

Michael Zell

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EDUCATION

Harvard University	Ph.D., Fine Arts	1986-94
University College London	Work toward Ph.D.	1984-86
McGill University	B.A., Honors Art History	1981-84
John Abbott Cégep	D.E.C., Commerce	1979-81

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Boston University

Associate Professor, Department of History of Art & Architecture
2002-present

Assistant Professor, Art History Department
1996-2002

Sonoma State University

Assistant Professor, Department of Art
1994-1996

Tufts University

Lecturer, Art History Department
“Dutch Art of the Golden Age,” 1994

University College London

Supervisor-Tutor, Department of History of Art
“Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art in London,” 1986

AWARDS AND HONORS

Jeffrey Henderson Senior Research Fellowship Humanities Foundation Society of Fellows, Boston University	2009-10
Faculty Award, Graduate Student Art History Association, Boston University	2005
National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellowship	2003
Distinguished Teaching Award, Honors Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University	2002
Book Publication Grant, Samuel H. Kress Foundation	2001
Book Publication Subvention, Dean and Provost Berkey, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University and Humanities Foundation, Boston University	2001
Frank and Lynne Wisneski Award for Excellence in Teaching, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University	2001
Funding Award for Symposium "Mediators: Medium and Its Messages," Humanities Foundation, Boston University	2001
Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University	2000
Appreciation Award, Graduate Student Art History Association, Boston University	2000
Junior Fellow, Humanities Foundation Society of Fellows, Boston University	1998-99
Certificate of Appreciation, Sonoma State University Student Ambassadors	1995
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	1992
Canada Council Grant for Research in the Humanities & Social Sciences	1987
Commonwealth Scholarship, British Council	1984-86
Moyse Travelling Fellowship, McGill University	1984
H.R. Judkins Award for Art History, McGill University	1984
James McGill Award; University Scholar; Faculty Scholar, McGill University	1983
James McGill Award; Faculty Scholar, McGill University	1982

PUBLICATIONS

"*Liefde baart kunst: Vermeer's Poetics of Painting,*" *Simiolus* 35 (2011), pp. 142-164

"Rembrandt's Gifts: A Case Study of Actor-Network-Theory," *JHNA (Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art)* 3:2 (Summer 2011)

"Review of *Rembrandt and the Aesthetics of Technique,*" *CAA.Reviews*, 2007

"Landscape's Pleasures: The Gifted Drawing in the Seventeenth Century," in *In His Milieu: Essays on Netherlandish Art in Memory of John Michael Montias*, edited by Amy Golahny,

Mia M. Mochizuki, and Lisa Vergara, pp. 483-494. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2006

“A Leisurely and Virtuous Pursuit: Amateur Artists, Rembrandt, and Landscape Representation in Seventeenth-Century Holland,” *Nederlands Kunsthistorisch Jaarboek* 54 (2003), pp. 337-373

“Rembrandt’s *Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee*,” in *Eye of the Beholder: Masterpieces from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum*, edited by Alan Chong et al., pp. 144-145. Boston: Beacon Press, 2003

Reframing Rembrandt: Jews and the Christian Image in Seventeenth-Century Amsterdam. Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press, 2002

“The Gift Among Friends: Rembrandt’s Art in the Network of His Patronal and Social Relations.” In *Rethinking Rembrandt*, edited by Alan Chong and Michael Zell, pp. 173-194. Zwolle, The Netherlands: Waanders, 2002

“Why Rethink Rembrandt?” In *Rethinking Rembrandt*, edited by Alan Chong and Michael Zell, pp. 10-16. Zwolle, The Netherlands: Waanders, 2002

“Eduard Kolloff and the Historiographic Romance of Rembrandt and the Jews,” *Simiolus* 28 (2000-2001), pp. 181-197

“Encountering Difference: Rembrandt’s *Presentation in the Dark Manner*,” *Art History* 23, no. 4 (2000), pp. 496-521

“Rembrandt’s *Artist in His Studio*,” in *Rembrandt Creates Rembrandt: Art and Ambition in Leiden, 1629-1631*, exhibition catalogue (Boston: Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Sept., 2000-Jan., 2001), catalogue no. 4, pp. 90-91

“Rembrandt’s *Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem*,” in *Rembrandt Creates Rembrandt: Art and Ambition in Leiden, 1629-1631*, exhibition catalogue (Boston: Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Sept., 2000-Jan., 2001), catalogue no. 14, pp. 112-115

“Lives: Netherlandish Portrait Prints of the Seventeenth Century,” *Harvard Art Museums Gallery Series*, no. 29 (1999), pp. 2-8, and 14

"Review of H. Perry Chapman, *Rembrandt's Self-Portraits: A Study in Seventeenth-Century Identity*," *RACAR* 17 (1990), pp. 83-86

CURRENT BOOK PROJECT

For the Love of Art: Rembrandt, Vermeer, and the Gift in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Culture

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PUBLIC LECTURES

Renaissance Society of America Conference, New York, March 2014 (forthcoming)
“Graphic Images: Rembrandt’s Printed Nudes”

Tufts University, Department of Art and Art History, December 3, 2013 (forthcoming)
“For the Love of Art: Rembrandt and the Gift in Seventeenth-Century Holland”

Rembrandthuis Museum, Amsterdam, July 23, 2013
“Rembrandt’s Art as Gift”

New Directions in the Study of Rembrandt and His Circle, Queen’s University Study Center at
Herstmonceux Castle, England, July 20, 2013
“Actor-Network-Theory and Rembrandt’s Gifts”

Council of Independent Colleges-Kress Seminar “Dutch Art, Patrons, and Markets,”
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, June 27, 2013
“Rembrandt and Vermeer in the Mauritshuis”

Rembrandt and His Circle, Queen’s University Study Center at Herstmonceux Castle,
England, July 22, 2011
“Rembrandt’s *Woman Bathing* (1654): Aporia and the Limits of the
Iconographic Method”

Rembrandt and His Circle, Queen’s University Study Center at Herstmonceux Castle,
England, July 23, 2011
“Rembrandt and Landscape Drawing as an Amateur Practice”

Disputing the Global: Art History’s Future, Tufts University, October 29, 2010
Invited discussant

Historians of Netherlandish Art Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 25, 2010
“Rembrandt’s Gifts: A Case Study of Actor-Network-Theory”

CAA Conference, Chicago, February 12, 2010
“Vermeer’s Poetics of Painting”

Boston University, Humanities Foundation Society of Fellows, January 25, 2010
“For the Love of Art: Vermeer and the Poetics of Painting”

Expanding the Field of Rembrandt Studies, Queen’s University Study Center at Herstmonceux
Castle, England, June 26, 2009
Presentation in the Panel “Patrons, Dealers, and the Marketplace”

Musée d’Art et d’Histoire du Judaïsme, Paris, France, June 3, 2007
“Rembrandt and the Jews: Looking Again”

Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, April 22, 2006
“Rembrandt’s Printed Gifts”

J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, August 4, 2005
“Rembrandt’s Art as Gift”

Faculty Colloquium, Boston University, Art History Department, September 29, 2004
“Profit or Pleasure? Drawing Landscapes in the Seventeenth Century”

CAA Conference, Seattle, February 20, 2004
“Profit or Pleasure? Drawing Landscapes in the Seventeenth Century”

Mediators: Medium and Its Messages, Boston University, March 8, 2003
“Graphemes”

CAA Conference, Philadelphia, February 22, 2002
“Rembrandt’s Portraits as Gifts”

Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Denver, October 27, 2001
“Landscape, *Liefhebbers* and Amateurs in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art: A Leisurely Pursuit of Pleasure”

Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Cleveland, November 2, 2000
“Encountering Difference: Rembrandt’s *Presentation in the Dark Manner*”

Rethinking Rembrandt, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, October 14, 2000
“The Gift Among Friends: Rembrandt’s Art in the Network of His Patronal and Social Relations”

CAA Conference, New York, February 26, 2000
“Eduard Kolloff and the Historiographic Romance of Rembrandt and the Jews”

Boston University, Art History Department, December 12, 1999
“Lifeworld: Portrait and Landscape in Netherlandish Prints, 1550-1650”
Lecture delivered in the Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge

Boston University, Humanities Foundation Society of Fellows, April 20, 1999
“Encountering Difference: Rembrandt’s *Presentation in the Dark Manner*”

Historians of Netherlandish Art Conference, Baltimore, March, 1998
“Word and Image in 17th-Century Dutch Art: Rembrandt's *Presentation in the Dark Manner*.” Workshop Presentation

CAA Conference, Boston, February 24, 1996
“The Old Testament Reformed: Rembrandt's *Christ and the Woman of Samaria* of

1657-58”

SYMPOSIA ORGANIZATION AND CURATORSHIP

Liaison, Historians of Netherlandish Art and American Association of Netherlandic Studies Conference, Boston University, June 5-7, 2014 (forthcoming)

Co-organizer, symposium “Mediators: Medium and its Messages,” Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and Boston University, March 7-8, 2003

Co-chair, symposium *Rethinking Rembrandt*, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, October 14, 2000

Co-curator, “Lifeworld: Portrait and Landscape in Netherlandish Prints, 1550-1650,” Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, October 30, 1999 - January 23, 2000

CONSULTING

“Painter with A ‘Jewish Soul’?” interviewed by Eric Herschtal for the journal *The Jewish Week*, posted on line September 21, 2007

“Harvard University Art Museums’ *Rembrandt and the Aesthetics of Technique*,” interview by WBUR’s Andrea Shea, October 17, 2006

“Jacob van Ruisdael was Not Jewish,” interviewed by Menachem Wecker for the journal *Forward*, posted on line October 21, 2005

“Rembrandt’s Biblical Subjects,” interview posted on the website for *Religion and Ethics Newsletter*, March 26, 2004, Episode no. 730

“Seventeenth-Century Flemish Art in the Hermitage,” recorded interview for audio guide of the exhibition *Treasures from the Hermitage Museum, Russia: Rubens and His Age*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada, February 5, 2001

PEER REVIEWER ACTIVITIES

National Humanities Center, 2012 (long-term fellowship reviewer)

Ashgate Press, 2012 (manuscript reviewer)

Oxford University Press, 2012 (manuscript reviewer)

JHNA (Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art), 2010 (manuscript reviewer)

University of Chicago Press, 2004 (manuscript reviewer)

University of California Press, 2004 (manuscript reviewer)

MUSEUM EXPERIENCE

Print Room Assistant, Fogg Art Museum, 1988-1989

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Executive Committee, Boston University Center for the Humanities, 2013-2014

Graduate Studies Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2013-2014

Chair, Latin American Search Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2012-2013

Curriculum Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, fall 2011

Associate Chair, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, fall 2010-spring 2011, 2005-2009

Chair, Islamic Search Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2005

Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, fall 2005

Director of Graduate Admissions, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, spring 2004

Greek Search Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2003-2004

Director of Museum Studies, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2001-2002

Humanities Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, fall 2001

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 1999-2000

Curriculum Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 1999-2000

Renaissance Search Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 1997-1998

Faculty Advisor, Undergraduate Art History Society, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 1997-98

Graduate Studies Committee, Department of History of Art & Architecture, Boston University, 2000-2001, 1996-1997