

Karl Whittington

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The Ohio State University, Columbus

Professor, Department of History of Art, 2024-

Department Chair, Department of History of Art, 2021-26

Associate Professor, Department of History of Art, 2015-2024

Assistant Professor, Department of History of Art, 2010-2015

Affiliate Faculty: Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Italian Studies, Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History of Art, University of California at Berkeley, 2010

M.A. in History of Art, University of California at Berkeley, 2006

B.A. in History of Art and Architecture, Middlebury College, 2004

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

BOOKS

Trecento Pictoriality: Diagrammatic Painting in Late Medieval Italy, Brepols (2023)

Reviews: Judith Collard, *Parergon* (2024)

New Horizons in Trecento Italian Art, edited by Bryan Keene and Karl Whittington,
Brepols (2021)

Reviews: Kathleen Giles Arthur, *CAA Reviews* (2021)
Simona Dragan, *Studia Historiae Artium* (2022)

Body-Worlds: Opicinus de Canistris and the Medieval Cartographic Imagination,
Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto (2014). Paperback edition 2016.
Finalist, Charles Rufus Morey Book Award, College Art Association, 2015

Reviews: Barbara Newman, *Speculum* 90.1 (2015)
Sylvain Piron, *Sehepunkte* 15.6 (2015)
Thomas Horst, *Zeitschrift für Kirchengeschichte* 126/IV (2015)
Danielle Joyner, *Manuscripta* 60.1 (2016)
Ingrid Baumgartner, *Das Mittelalter* (2017)
Anne Dunlop, *Art History* 41.1 (2018)

Gardner's Art through the Ages, 17th Edition. Taking over as a lead author of this
textbook, with the next edition expected to be published in 2027.

Queer Making: Essays on Artists and Desire in Medieval Europe, book manuscript under review

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Touching Saint Sebastian” in catalogue for *Spectrum of Desire*, exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (2025), forthcoming
- “Maps and Bodies: Gender and Experimentation in the Drawings of Opicinus de Canistris,” *Reading Medieval Maps* (Brill, 2024), forthcoming
- “Queer Making and the Sculptor’s Hand,” in *Queer Textures of the Past*, ed. Kate Maxwell and David Carillo-Rengel (De Gruyter, 2024), forthcoming
- “Opicinus de Canistris’s Demonic Seas,” in *The Four Elements in the Middle Ages, Interdisciplinary Perspectives: Volume One - Water*, ed. E. Ramazzina, M. Cesario, and H. Magennis (Brill, 2024), 143-166
- “Diagrammatic Formats from Page to Wall: Dante and the Strozzi Chapel, Revisited,” *Dante Studies* 139 (2022), 24-57
- “Painting the Sculptural Body in Lucca and Florence: Intermediality in Croci Dipinte,” *Gesta* 61, no. 1 (2022), 81-107
- “The Cluny Adam: Queering a Sculptor’s Touch in the Shadow of Notre Dame” in special issue on “Visualizing Gender and Sexuality in the Middle Ages,” *Different Visions: A Journal of New Perspectives on Medieval Art* 8 (2022)
- “Body/Earth: Unpacking an Analogy in the Middle Ages and Beyond,” Proceedings of the Seminar on *The History of Cartography* Translation Project (Kunming, 2021)
- “Diagramming Triumph in Trecento Painting: Augustine and Thomas from Page to Wall,” in *New Horizons in Trecento Italian Art*, ed. Karl Whittington and Bryan Keene (Brepols, 2021), 231-245
- “Bodies in and out of space in Trecento painting,” in *Art and Experience in Trecento Italy*, ed. Holly Flora and Sarah Wilkins (Brepols, 2019), 207-221
- “Medieval Intersex in Theory, Practice, and Representation,” *postmedieval: a journal of medieval cultural studies* 9.2 (2018), 231-247
- “Picturing Christ as Surgeon and Patient in British Library Sloane 1977,” *Mediaevalia* 35 (2014), 83-115
- “Medieval” in “Postposttranssexual: Terms for a 21st Century Transgender Studies,” *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly* 1-2 (2014), 125-29
- “The Psalter Map: A Case Study in Forming a Cartographic Canon for Art History,” *Kunstlicht* 34.4 (2013), 19-26
- “Experimenting with Opicinus de Canistris (1296-ca.1354),” *Gesta* 51.2 (2012), 147-173
- “Caspar David Friedrich’s Medieval Burials,” *Nineteenth Century Art Worldwide* 11.1 (2012)

"Queer" in "Medieval Art History Today: Critical Terms," *Studies in Iconography* 33 (2012), 157-68

"Opicinus de Canistris, Vatican Library Pal. Lat. folios 2v, 20r, 24r," Entries in *Pen and Parchment: Drawing in the Middle Ages*, ed. Melanie Holcomb, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (2009, Yale University Press), pp. 148-55

"The Cruciform Womb: Process, Symbol and Salvation in Bodleian Library MS. Ashmole 399," *Different Visions: A Journal of New Perspectives on Medieval Art* 1 (2008)

SHORT ESSAYS, BOOK REVIEWS, ONLINE POSTS

Review of Roland Betancourt, "Byzantine Intersectionality: Sexuality, Gender & Race in the Middle Ages," *21: Inquiries into Art, History, and the Visual*, Bd. 3, Nr. 2 (2022), 541-548

Review of Elina Gertsman and Barbara Rosenwein, "The Middle Ages in 50 Objects," *Speculum* 95.1 (2020), 244-45

Review of Assaf Pinkus, "Sculpting Simulacra in Medieval Germany," *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture* 24.1 (2017), 115-119

Review of Robert Mills, "Seeing Sodomy in the Middle Ages," *American Historical Review* 121, issue 4 (October 2016), 1350-51

"Jesus' Penis and the Seed of Faith," *The Gay and Lesbian Review* (March/April 2015), 16-19

Review of Carole Rawcliffe, "Urban Bodies: Communal Health in Late Medieval English Towns and Cities," *Isis* 106 no. 1 (2015), 171-72

"The Doge and I," post for *Material Collective* (2013, www.thematerialcollective.org)

"A Medievalist Encounters Richter," post for *Material Collective* (2013)

"Painting the Window," essay for exhibition, *Darker with the Day* (artist: George Rush), Pearl Conard Gallery, The Ohio State University at Mansfield (2012)

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

EXTERNAL

Visiting Senior Fellowship, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA), National Gallery of Art, June-August 2020

ICMA/Kress Research Grant (Research Travel for *Trecento Pictoriality*), 2019

Finalist, Charles Rufus Morey Book Award, College Art Association, 2015

Meiss/Mellon Author's Book Award, College Art Association, 2013

Millard Meiss Award, College Art Association (Book Subvention Award), 2013

ICMA/Kress Research Grant (Book Subvention Award), 2012

Mellon Two-Year Postdoctoral Fellowship in Medieval Studies, Northwestern University (declined), 2010

Visiting Fellowship, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, 2009

Kress Travel Fellowship, Samuel H. Kress Foundation, New York, 2008

OHIO STATE

Ronald and Deborah Ratner Distinguished Teaching Award, Division of Arts and Humanities, The Ohio State University, 2016

Course Development Grant, Undergraduate Research Office (URO), The Ohio State University, 2016

International Travel Grant, Arts and Humanities, The Ohio State University, 2016

Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, The Ohio State University, 2015

Academic Enrichment Grant, Ohio State Honors and Scholars Center, 2013

Library Course Enhancement Grant, The Ohio State University, 2012

UC BERKELEY

Townsend Dissertation Fellowship, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities, UC Berkeley, 2008-09

University Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2004-2010

SELECTED LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

REFEREED

"Diagrammatic Affect from Page to Wall," presentation at "The Medieval Diagram as Subject," Symposium at the School of Advanced Study, London, May 2022

"Lucignano's Reliquary Tree," panels on "Quo vadis? Medieval Italian Sculpture Studies in the New Millennium," Session sponsored by the Italian Art Society, Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 2021

"Diagrammatic Formats from Page to Wall: Dante and the Strozzi Chapel, Revisited," panel on "Dante's Legacy in the Visual Arts," Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, March 2021

"Diagramming Triumph in Trecento Painting: Augustine, Thomas, and the Spectrum of Allegory," Andrew Ladis Memorial Conference, Houston, November 2018

"Bodies In and Out of Space in Trecento Painting," Andrew Ladis Memorial Conference, New Orleans, 2016

"Painting the Sculptural Body on Trecento Crosses," Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, Michigan, in "Ordering Matter: Hierarchies of Material and Medium in Medieval Art," 2016

"Icons of Space: Grids, Maps and Pictures ca. 1300," College Art Association Annual Conference, New York, 2013

"Picturing Christ as Doctor and Patient in British Library MS Sloane 1977," Medieval Academy of America Annual Meeting, St Louis, 2012

"Beyond Space and Narrative: Diagrammatic Painting in Fourteenth-Century Italy," Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, 2011

"The World as Frame: Measure, Vision, and Perspective in the Allegorical Body-Worlds of Opicinus de Canistris," International Medieval Congress, Leeds, England, 2008

"Looking at Touching: Sense Memory and the Jointed Crucifix," Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, Michigan, in "Framing the Medieval Senses in Art," session sponsored by the ICMA, 2008

"The Cruciform Womb: Seeing Christ in Female Flesh," Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, Michigan, session sponsored by the ICMA in honor of Madeline Caviness, 2006

"Space and Devotion in the Map Psalter," Graduate Medievalists at Berkeley Conference, UC Berkeley, 2005

INVITED

"Queer Making: Artists and Desire in Medieval Europe," Keynote for Symposium on *Queer Palimpsests: Rewriting Medieval Art History*, Williams College, April 2025

"Queer Making: Artists and Desire in Medieval Europe," Inaugural Lecture Series, College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University, September 2024

"Queering Acts of Making: Desire and the Creation of Medieval Art," Medieval Colloquium Series, Northwestern University, January 2023

"Returning to Ambrogio Lorenzetti's Government Frescoes," Department of History of Art, Princeton University, September 2022

"An ICMA Pride Conversation about Queer Medieval Art," panelist, International Center for Medieval Art, August 2021

"How to Queer Medieval Art: Three Case Studies from Europe ca. 1300," University of Memphis, February 2021

"Intermediality in Trecento Painted Crosses," Faculty Virtual Lecture Series, Department of History of Art, Ohio State, January 2021

"Body/Earth: Unpacking an Analogy in the Middle Ages and Beyond," *Dialogue of Ancient Cartography*, International Conference in the History of Cartography, Yunnan University, China, August 2019

"Opicinus de Canistris: Artist, Visionary, Cartographer (1296-1354)," Reed College, Oregon, March 2019

Respondent, workshop on new translations of Erwin Panofsky, University of Pittsburgh, November 2018

"From Page to Wall: Scientific Form and Diagrammatic Painting in the Age of Giotto," University of Wisconsin, Madison, 2017

"Christ the Surgeon: Science and Spirituality in Medieval Medicine," College of St. Olaf, 2017

"A Morphology of the Trecento Line," symposium on *Mittelalterliche Bildgeometrie*, Dresden, Germany, 2016

"Christ the Surgeon: Science and Spirituality in Medieval Medical Drawings," Kenyon College, 2015

"Diagramming Everything," talk for "Constellations: Mapping Space," colloquium sponsored by *Rough Draft*, The Ohio State University, 2014

"The Body-Worlds of Opicinus de Canistris," Department of History of Art Lecture Series, Middlebury College, 2012

"Metaphor and Analogy in Medieval Art," Symposium for Recent Scholarship on Medieval Art from the ICMA, Cleveland Museum of Art, 2011

"The Graphic Art of a Medieval Italian Priest," Faculty Colloquium, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, The Ohio State University, 2011

"The Body-Worlds of Opicinus de Canistris (1296-ca.1354)," Department of Art History, Northwestern University, 2010

"Empirical Allegory: Opicinus de Canistris and Early Portolan Charts," Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, 2009

CONFERENCES AND CONFERENCE SESSIONS ORGANIZED

"Pointing at Shadows: The Procedures and Complexion of Allegory in Medieval and Renaissance Art and Literature," Symposium organized for the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (with Jonathan Combs-Schilling), The Ohio State University, 2015

"Trecento Pictoriality," Session organized for College Art Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2014

"Metaphor, Analogy, Art History," Session, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Art History Society, Columbus, OH, 2013

"Practical and Theoretical Geometry in Medieval Art," Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo, Michigan, co-organized with Christopher Lakey, session sponsored by the ICMA, 2009

"Interdisciplinary Approaches to Visual Representation," Co-organizer of symposium sponsored by the Dept. of History of Art, UC Berkeley, 2005

TEACHING (OHIO STATE)

GRADUATE SEMINARS

Medieval Art and the Body

Maps and Visual Culture

Pictoriality: How Paintings Work

Medieval Art as Argument

Queer Art Histories

Visual Cultures of Monasticism in Medieval Europe

The Crucifix and Crucifixion in a Global Art History

Medieval Art: Acts of Making

UNDERGRADUATE

Introduction to Western Art I: Ancient-Medieval (online and in person)
Medieval Art: Spaces, Materials, Ideologies
Medieval and Renaissance Manuscript Illumination
The Age of Giotto
Writing Seminar in History of Art
Introduction to Artistic Media and Techniques
Science and Technology in Medieval and Renaissance Culture
Gender and Sexuality in Western Art (honors course)
Gender and Sexuality in European Art (online and in person)
The Art of Paris: Gothic Cathedrals (study abroad course)
Medieval Art in Italy (study abroad course)

ADVISING (OHIO STATE)

GRADUATE: PRIMARY ADVISOR

Anthony del Aversano, PhD Student, History of Art
Emilela Thomas-Adams, ABD, History of Art
Margaret Wilson, ABD, History of Art
Laura Leeker, History of Art, PhD 2020
Elizabeth Sandoval, History of Art, PhD 2018
Lisa Iacobellis, History of Art, PhD 2017
Erin Gregory, History of Art, MA 2017
Brid Arthur, History of Art, PhD 2015

GRADUATE: DISSERTATION/THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER

Christy Sher, PhD Student, History of Art
Maika Bahr, ABD, History of Art
Clayton Kindred, ABD, History of Art
Karin Flora, ABD, History of Art
Alanna Radlo-Dzur, PhD in History of Art, 2023
Stephanie Kang, PhD in History of Art, 2022
Caroline Koncz, PhD in History of Art, PhD 2022
Kristen Phipps, MFA, 2021
Trent Olsen, PhD in History of Art, 2020
Kristen Adams, PhD in History of Art, 2020
Ankur Desai, PhD in History of Art, 2018
Rebecca Howard, PhD in History of Art, 017
Boryana Rusenova, MFA, 2016
Ivana Rosenblatt, PhD in History of Art, 2015
Winnie Siddharta Ambron, MFA, 2013
Caitlin Stokes, MFA, 2012

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS PROJECTS SUPERVISED

Alexa Isaac, BA Thesis, 2025 (Honors)
Megan Barborak, BA Thesis, 2023
Maddie Thompson, BA Thesis, 2023 (co-advisor, Research Distinction)

Abby O'Donnell, BA Thesis, 2023 (co-advisor, Research Distinction)
Sydney Collins, BA Thesis, 2023 (co-advisor, Research Distinction)
Lauren Ramsey, BA Thesis, 2020
Erin Riddiford, BA Thesis, 2018 (Honors, Research Distinction)
Annabel Pinkney, BA Thesis, 2018 (Research Distinction)
Ashley Bartman, BA Thesis, 2012 (Honors, Research Distinction)
Benjamin Durham, BA Thesis, 2011 (Honors, Research Distinction)

SERVICE

EXTERNAL

Book Manuscript Peer Reviewer: Palgrave MacMillan, and Press of the Pontifical Institute for Mediaeval Studies

Article Peer Reviewer: *Gesta*, *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, *postmedieval*, *English Language Notes*, *Different Visions*, *The Journal of Medieval Religious Cultures*, *Dante Studies*, *California Italian Studies*

International Center for Medieval Art, Digital Resources Committee, 2012-2016

Conference Site Committee, Annual Meeting of the Midwest Art History Society, 2013

DEPARTMENTAL (OHIO STATE)

Department Chair, Department of History of Art, 2022-2026

Search Committee Member, RAISE Hire in Black Media Studies, AAAS, 2022-23

Search Committee Chair, RAISE Hire in African/Diaspora Art History, 2022-23

Interim Chair, Department of History of Art, 2021-2022

Chair of Undergraduate Studies (and Honors Advisor), History of Art, 2014-2021

Chair, Committee for Diversity and Inclusion, History of Art, 2020-2021

Chair, Search Committee, Visiting Assistant Professor of Global Premodern Art, 2021

Search Committee, Roy Lichtenstein Chair in American Art, 2018-2019

Outreach Program for AP Art History Instructors (created), 2018-19

Promotion and Tenure Committee, History of Art, 2016-2019

Interim Associate Director, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Spring 2017

Search Committee, ACLS Postdoc Position in Islamic Art, History of Art, 2016

Personnel Committee, History of Art, 2015-16

Undergraduate Studies Committee, History of Art, 2010-11, 2013-14

Graduate Studies Committee, History of Art, 2011-14

Search Committee, Faculty Position in Colonial Latin American Art History, 2011-12

Search Committee, Faculty Position in Asian Art History, 2012-13

Advisory Board, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2010-13, 2015-16

Oversight Committee, Program in Sexuality Studies, 2012-16

Advisory Committee, Rare Books and Manuscripts, 2013-16

Oversight Committee, Humanities Institute, 2014-2017

UNIVERSITY (OHIO STATE)

Committee Chair, External Search for new Department Chair of Art, 2024-25

Committee Chair, Search for New Department Chair of WGSS, 2023

Fellow, Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program, 2022-23

Member, Council on Academic Affairs (CAA), 2019-2022
Subcommittee Chair, Council on Academic Affairs, 2020-21
Member, Combined CAA and Graduate School Curriculum Committee, 2020-21
Member, OSAS (Office of Student Academic Success) Faculty Advisory Council, 2019-21
Chair, Dean's Faculty Advisory Council, College of Arts and Sciences, 2018-19
Faculty FIT Mentor, University Institute for Teaching and Learning, 2018-2019
Selection Committee, Ratner Teaching Award, College of Arts and Sciences, 2018-19
Elected Member, Dean's Faculty Advisory Council, College of Arts and Sciences, 2017-20
STEP (Second Year Transformational Education Program) Faculty Mentor, 2016-2017
Senator, Faculty Council, Ohio State University Senate, 2013-2016
Council on Libraries and Information Technology, Faculty Senate Committee, 2012-2015
Arts and Sciences Strategic Plan Working Group, Internationalizing Curriculum, 2012
Faculty Advisory Committee for the Office of Undergraduate Research, 2013-16

LANGUAGES

German, French, Italian, Latin