

Jordana Moore Saggese

Santa Clara University
Department of Art and Art History
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0264
T 408.554.4490
F 408.554.5809
E jsaggese@scu.edu

Education

Ph.D. in Art History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

expected graduation date: May 2008

Dissertation Title: “Jean Michel Basquiat and the Language of Creativity”

Dissertation Committee: Jonathan Fineberg, Okwui Enwezor, Jordana Mendelson, and Dana Rush

Preliminary Examination Fields: Contemporary Art of the United States and Europe, Art and Theory of the African Diasporas

M.A. in Art History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2003

Thesis Title: “The Myth of Neutrality: Reconsidering Conceptual Art and Photography in the United States”

Thesis Adviser: Jonathan Fineberg

B.A. in Fine Arts, cum laude, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 2001

Teaching Experience

Lecturer, Santa Clara University, Winter 2007 -present

- Teaching self-designed advanced undergraduate, discussion-based course in African-American art and theory
- Design and teach portion of the “Introduction to Western Art” series
- Facilitate class discussion of weekly critical readings
- Hold office hours and attend departmental faculty meetings

Lecturer, San José State University, 2006-2007

- Designed and taught a writing workshop for upper-division majors in the School of Art and Design
- Developed student in-class exercises relevant to class projects
- Objectively evaluated student projects and provided meaningful feedback on written assignments
- Conducted review workshop for M.A. program students taking Comprehensive Exams

Instructor, Art History Division, University of Illinois, Spring 2005

- Planned and taught a lecture course on contemporary art history and theory
- Used instructional technology to enhance pedagogical technique
- Received Campus Teaching Award based on student evaluations

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Art History Division, University of Illinois

Art History 257: “History of Photography” (Fall 2004)

Art History 241: “Twentieth Century European Art” (Fall 2002)

Fine and Applied Arts 130: “International Arts” (Spring 2002)

- Objectively evaluated student progress and provided meaningful, well-articulated feedback
- Facilitated small group discussions
- Acted as a liaison between undergraduate students and the instructor

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Professional Experience

Curatorial Assistant, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, 2005

- Drafted correspondence, loan forms, memoranda and other materials related to the organization of exhibitions
- Produced and distributed work requests and schedules
- Maintained database of exhibition checklists
- Assisted with exhibition research
- Coordinated photographs and checklists for museum publications

Co-Curator, “Re-presenting African Art: One Continent/ Many Worlds,” Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, 2004

- Planned and implemented re-installation of African Art gallery
- Selected and researched objects from the permanent collection for display
- Wrote wall labels and other didactic texts for the exhibition
- Worked cooperatively with other curators, installation designers, and museum registrar

Intern, Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, Museum of Art, Utica, New York, 2003

- Curated 2 installations of works from the permanent collection
- Juried and curated community art fair
- Worked with exhibition design team on the installation of a traveling photography exhibition
- Conducted extensive provenance research on works in the permanent collection
- Designed and implemented gallery activities for the Education department

Docent, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, 2001-2002

- Participated in weekly discussions of works in the permanent collection
- Planned and led tours of the 20th century galleries for large groups

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Jonathan Fineberg, Gutsell Professor of Art History, University of Illinois, 2003-2006

- Assisted with research for various book projects
- Coordinated photographs and copyrights for the 3rd edition of a college textbook on contemporary art
- Created a digital archive of over 5,000 color slides of 20th century art

Doctoral Student, Art History Division, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2003-present

- Contemporary Art of Africa and the African diaspora religious systems (e.g., Santería, Candomble, Haitian Vodou arts)
- Art of the United States after 1940
- 20th century art of Europe
- Relationship of jazz and art in the 20th century

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Master's Student, Art History Division, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2001-2003

- History and critical theory of photography
- 20th century art of Europe and the United States

Fellowships and Awards

- 2007-2008 **Inclusive Excellence Predoctoral Fellow**, Department of Art and Art History, College of Arts and Sciences, Santa Clara University
- 2007 **Campus Diversity Initiative Grant**, The Center for Multicultural Learning, Santa Clara University
- 2006 **Conference Travel Grant**, Graduate College and School of Art & Design, University of Illinois
- 2006 **Fehl Grant for Dissertation Research**, School of Art & Design, University of Illinois
- 2005 **Graduate Teaching Award**, University of Illinois
- 2005 **Conference Travel Grant**, Graduate College, University of Illinois
- 2003 **Winner, Juried Competition** of Graduate Student Papers, College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois
- 2001-2004 **Pre-Doctoral Fellow**, Graduate College, University of Illinois
- 1997-2001 **Stevenson Academic Scholarship**, Vanderbilt University

Publications

"The Myth of Neutrality: Reconsidering Conceptual Art Photography," in exposure: Journal of the Society of Photographic Education 40, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 33-42.

"Howardena Pindell," "Allison Saar," and "Joyce Scott," in Grove Art Online/The Dictionary of Art, edited by Whitney Chadwick (New York: Oxford University Press).

Selected Essays, Krannert Art Museum Collection, Champaign, IL: Krannert Art Museum (forthcoming).

Selected Essays, Drawings of Choice from a New York Collection, ed. Josef Helfenstein and Jonathan Fineberg (Champaign, IL: Krannert Art Museum, in association with University of Washington Press, 2003).

Papers & Presentations

"Black is (More Than) a Color: The Art of Jean-Michel Basquiat," Lecture for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, San José State University, May 2, 2007.

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“Basquiat and Bebop: New Techniques of Improvisation,” Paper accepted for Black Music Culture Area (Chairs: William C. Banfield, Angela M. Nelson) of the Annual Meeting of the National Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association, Boston MA, April 2007.

“Basquiat and the Beats,” Paper presented at The Modern Art Colloquium, University of Illinois, November 27, 2006

“What is ‘Black’ in Basquiat?,” Paper Presented at Annual Meeting of the Southeastern College Art Conference & Mid-American College Art Association, Nashville, TN, October 25-28, 2006.

“Into the Intermezzo: The Paintings of Jean-Michel Basquiat,” Paper presented at the 31st Annual Meeting of the Midwest Art History Society, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 7-9, 2005

“Basquiat and Bebop: Re-Examining Techniques of Improvisation,” Paper presented at The Modern Art Colloquium, University of Illinois, January 31, 2005

“Making and Meaning in the Work of Jean-Michel Basquiat”, Visiting Lecture for Undergraduate Painting II Course, University of Illinois,

“Re-Presenting African Art: One Continent/ Many Worlds,” Exhibition Tour, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, October 4, 2004

“What is an “Art” Photograph?: Reconsidering the Photo-Documents of Hans Haacke.” Paper presented at the 2nd Annual Arena Artium Competition for graduate students in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois, April 25, 2003

“The Burden of Documentation: Photography in Conceptual Art and the Work of Hans Haacke” Paper presented at Juried Competition for graduate students in Art History, University of Illinois, February 14, 2003

“Drawings of Choice from a New York Collection,” Exhibition Tour, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, 2002

Scholarly Service

Instructor, San José Museum of Art, Department of Museum Experience and Education, Contemporary Art Seminars, March 2007

Coordinator and Chair, Graduate Student Symposium, “Negotiating the Intersections of Art and Text,” University of Illinois, September 17-18, 2004

Co-Coordinator, Reading Group, “Intersections of Art and Text,” Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, University of Illinois, 2003-2004

Vice-President, Society for Art History and Archaeology, University of Illinois, 2002-2004

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Professional Memberships

- College Art Association
- Midwest Art History Society
- Southeast College Art Association
- American Association of Museums

Languages

Advanced Reading and Writing. Intermediate Conversation Ability
in Spanish
Intermediate Reading Knowledge in German
Beginning Conversation Ability in Italian