

LAUREN FAIR

OBJECTS CONSERVATOR & EDUCATOR

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
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www.conservationaffair.com

EDUCATION

Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation
2010 Master of Science in Art Conservation
Specialty: Objects Conservation

Maryland Institute College of Art
2006 Continuing Education
Oil Painting

University of Delaware
2005 Bachelor of Arts in Art History
Minor in Spanish Studies
Honors: *cum laude*

EXPERIENCE

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
2019—present Head of Objects Conservation
2015—2019 Associate Objects Conservator
2012—2015 Assistant Objects Conservator
2011—2012 Advanced Conservation Fellow

Responsible for care of collection objects, garden sculpture, historic building elements, historic automobiles. Manages daily lab activities and coordinates X-radiography for Department. Serves on emergency response team and participates in monthly free-to-public conservation clinics, workshops for museum members, tours, and events. Current research includes stain reduction of ceramics, sustainable garden object maintenance, coatings for silver and copper alloys.

Winterthur/University of Delaware
2011—present Affiliated Assistant Professor

Serves as major supervisor for all objects majors and on Academic Advisory Committee for select second- and third-year students. Leads second-year seminars and teaches first-year Inorganic Block. Serves on Curriculum and Executive Committees, and regularly on Admissions Committee. Leads select grant initiatives for graduate program.

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
2010—2011 Samuel H. Kress Fellow

Led research, survey, and treatment of Winterthur's collection of ~270 18th—19th-century Staffordshire earthenware figures. Conducted in-depth technical study of polychromy to determine enamel composition and manufacture

techniques. Published on this research and taught many lectures, both internally and to local public audiences.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art
2009–2010 Graduate Intern, Sherman Fairchild Center for Objects
Conservation

Carried out study and treatment of 18th-century Syrian architectural room elements and led project to determine original arrangement of ceiling elements. Conducted technical study and experimentation to reconstruct two wall panels using identified original materials; panels were used for display in newly renovated Islamic Galleries. Other projects included Meissen porcelain, Staffordshire earthenware, Chinese porcelain and stoneware, archaeological glass, and 13th-century Tibetan metalwork.

Milner and Carr (now Materials Conservation)
2009 Summer Graduate Intern in Conservation

Worked alongside architects, gilders, masons, and conservators on large scale treatments, including laser cleaning architectural terra cotta, iron stain removal and bioremediation from limestone, and outdoor sculpture maintenance. Completed treatments in-house, including a fire-damaged 19th-century French gilded harp, a 20th-century acrylic sculpture by Agam, archaeological iron, and architectural bronze. Attended workshops on the use of lasers in conservation, soldering and welding applications, and ultra-high-pressure water cleaning.

East-West Center, Honolulu, HI
2009 January Contract Conservator for Conservation of Fresco Murals

Completed conservation treatment of two 1967 wall frescoes in situ: *Wisdom of the West* by Jean Charlot, and *Wisdom of the East* by Affandi. Treatments were part of a graduate independent study on fresco history and manufacture, including the reconstruction of a segment of Diego Rivera's fresco *The Virgin Earth* (Chapingo, 1928).

Shangri La Museum of Islamic Art, Culture & Design
2008 Summer Graduate Intern in Conservation

Completed final phase in multi-year conservation project of architectural interior of early 18th- century Damascus Room. Treatment includes consolidation, loss compensation, and inpainting of decorative layers of gesso, gilding, paint, and glazes. Worked independently to determine treatment goals, completed photodocumentation, and provided preventive conservation recommendations to museum staff. Delivered formal presentation on conservation work and treatment rationale.

The Walters Art Museum
2007 Summer Conservation Intern

Conducted a complete condition survey of the museum's collection of frames and carried out treatment of a 15th-century panel painting.

William A. Lewin Conservator, LLC
2006—2007 Conservation Assistant

Learned traditional techniques and modern conservation approaches of oil and water gilding. Performed consultation site visits to museums and historic sites in DC-Baltimore area and managed studio when proprietors were off site. Main projects included collaborative oil gilding of 20'X30' carved wood frame for the US Capitol, water gilding four 18th-century French chairs for the White House, loss compensation and ingilding on a 19th-century Neoclassical gilded frame with composition ornamentation, and oil gilding metal architectural elements at the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

State Museum of Pennsylvania
2006 Conservation Intern

Carried out mold remediation of organic archaeological collection and rehousing and documentation of human remains according to NAGPRA. Team was led by Julie Baker, with consultation from Linda Lennon.

Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts (now The Delaware Contemporary)
2003—2005 Undergraduate Intern and Receptionist

Learned important skills in gallery preparation, art handling, and daily workings of an active non-collecting contemporary art exhibition space.

PUBLICATIONS

Crawford, Michael K., Lauren Fair, Katelyn Rovito, Tia Polidori, and Rosie Grayburn. 2021. "Thickness Measurements of Clear Coatings on Silver Objects using Fiber Optic Reflectance Spectroscopy." In *JAIC*.

Fair, Lauren. 2021. "Ceramics and Glass." In *Caring for Your Cherished Objects: The Winterthur Guide*, edited by Joy Gardiner and Joan Irving. Winterthur, DE: Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum.

Fair, Lauren. 2021. "Metals." In *Caring for Your Cherished Objects: The Winterthur Guide*, edited by Joy Gardiner and Joan Irving. Winterthur, DE: Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum.

Fair, Lauren. 2018. "Shedding Light on the Colors of Staffordshire Figures." In *The Staffordshire Figure Association Newsletter* (Fall 2018): 20-23.

Fair, Lauren, and Adam Jenkins. 2017. "Pepper Wax: An Organic Squirrel Deterrent for Lead." *AIC Objects Specialty Group Postprints* 23: 437-444.

Roemich, Hannelore, PhD, and Lauren Fair, eds. 2016. *Recent Advances in Glass and Ceramics Conservation. Pre-prints of the ICOM-CC Glass and Ceramics Working Group Interim Meeting, Wroclaw, Poland, 25-29 May 2016*. ICOM Committee for Conservation.

Fair, Lauren, and Dr. Jennifer Mass. 2013. "Polychrome Decoration on Staffordshire Figures: Identification of a New Enamel Colourant and Underglaze Oxide." In *Recent Advances in Glass, Stained-Glass, and Ceramics Conservation. Pre-prints of the ICOM-CC Glass and Ceramics Working Group Interim Meeting and the Forum of the International Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Stained Glass, Amsterdam, NL, 7-10 October 2013*, edited by Hannelore Roemich and Kate van Lookeren Campagne, 281-293. ICOM Committee for Conservation.

Fair, Lauren, and Dr. Jennifer Mass. 2013. "Polychrome Decoration on Staffordshire Figures: The Identification of a New Enamel Colorant and Underglaze Oxide Recipes Using Technical Analysis." In *Ars Ceramica* 29: 6-39.

Pouliot, Bruno, Lauren Fair, and Richard Wolbers. 2013. "Re-thinking the Approach: Techniques Explored at Winterthur for the Stain Reduction of Ceramics." In *Recent Advances in Glass, Stained-Glass, and Ceramics Conservation. Pre-prints of the ICOM-CC Glass and Ceramics Working Group Interim Meeting and the Forum of the International Scientific Committee for the Conservation of Stained Glass, Amsterdam, NL, 7-10 October 2013*, edited by Hannelore Roemich and Kate van Lookeren Campagne, 211-223. ICOM Committee for Conservation.

Wagner, Ann, Mary McGinn, and Lauren Fair. 2012. "Scratching the Surface of American Painted Tinware." In *Antiques & Fine Art Magazine* XI (6): 189-191.

Fair, Lauren. 2012. "Under, Over, and In the Mix: A Practical Guide to Telling the Difference Between Types of Polychrome Decoration on English Earthenware Figures." Poster presented at the 2012 meeting of the AIC in Albuquerque, NM, 8-11 May 2012.

Fair, Lauren. 2011. "Colorful Personalities: Analyzing Polychrome Decoration on Staffordshire Earthenware Figures in the Winterthur Collection." Lightning round talk at the 2011 Annual Meeting of ANAGPIC, hosted by WUDPAC, 16 April 2011.

Fair, Lauren, Beth Edelstein, and Adrianna Rizzo. 2010. "Painting Techniques of Ottoman Interiors: Reconstructing Decorative Panels from a Damascus Room at the Metropolitan Museum of Art." Poster presented at the 2010 meeting of the IIC in Istanbul, Turkey, 20-24 September 2010.

GRANTS

National Endowment for the Humanities
2019 Preservation and Access Education and Training Grant
\$350,000 to support WUDPAC graduate students

National Endowment for the Humanities
2017 Preservation and Access Education and Training Grant
\$150,000 (with additional \$25,000 in 1:1 matching support) to support
WUDPAC graduate students

Gabo Trust for Sculpture Conservation
2014 Travel Grant
\$600 to attend *Aluminium: History, Technology and Conservation at the Smithsonian Art Museum*, Washington DC, 7-9 April 2014

George Stout Scholarship
2010 Travel Grant for Conference Attendance
\$1,000 to attend *Conservation and the Eastern Mediterranean*, IIC's 23rd biennial Congress in Istanbul, Turkey, 20-24 September 2010

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation
2017—present Coordinator, Glass and Ceramics Working Group
2014—2017 Assistant Coordinator, Glass and Ceramics Working Group
2008—present Dues-paying member

As Coordinator, organized two interim meetings for the Working Group—2022 at the Pharmacy Museum in Lisbon (and online) and 2019 at the British Museum in London—as well as Glass and Ceramics sessions during two Triennial Conferences—2021 in Beijing (online) and 2017 in Copenhagen. As Assistant Coordinator, organized the 2016 Working Group interim meeting in Wrocław and served as co-editor for conference preprints. From 2017—present, serve on scientific committee for all Glass and Ceramics related contributions.

American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works
2016—present Professional Associate
2007—2016 Member

Serves as periodic reviewer for contributions to the Objects Specialty Group.

Society of Winterthur Fellows
2007—present Board Member and Webmaster for www.sowf.org.

Philadelphia Art Conservation Association
2013—present Member

TEACHING

Graduate

Inorganic Materials Conservation Graduate Block

Four-week block during first year WUDPAC curriculum covering basics of the conservation of inorganic materials, including glass, ceramics, metals, and stone. Course features guest lectures, field trips, and hands-on practicums.

Objects Conservation Graduate Seminars

Seminar series for second year objects majors, open to all second years.

Regularly lead the following topics:

- values-based decision making in objects conservation;
- diversity, equity, and inclusion in conservation;
- stain reduction of ceramics;
- principles of cleaning and coating silver alloys;
- authenticity and permanence in digital media;
- care and maintenance of operational cultural objects.

Undergraduate

Ethical Considerations in the Field of Art Conservation

2015 March lecture to undergraduate Museum Studies class, University of Delaware

Treatment Considerations of a Ming Dynasty Ceramic Sculpture at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

2012 March lecture to undergraduate Conservation Science class, University of Delaware

Treatment Considerations of a Ming Dynasty Ceramic Sculpture at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Technical Analysis of Winterthur's Staffordshire Figure Collection

2011 February lecture to undergraduate Technical Art History class, University of Delaware

ADDITIONAL

Invited Talks and Workshops

Stain Reduction of Ceramics

2021 November two-day workshop at the University College London, sponsored by the Institute of Conservation

Ethics in Art Conservation: Treatment of a Ming Dynasty Sculpture at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

2018 November public lecture at Lewis & Clark College

Stain Reduction of Ceramics

2017 February lecture at the University of Arizona

Ceramic Making Across Borders: Insight into the Influence of Porcelain through Conservation Science

2015 June lecture for NYU Summer Institute in Technical Art History: Material Movement: Global Artistic Interdependencies and Exchanges”

Stain Reductio of Ceramics and Other Materials

2015 April two-day workshop for objects, paintings, paper, and furniture conservators, co-taught with Bruno Pouliot and others at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Stain Reduction of Ceramics

2014 April one-day workshop for objects conservators co-taught with Bruno Pouliot and others at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and Lunder Conservation Center

Collecting with Care: Ivory in the Decorative Arts

2014 November workshop instructor with Ann Wagner for Winterthur’s *Collector’s Circle* Annual Meeting

Staffordshire Figures at Winterthur: A Technical Study of the Polychrome Decoration

2013 January lecture at the New York Ceramics Fair

Stain Reduction of Ceramics

2013 January one-day workshop for objects conservators co-taught with Bruno Pouliot and others at the Walters Art Museum

Stain Reduction of Ceramics

2012 May one-day workshop for objects conservators co-taught with Bruno Pouliot and others at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Conservation Training at the Graduate Level and Technical Analysis of Winterthur’s Staffordshire Figure Collection

2011 September two lectures for the Delaware Chapter of the English Speaking Union’s lecture series, held at the Greenville Country Club

Conservation Treatment and Ethical Consideration of Two Ming Dynasty Sculptures at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

2010 November lecture at Princeton University for a PhD and Graduate Workshop on Ming Sculptures

Departmental Talks

Garden Objects at Winterthur
2021 June donor walk for "Cocktails in the Gardens"
2021 April virtual lecture to members

Conservation of Winterthur Garden Objects
2018 August public walking tour for Winterthur's *After Hours* event

Looking at Ceramics and Glass with an Objects Conservator
2017 November special workshop for members

Growth in the Gardens: Recent Collaborations in the Care of
Winterthur's Garden Sculpture
2017 September talk to members for *Garden Insider* series
2016 November talk to members for *Garden Insider* series

The Technology of Color: Looking at Polychrome Enamelled Ceramics
2015 November workshop instructor for Winterthur's *Collector's Circle* Annual Meeting

Cleaning Principles and Options for Chinese Export Lacquer
2015 October demonstration during *Exotic Surfaces: Chinese Export Lacquer Symposium*

Professional Development

Race, Power, and Responsibility: Diversity Education for AIC Members
2021 October training led by Dr. Nicole Robinson and Cultural Connections by Design, sponsored by AIC

Inclusive Conservation Education for ANAGPIC Faculty
2020 August co-organized two training sessions for all ANAGPIC faculty led by Ama Codjoe, sponsored by ANAGPIC and WUDPAC, 10 and 20 August, 2020

Indigenous Futures and Collaborative Conservation
2019 May closing session of the 47th Annual Meeting of AIC, Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT, 17 May 2019

Days of Fire
2018 September experimental pyrotechnology workshop on Iron Age smelting and ironworking, Bronze Age copper casting, and ancient glass bead manufacture, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY, 21-22 September 2018

It's About Time: Building a New Discipline: Time Based Media Art Conservation
2018 May symposium, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, NY, 20-22 May 2018

A Facilitated Conversation About Inclusion and Equity in
Conservation and Preservation

2017 May co-organized session at the 45th Annual AIC Meeting in Chicago with
Sanchita Balachandran, nikhil trivedi, Lisa Marie Pickens, and Manju Rajendran
of AORTA (Anti-Opression Resource + Training Alliance), 29 May 2017

3D Photogrammetry

2016 August weeklong course by Cultural Heritage Imaging, Buffalo State
College, NY, 8-11 August 2016

Cleaning of Decorative and Historic Finishes

2015 August weeklong workshop sponsored by FAIC in collaboration with
WUDPAC and the AIC Wooden Artifacts Group, Winterthur Museum, DE, 3-7
August 2015

Influencing for Impact: Leadership Strategies for Success

2015 May workshop by Bob Norris and the AIC Collections Care Network, 43rd
Annual Meeting of the AIC, Miami, FL, 13 May 2015

Standards for Cleaning Masonry Buildings

2014 October colloquium sponsored by the AIA Historic Resources Committee,
the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, and the AIC Architectural Specialty
Group, Taliesin West, AZ, 10-12 October 2014

Introduction to Identification of Aluminum Alloys and Finishes

2014 April weeklong conference and workshop led by Malcolm Collum, David
Hallam, Bruce Hinton, and Bruce Kaiser at the Emil Buehler Conservation
Laboratory at the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) Steven F. Udvar-
Hazy Center, Chantilly, VA, 7-11 April 2014

Highlight Reflectance Transformation Imaging

2013 January weeklong course taught by Cultural Heritage Imaging,
Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE

Traditional Gilding and Conservation of Gilt Wooden Objects

2011 October workshop taught by Marie Dubost at Winterthur Museum

Ethical Issues in Ethnographic Collections

2011 April daylong symposium at Winterthur Museum, with keynote by Dr.
Miriam Clavir