

JENNIFER A. PRUITT, PhD

Assistant Professor of Islamic Art History
University of Wisconsin – Madison, Department of Art History
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EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Ph.D., November, 2009, Department of the History of Art and Architecture (Islamic Art),
Dissertation Committee: Gülru Necipoğlu (Harvard University), David Roxburgh (Harvard
University), Nasser Rabbat (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

M.A., 2005, Department of the History of Art and Architecture (Islamic Art)

Smith College, Northampton, MA

A.B., *magna cum laude*, 1997, Department of Art History

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Art History, University of Wisconsin – Madison 2013-present

Lecturer, Art Department, Smith College, Northampton, MA 2010-2013

Lecturer, Art History Department, University of Massachusetts 2012

Head Teaching Fellow, History of Art and Architecture Department,
Harvard University 2005

Teaching Fellow, History of Art and Architecture Department,
Harvard University 2004

PUBLICATIONS

Books

*Building the Caliphate: Construction, Destruction, and Sectarian Identity in Early Fatimid
Architecture* (Yale University Press, forthcoming January 2020)

Scholarly Articles

“The Fatimid Holy City: Destroying and Building Jerusalem in the Eleventh Century.” *The*

Medieval Globe no. 3.2 (2017): 35-56.

“Monumentalizing the Ephemeral: Ganzeer and the Rise of Cairene Street Art” *World Art* (2017): 1-23.

“The Three Caliphates, a Comparative Approach,” with Glaire Anderson. *The Companion to Islamic Art and Architecture*, edited by Gülru Necipoğlu and Finbarr B. Flood (Blackwell Companions to Art History), Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2017, 223-249.

“Miracle at Muqattam: Moving a Mountain to Build a Church in the Early Fatimid Caliphate (969-995).” In *Sacred Precincts: Non-Muslim Religious Sites in Islamic Territories*, edited by Mohammad Gharipour, 277-290. Boston: Brill, 2015. (peer reviewed)

“Method in Madness: Reconsidering Church Destructions in the Fatimid Era,” *Muqarnas* 30 (2013): 119-139.

Other Publications

Review of *Arts of Allusion: Object, Ornament, and Architecture in Medieval Islam*. (scholarly monograph by Margaret Graves), *Speculum* (in progress)

“Al-Mahdiyya: Art and Architecture” in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, 3rd edition (forthcoming)

Catalog entries on medieval and contemporary art of the Middle East. *Ink, Silk, and Gold: Islamic Art from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*, edited by Laura Weinstein, Boston: Museum of Fine Arts Publications, 2015.

“Mamluk Basin”

“Mamluk Candlestick”

“Mamluk Lamp Globe”

“Mamluk Mosque Lamp”

“Oliphant”

“*Converging Territories* #29 by Lalla Essaydi”

“*Pentagon* by Monir Farmanfarmanian”

“*Grater Divide* by Mona Hatoum”

“*Roja* by Shirin Neshat”

Review of *In Harmony: The Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* (exhibition, Harvard University, Sackler Museum) *College Art Association Reviews*, 2013.

Monographs in Progress

The Accretion of Memory in a Medieval Street: A Biography of the Palace Walk in Cairo (969-1500 CE).

Inheriting an Islamic Golden Age: Globalism, National Identity, and Invented Histories in the History of Islamic Art in the Arabian Gulf.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Honored Instructor Award, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2018, 2019
Fall Competition Award, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2014, 2015, 2016, 2019
First Book Award, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2017
Institute for Research in the Humanities Fellowship, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2017
Faculty Development Seminar, “Understanding Persecution,” Center for the Humanities, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2015
National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Institute, “Negotiating Identities: Expression and Representation in the Christian-Jewish-Muslim Mediterranean,” Barcelona, Spain	2015
Teaching and Learning Excellence Fellowship, University of Wisconsin – Madison	2013-2014
Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University	2008-2009
American Research Center in Egypt, U.S. Department of State, ECA Fellowship	2008
Norton Fellowship for Dissertation Research, Harvard University	2006-2007
Institute for Ismaili Studies Dissertation Fellowship	2007
Fulbright IIE Fellowship, Egypt	2005-2006
Foreign Languages and Area Studies Fellowship (declined)	2005
Damon Dilley Travel Award, Harvard University	2003, 2008
Bok Center Award for Excellence in Teaching, Harvard University	2003, 2004

HART Summer Research Grant, Harvard University
Aga Khan Graduate Fellowship in Islamic Art, Harvard
University

2002, 2003

2001-2004

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED LECTURES

“Inheriting an Imagined Past: Islamic Art in Arabian Gulf” in the panel *Deconstructing the Myths of Islamic Art History*, College Art Association Annual Conference, February 2020.

“Building the Caliphate: Construction, Destruction, and Sectarian Identity in Early Fatimid Architecture” invited lecture at Indiana University, October 2019

“Race, Religion, and Revisionism: Why the Middle Ages Matter Now,” *Humanities Now*, University of Wisconsin – Madison, panel discussant and organizing committee member, September 2019

“The Mall as Museum: The Ibn Battuta Mall, Dubai” in the panel *The Expansive Museum* at the Museums in Arabia Symposium, King’s College, London, Summer 2019

“An Exploration of the Earliest Islamic Monuments in Jerusalem: Dome of the Rock and Aqsa Mosque,” International Learning Community, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2019

“Construction, Destruction, and Concealment under Cairo’s ‘Mad Caliph’” Center for Humanities, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2019.

“Productive Destruction: The Rebuilding of Fatimid Jerusalem” in the panel *Then and Now: Medieval Border Crossings and the Contemporary Moment* at the Historians of Islamic Art symposium, Yale University, Fall 2018

“Making a Case for Classical Islamic Globalism: The Ibn Battuta Mall, Dubai” at the Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, Fall 2018

“Ephemeral Monuments: Street Art in the Middle East” at the panel discussion *Monuments and Meanings: UW-Madison and Beyond*, hosted by Continuing Studies at UW-Madison, Fall 2018

“The Medieval Present: Representing the Past in Contemporary Arabian Gulf,” in the symposium *Intersections: Visual Cultures of Islamic Cosmopolitan* at the University of Texas – Dallas, Spring 2018.

Discussant, Early Mediterranean Art History panel, in the symposium *Intersections: Visual Cultures of Islamic Cosmopolitan* at the University of Texas – Dallas, Spring 2018.

“The Dome of the Rock and Aqsa Mosque” in the series *Sacred Objects and Places in the Middle Ages* at the University of New Mexico, Spring 2018.

“Destruction, Construction, and Concealment under Cairo’s “Mad Caliph” (ca. 1007–1013)” in the Offit Symposium on Art and Architecture of the premodern Islamic world, Johns Hopkins University, Spring 2018.

“Rebuilding Islamic Jerusalem, ca 1035” at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Middle East Studies Program Lecture Series, Spring 2018.

“Conflict as Catalyst in the Architecture of Islamic Jerusalem, ca. 1035 CE” at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Art History Colloquium, Fall 2017.

“A Model for the Global, Islamic City: The Ibn Battuta Mall, Dubai,” in the panel *The City as Model* at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Meeting, Glasgow, UK, Spring 2017.

“Building the Caliphate: Construction, Destruction, and Religious Identity in Fatimid Architecture (909-1031), a seminar at the Institute for Research in the Humanities, spring 2017.

“Architecture as Borderland in Fatimid Jerusalem,” in the panel *European and Islamic Cultural Exchange* at the Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, Spring 2017.

“Inheriting the Islamic Past in the Arabian Peninsula,” at the “Future Fields: ‘Global Methodologies and Art of the Middle East” symposium, Smith College, Spring 2016.

“The Cultural Costs of Terrorism: Palmyra and Beyond,” a Humanities Now panel discussant at the Chazen Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2016.

“Competitive Caliphates: The Architecture of the Fatimids and Spanish Umayyads,” at the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, “Negotiating Identities: Expression and Representation in the Christian-Jewish-Muslim Mediterranean,” Barcelona, Spain, Summer 2015.

“Reassessing Medieval Islamic Globalism: The Fatimid Caliphs and Jerusalem,” at the Mellon Art History symposium, *The ‘Global Turn’ in Medieval Art*, Northwestern University, Summer 2015.

“Medieval Islamic Sectarianism and the Holy Cities,” in the *Imagines Mundi* global medieval Mellon workshop, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2015.

“Rebuilding Jerusalem: Fatimid Artistic Patronage in the Eleventh Century,” keynote address for the Graduate Association for Medieval Studies’ Medieval Studies Colloquium, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Spring 2015.

“Ganzeer in Conversation: Art, Revolution, and the Arab Spring in Egypt,” at Bryn Mawr College, January, 2015.

“The Life of the ‘Tank Versus Bicycle’ Mural, Cairo 2011-2012,” in the symposium *The Arts of*

the Middle East Uprisings, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Fall 2013.

“Painting Tahrir Square: Martyrs, Murals, and Memory,” in the forum *Sensing Cairo: Sights, Sounds, and Public Spaces Since the Late-Nineteenth Century*, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, October, 2013.

“Reassessing a Medieval Golden Age: Architectural Patronage, Destruction, and Concealment under Cairo’s “Mad” Caliph (c. 1000-1010),” Middlebury College, April, 2013.

Arts of Revolution: Examining Artistic Production after the Arab Spring, panel organizer (with Dina Ramadan, Bard College), College Art Association Annual Conference, New York, NY, February 2013.

“Painted Discontent: The Rise of Cairene Street Art in the Wake of the Arab Spring,” in the forum *Arts of Revolution: Examining Artistic Production after the Arab Spring*, College Art Association Annual Conference, New York, NY, February 2013.

Arab Spring, Artistic Awakening? Art, Resistance, and Revolution, panel organizer (with Dina Ramadan, Bard College), Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2012.

“The Global Street: The Rise of Cairene Street Art, 2011-2012,” in the forum *Arab Spring, Artistic Awakening? Art, Resistance, and Revolution*, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2012.

“Miracle of Muqattam: Building a Church in Medieval Egypt,” in the forum *Sacred Precincts: non-Muslim Sites in Islamic Societies*, Society of Architectural Historians Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI, April, 2012.

“Concealed Faith: The Architectural Realignment of the Fatimid Empire, ca. 1010,” in the forum *The Interconnected Tenth Century*, College Art Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA, February 2012.

“The Treatment of Christian Churches during the Reign of al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah,” in the forum *Linking Islamic and Christian Art -- Transfer and Comparison*, Freie Universität Berlin, June 2010.

“Reconsidering Fatimid Realism: Historiography and the Workshop of Muslim bin al-Dahhan,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November, 2008.

“A Tale of Two Cities: Locating the Courtly and the Urban in Fatimid Visual Culture,” American Research Center in Egypt, Cairo, February 2006.

“The Fatimid Architecture of al-Qahira,” The American Center, Alexandria, Egypt, January 2006.

“Late Medieval Islamic Architecture,” Islamic Center of Boston, Wayland, Massachusetts, Spring, 2005.

COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – MADISON

Art Hist 210: A History of the World in 20 Buildings, Fall 2018 and Fall 2019 (150 students)

Art Hist 305: Islamic Art and Architecture, Fall 2013, Spring and Fall, 2014; Fall, 2015; Spring 2019 (approximately 40 students)

Art Hist 373: Great Cities of Islam (40 students)

Art Hist 413: Art and Architecture in the Age of the Caliphs, Spring 2015; Spring 2018 (approximately 20 students)

Art Hist 440: Art and Power in the Arab World, Fall, 2014; Fall, 2015; Fall 2017 (15-25 students)

Art Hist 515/815: Cross-Cultural Encounters in Islamic Art, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, and Spring 2018; Coexistence and Conflict in the Architecture of Islamic Spain, Fall 2017

Art Hist 500/800: From Mecca to Dubai: Current Issues in the Architecture of the Arabian Gulf, Spring 2019

Independent Studies

Ujaan Ghosh, Fall 2019

Tania Kolarik, Fall 2019

Saeedeh Asadipour, Spring and Fall 2019

Mateusz Ferens, Fall 2018 and Spring 2019

Ahmed Abdelazim, Spring 2018 and Fall 2019

Samantha Selsky, Spring 2016

Mark Summers, Fall 2014 and Spring 2015

Angela Hronek, Spring 2014

Guest Lectures:

“The Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem” in Samuel England’s Intl St 266: *Introduction to the Middle East*.

“The Formation of Islamic Art” in Tom Dale’s *Art and Religion*, Spring 2018

“The Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem” in Gene Phillips’ Art Hist 205, *Global Art History*

“The Rape of Mesopotamia – The Syrian Civil War, ISIS, and the Spectacle of Destruction,” in Barbara Buenger’s *Rape of Europa*.

“Post-Revolutionary Street Art in Cairo, 2011-2013,” in Art Hist 264: *Dimensions of Material Culture*, October 20, 2015.

DISSERTATION AND PRELIMINARY EXAM COMMITTEES

Dissertation Committees (defended):

Scott Trigg, History of Science (reader)
Reader, Daniel Cochran, Art History (medieval Europe), (reader)

Dissertation Committees (in process):
Lauralee Brott, Art History (minor field)

Preliminary Examination Committees (completed)
Mark Summers, Art History (medieval Europe, minor advisor)
Mateusz Ferencz, Art History (Byzantine, minor advisor)

Preliminary Examination Committees (in progress)
Ahmed Abdelazim, Art History (Islamic, major advisor)
Saeedeh Asadipour, Art History (modern and contemporary art of the Middle East, minor advisor)
Tania Kolarik, Art History (medieval Europe, minor advisor)
Ujaan Ghosh, Art History (architecture of India, minor advisor)
Özlem Eren, Art History (medieval Europe, minor advisor)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Steering Committee, Middle East Studies, 2016-present
Awards Committee, chair, Art History, 2019-present
Diversity Committee, chair, Art History, 2019-present
Co-organizer and panel discussant, "Race, Religion, and Revisionism: Why the Middle Ages Matter Now," *Humanities Now*, Center for the Humanities, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Fall 2019
Faculty Senator, Art History, 2017-2019
Search committee member for early modern art historian, 2018-2019
Faculty representatives for interviews with candidates for the Chazen Museum's Assistant Director of Collections and Exhibitions, 2018
Development and Fundraising Committee, Art History, 2016-2017
Art History Society Liaison, 2015-2016; 2017-2018
Development and Fundraising Committee, Art History, 2015-2016
Organizing Committee Member, *Imagines Mundi* global medieval Mellon workshop, 2014-2016
Admissions Committee, Art History, 2014-15
Curriculum Committee, Art History, 2013-14
Development and Fundraising Committee, Art History, 2013-14
Committee to organize the Saint John's Bible symposium, Art History, 2013-14
Presenter, "Classroom Power Prep," University of Wisconsin Teaching and Learning Symposium, May 19, 2014.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Reviewer, *Journal of African Literature Association*, 2019
Peer Reviewer, *Medieval Globe*, 2019
Peer Reviewer, *World Art*, 2019

Peer Reviewer, *Islamic Africa*, 2018
Peer Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2017
Peer Reviewer, Brill, 2016, 2017, 2019
Peer Reviewer, *International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, 2016
Historians of Islamic Art Association, Board Member and Webmaster, 2012-2015

COURSES TAUGHT OUTSIDE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – MADISON

Smith College, Northampton, MA

Lecturer, Art Department

ARH 262: Art and Power in the Arab World, Spring 2013
ARH 240: Cross-Cultural Encounters in Islamic Art, Fall 2012
ARH 228: Islamic Art and Architecture, Spring 2011 and Spring 2012
ARH 240: Islamic Cities: Cairo, Istanbul, Delhi, Fall 2011
ARH 101: Moments and Monuments in Art History, Fall 2010; Spring and Fall 2011; Spring and Fall 2012; Spring 2013.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Lecturer, Art History Department

ART 497: Cross-Cultural Encounters in Islamic Art, Fall 2012
ART 100: Survey – Ancient to Medieval Art History, Fall 2012
 “The Formation of Islamic Art”
 “Medieval Islamic Architecture”
 “Islamic Architecture of the Three Empires (Ottoman, Safavid, Mughal)”
 “Islamic Painting”
 “Modern Art of the Middle East”

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Head Teaching Fellow, Core Program/History of Art and Architecture Department

HAA 10: A Survey of World Art, Spring 2005

 Team-taught course led by Professor Tom Cummins

LAB 46: Art in the Wake of the Mongol Conquests: Genghis Khan and his Successors

 Professor David Roxburgh, Fall 2003

Teaching Fellow, Core Program/History of Art and Architecture Department

LAB 21: The Images of Alexander the Great

 Professor David Mitten, Fall 2004

LAB 35: Art in the Age of Suleyman the Magnificent

 Professor Gülru Necipoğlu, Spring 2004

LANGUAGES

Modern Standard/Classical Arabic (advanced)

Egyptian Arabic (advanced)

French (advanced)

German (reading knowledge)

