photographer), “PROXY Florence,” exhibited at *Beyond
Media 2009 Festival, Visions*, Stazione Leopolda, Florence, Italy, 9-17 July 2009
- 2004 Consultant, “Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Normal Jean
Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art,” Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Harvard
University, Cambridge, MA, 7 August 2004-2 January 2005
- 1998 Contributor/translator, on-line exhibition catalogue for *image/architettura in
movimento: Festival Internazionale per l'Architettura in Video*, Florence, Italy,
9-13 December 1998
- 1994 Assistant curator, “The Art of Oriental Rugs,” SJSU Gallery 1, San Jose State
University, San Jose, CA, 31 January-3 March 1995

PUBLICATIONS

- 2013 المعماري العراقي محمد مكية يهدي «مشواره» لأرشيف للمعماريين الإسلاميين في معهد ماساتشوستس
20 September 2013
Co-authored with Nasser Rabbat
Asharq al-Aswat, London, UK
<http://www.aawsat.com/details.asp?section=54&article=744045&issueno=12715#.UIBBVhCSoSu>
- on- Imaging Consultant, *Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Cultures of the Islamic World*
going Volumes 28, 29, and 30, Leiden: Brill, 2011, 2012, and 2013
- 2008 “Giving Thanks,” in Copeland, Cousette, *Silicon Valley: Fact and Fiction*, North

Charleston, SC: BookSurge Publishing, 2008

- 2002 On-line publication: "Introduction to Art and Architecture of the Arab World, with selected readings"
National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education (NITLE):
Arab Culture and Civilization Web Resource

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

Binghamton University, SUNY

- 2001 *Crossing the Boundaries IX: Vagabond – Somewhere To Run To, Nowhere To Hide*
Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference
Co-organizer (held 30 March-1 April 2001)
- 1998 *Crossing the Boundaries VI: Shifts and Transformations in Visual Culture*
Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference
Co-organizer (held 27-28 March 1998)

San Jose State University

- 1996 1st Annual Northern California Art History Symposium
Co-organizer (held 13 April 1996)
- 1995 San Jose State University Art History Colloquium
Co-organizer (held 22 April 1995)

LANGUAGES READ/SPOKEN

Italian Fluent reading, speaking
French Fluent reading, some speaking
Arabic Intermediate reading, some speaking
Spanish Intermediate reading, some speaking

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

College Art Association
Middle East Librarians Association
Middle East Studies Association
Middle East Outreach Council