

Sophie Pitman

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EMPLOYMENT

- July 2022-
Present Pleasant Rowland Textile Specialist and Research Director (Academic Curator)
 Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection, Center for Design and Material Culture
 University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA
- 2021-22 Leverhulme Early Career Fellow
 History Department, UCL, UK
- Jan 2019-
Oct 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher,
 Refashioning the Renaissance Project (European Research Council)
 Department of Art, Aalto University, Finland
- July 2017-
Dec 2018 Lecturer,
 Department of History, Columbia University, USA
- July 2017-
Dec 2018 Postdoctoral Scholar,
 The Making and Knowing Project,
 Center for Science and Society, Columbia University, USA

EDUCATION

- 2013-17 Ph.D., History, St. John's College, University of Cambridge
 Fully funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council
 Dissertation: The making of clothing and the making of London, 1560-1660
- 2011-13 M.A., Decorative Arts, Design History, Material Culture,
 Bard Graduate Center
 Wainwright Award for best thesis
 Fully funded by the Bard Graduate Center Scholarship & Curatorial Fellowship
- 2010-11 Knox Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences,
 Harvard University
 Fully funded by the Frank Knox Fellowship
- 2006-9 B.A., History and English, Jesus College, University of Oxford
 First Class, graduated top of my class. Prizes for results in final exams

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- 2019-20 Visiting Scholar, Center for Science and Society, Columbia University
- 2016-17 Visiting Researcher, Center for the History of Emotions,
Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
- 2016 Visiting Scholar, 'Making and Knowing Project,'
Center for Science and Society, Columbia University

EXHIBITION AND CURATORIAL WORK

- 2021 Curator
'Reconstructing Everyday Fashion, 1550-1650'
Dipoli, Aalto University, exhibition September –October 2021
- Contributor
'Mechanochemistry: The Science of Crush'
Science History Institute, exhibition May 2021 (online with Google Arts and Culture)
- 2020 Contributor
'Outré: Encounters with non/living things'
Väre, Aalto University, exhibition Winter 2020
- 2015 Curatorial Researcher and Contributor to catalogue
'Treasured Possessions from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment'
The Fitzwilliam Museum, Spring – Summer 2015
- 2013 Curatorial Assistant
'Vernay-Hopwood Chindwin Expedition of 1935'
Bard Graduate Center Gallery, Winter 2013
- 2012 Research Assistant
Victoria and Albert Museum, Research Department
- 2012 Curatorial Assistant
'The Islands of Benoît Mandelbrot: Fractals, Chaos, and the Materiality of Thinking'
Bard Graduate Center Gallery, Fall 2012
- 2011-13 Curatorial Fellow
Focus Gallery, Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY
- 2011-13, 2016 Gallery Attendant and Docent
Bard Graduate Center Gallery, New York, NY
- 2011 Researcher
'Tangible Things'
Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments, Harvard University

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles:

‘Baking and Knowing: Iterative Processes and Iterative Teaching in a Historical Laboratory,’ *Detours: Social Science Education Research Journal*, 2 (1), 2021, 33-41.

‘The Matter of Ephemeral Art: Craft, spectacle, and power in early modern Europe,’ co-authored with Pamela Smith, Tianna Uchacz, Tillmann Taape, and Colin Debuiche, *Renaissance Quarterly*, 2020 (73.1), 78-131.

‘Prodigal Years?: Negotiating luxury and fashioning identity in a seventeenth-century account book,’ *Luxury: History, Culture, Consumption* 3:1-2 (November 2016), 7-31.

Edited Volume, peer-reviewed:

Making Space in Early Modern Europe, co-edited with Colin Murray and Tianna Uchacz, (New York: Bard Graduate Center, distributed by the University of Chicago Press, under contract, accepted, forthcoming 2022).

Book Chapters:

‘Tailor’s hell?: the contested space of the early modern workshop,’ *Making Space in Early Modern Europe*, co-edited with Colin Murray and Tianna Uchacz, (New York: Bard Graduate Center, accepted, forthcoming 2022).

‘Dolled Up: The material dissemination of dress in the early modern period,’ *Disseminating Dress*, ed. Serena Dyer, Jade Halbert and Sophie Littlewood, (Bloomsbury, 2022), 21-48.

‘Visual and Literary Representations of Shopping’ in Tim Reinke-Williams (ed.) *A Cultural History of Shopping in the Early Modern Age* (Bloomsbury, 2022).

‘Black color for dyeing, and the place of textiles in BnF Ms. Fr. 640’ in *Secrets of Craft and Nature in Renaissance France. A Digital Critical Edition and English Translation of BnF Ms. Fr. 640*, <http://edition640.makingandknowing.org>, eds. The Making and Knowing Project, Pamela H. Smith, Naomi Rosenkranz, Tianna Helena Uchacz, Tillmann Taape, Clément Godbarge, Sophie Pitman, Jenny Boulboulé, Joel Klein, Donna Bilak, Marc Smith, and Terry Catapano (2020), http://edition.makingandknowing.org/#/essays/ann_036_sp_16

‘Daily Life and Material Culture in Early Modern Europe,’ in *ibid*, https://edition640.makingandknowing.org/#/essays/ann_325_ie_19

‘Codes: Redressing London – sumptuary laws and the control of clothing in the early modern city,’ in Peter Goodrich (ed.) *A Cultural History of Law in the Early Modern Age* (Bloomsbury, 2019), 65–86.

Digital Critical Edition:

Contributor, co-editor, translator and encoder. The Making and Knowing Project, Pamela H. Smith, Naomi Rosenkranz, Tianna Helena Uchacz, Tillmann Taape, Clément Godbarge, Sophie Pitman, Jenny Boulboulé, Joel Klein, Donna Bilak, Marc Smith, and Terry Catapano, eds., *Secrets of Craft and Nature in Renaissance France. A Digital Critical Edition and English Translation of BnF Ms. Fr. 640* (New York: The

Making and Knowing Project, 2020), <http://edition640.makingandknowing.org>.

Exhibition Catalogue:

Treasured Possessions from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment, ed. Victoria Avery, Melissa Calaresu and Mary Laven (Philip Wilson, 2015), 82, 117-119, 126-9, 150-1, 220-1, 225, 252, 260-1.

Encyclopedia Entry:

'The Art and Geometry of Tailoring,' *Routledge Encyclopedia of the Renaissance World*, (under contract, submitted, forthcoming 2022).

Book Reviews:

Thrifty Science: Making the Most of Materials in the History of Experiment by Simon Werrett for *Renaissance Quarterly* (Fall 2021, Issue 74.3).

Sartorial Politics in Early Modern Europe: Fashioning Women, ed. Erin Griffey (Amsterdam University Press: Amsterdam, 2019), for *The Journal of Dress History*, Vol. 4, Issue 3, Autumn 2020, 112-114.

'On Weaving: New Expanded Edition by Anni Albers,' *West 86th, A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture*, Vol. 25, 1, 112-4.

'Women, Work and Sociability in Early Modern London by Tim Reinke Williams,' *Social History* Vol. 40, 4, 2015, 538-40.

Conference Review:

'Textiles and the Origins of Industrial Revolutions: Linking Markets and Techniques,' *Textile History*, 46 (2), November 2015, 258-60.

Writing for wider audiences:

Articles and reviews in *Selvedge Magazine* (2019 – present)

Columnist for *The Daily Telegraph* (2012 – 13)

Blogs for refashioningthereniassance.eu

Contributor at thefirstbookoffashion.tumblr.com

Contributor at weavingknowledge.org

SELECTED HONORS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

2022: RSA Digital Innovation Award (as part of *Making and Knowing* editorial team)

2021: Leverhulme Early Career Award (2021-24, declined in 2022 to take up full time role)

2020: Elected to Royal Historical Society (ECR Member)

Friends of Attingham Grant (postponed until 2022 due to covid-19)

2019: European Research Council, Refashioning the Renaissance Postdoctoral Fellowship (-2021)

- Eugene S. Ferguson Prize (as part of *Making and Knowing* editorial team)
- 2017: RSA Travel Grant
- 2016: AHRC Travel Fund
- 2015: Royal Historical Society Individual Travel Fund
Robert Tong Bursary
Fieldwork Funding, History Faculty, Cambridge
Economic History Society Workshop Funding
CRASSH Conference Funding
Institute of Historical Research Friends Bursary
Worn Through Research Award
- 2014: Members History Fund, Cambridge
- 2013: AHRC Funding (-2016)
Getty and USC-Huntington Early Career Scholar Grant
Clive Wainwright Award for best thesis
- 2012: Bonnie Cashin Fund
HERA Fashioning the Early Modern Bursary
- 2011: Bard Graduate Center Scholarship, Fellowship and Curatorial Fellowship (-2013)
- 2010: Frank Knox Fellowship, Harvard (-2011)
- 2009: The Davies Prize for Outstanding Performance in Finals, Jesus College, Oxford
- 2007: Jesus College Exhibition for performance in Preliminary Examinations (-2009)

SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING, QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

- 2021 Natural Dyes and Foraging Workshop, West Dean, UK
- 2020 Grant Application Workshop, Aalto University
- 2019 Historical Weaving Technology and Methods, Fondazione Lisio, Florence
- 2019 Weaving, Ban Rai Jai Sook, Thailand
- 2019 Historical Tailoring Methods, School of Historical Dress, London
- 2019 Silk Processing, Nido di Seta, Italy
- 2019 Linen and Wool Preparation, Trelleborg, Sweden
- 2019 Bobbin Lace Making, Textile Arts Center, New York
- 2018 French Paleography, 1500-1600, Columbia University
- 2017 Core Curriculum Training, Columbia University
- 2017 French Paleography, University of Toulouse
- 2017 Engraving & Etching, Columbia University

2017	Weaving, Ban Rai Jai Sook, Thailand
2016	Linen Seamstress Work, School of Historical Dress, London
2015	Feltmaking for Hats, School of Historical Dress, London
2015	The Nature of Fabrics, 1400-1800, School of Historical Dress, London
2015	Pockets for Men and Women, School of Historical Dress, London
2015	Patterns of Fashion Day, Art Workers Guild, London
2014	Armour as Clothing, Wallace Collection and Sands Films, London
2014	Stitching & Decorative Techniques on Leather, 1400-1800, School of Historical Dress
2014	Wig-making 1600-1800, School of Historical Dress, London
2014	Making, Starching & Setting an Elizabethan Ruff, School of Historical Dress, London
2014	Teacher training, University of Cambridge
2014	English Paleography, 1500-1700, University of Cambridge
2013	Tailoring a Doublet and Hose, 1580-1620, School of Historical Dress, London

INVITED TALKS

2022:	Expert Gallery Talk: Fake for Real Exhibition, House of European History, Brussels, Belgium
2021:	The Flamboyant Fake: Fake Fashions in Renaissance Europe, House of European History, Brussels, Belgium <i>Online due to COVID-19.</i>
	Keynote speaker, 'Apparel for Rain: Keeping Dry, Warm, Clean and Healthy in Early Modern London', <i>Strange Habits / Strange Habitats: Clothes, climes, and the environment in Shakespeare and his contemporaries</i> , Clermont-Ferrand, France. <i>Online due to COVID-19.</i>
	'Reconstructing Weatherproof Clothing in early modern Europe – New User Stories Making and Knowing' Material Culture Hub, University of Cambridge Archaeology
	'A Dyeing Art: Reconstructing Rosetti's <i>Plichtho</i> ' <i>The Colour of Clothes in the Early Modern World</i> , Cambridge. <i>Online due to COVID-19.</i>
	'Reconstructing a fashionable early modern body' Body and Food Histories Group, Cambridge.
	'A Nasty Black Doublet: the material and digital reconstruction of Renaissance everyday fashion' Digital Materialities Group, LARCA, Université de Paris.
	Chair, 'Negotiating Gender in Early Modern Portraiture' <i>Dressing a Picture</i> , CRASSH Cambridge. <i>Online due to COVID-19.</i>

- 2020: 'Making Material: reconstructing early modern clothing', '*L'Histoire de l'expérience et l'expérience de l'historien. Etude critique des pratiques de reconstitutions*' University of Liège, Belgium. *Postponed due to COVID-19.*
- Clothing in 3D – tailoring and animation,
Microscopic Records: The New Interdisciplinarity of Early Modern Studies, c. 1400–1800,
Manchester University, UK.
co-presented with Maarit Kalmakurki.
- 2019: 'Reconstructing Renaissance Clothing', Annual Alumni Lecture, Bard Graduate Center, New York
- 'Practical Knowledge in Image and Print', Making and Knowing Annual Working Group Meeting, Columbia University
- 2018: 'Reconstruire l'histoire du savoir-faire au laboratoire: résultats matériels et conceptuels de la formation "Craft and Science" du Making and Knowing Project', *Du Manuscrit au Livre, L'écriture des savoir-faire à la Renaissance*, University of Toulouse
(presentation given in French, and co-presented with Tillmann Taape and Tianna Uchacz)
- 'Making and Knowing: Creating a Digital Critical Edition of a 16th Century Manuscript,' From Data to Solutions, IGERT Computer Science, Columbia University
(co-presented with Tillmann Taape)
- 2017: 'Reconstructing the early modern material world',
Early Modern Workshop, Princeton University
- 2016: Chair, 'Embroidered Books',
Cultural Histories of the Material World, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC
- 2015: 'Elizabeth I – Best Dressed Briton in History?', *(co-presented with Ulinka Rublack)*,
Trinity Art Society, University of Cambridge
- 'Objects and Emotions', *(co-presented with Ulinka Rublack)*, Treasured Possessions Symposium, The Fitzwilliam Museum and the University of Cambridge
- 'Clothing in Early Modern London, ca. 1560– 1660',
Medieval and Tudor London Seminar, Institute for Historical Research, London

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2021 'Making Material: Refashioning the Clothing of Early Modern Artisans,' *Renaissance Society of America*, Online.
- 2020: 'Making Material: Refashioning the Clothing of Early Modern Artisans,' *Reconstruction: Methods and Practices in Research, Exhibitions, and Conservation*, Centre for Visual Culture Inaugural Conference, University of Cambridge
- Making Material: Refashioning the Clothing of Early Modern Artisans,
Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia. *Postponed due to COVID-19.*

- 2019: “‘Everyone is permitted to flaunt it out’”: Urban Fashion among the Lower Classes’, *Renaissance Society of America*, Toronto, Canada
- ‘Mock velvet and fake gold: Renaissance fashion among the lower classes, 1550-1650’. *Faking it – Forgery and Fabrication in Late Medieval and Early Modern Culture*, Gothenburg, Sweden
- ‘From Microscope to Archive and Back Again: How Microscopes, Social Media, and Collaboration Can Lead to New Findings in Dress History.’ *Dress under the Microscope: Contributions of Science and Technology to the Study of Early Modern Dress*, Dressing The Early Modern Network Conference, Lisbon, Portugal.
- ‘Innovation and imitation: urban fashion among the lower classes, 1550–1650’. *Everyday Fashion: Extraordinary Stories of Ordinary Clothes*, University of Huddersfield and University of Leeds, UK
- 2018: ‘Tailor’s Hell? Accounting for the Early Modern Workshop’, *Renaissance Society of America*, New Orleans, USA
- 2017: ‘Learning to weave in Thailand’, co-presented with weavers from the Ban Rai Jai Sook Studio, *International Convention of Asia Scholars*, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- ‘Reconstructing the Clothing of Early Modern London: Material Knowledge and Textile Literacy’, *Renaissance Society of America*, Chicago, USA
- ‘Pin Pranks: pin possession in early modern England’, *Awkward Objects: The Bounds of the Body in the Early Modern*, Aalto University, Finland
- 2016: ‘Pin Pranks: pin possession in early modern England’, *Emerging Scholars Conference*, Winterthur, Delaware, USA
- 2015: ‘Material Metropolis: Clothing in Early Modern London, ca. 1560– 1660’, *Renaissance Society of America*, Boston, USA
- ‘Prodigal expense? Negotiating luxury and fashioning identity in a seventeenth-century account book’, University of Cambridge, UK
- ‘Doublets, Diamonds and Debts: Negotiating Luxury in a Seventeenth-Century Account Book’, *The Spaces of Luxury*, Leverhulme Trust, London, UK
- ‘Knowing, Using & Making Clothing in London, c. 1600’, *Making, Unmaking & Remaking the Early Modern Era*, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA
- ‘Dolled Up: The Dissemination of Foreign Fashions in Europe, c.1600’, *Disseminating Dress*, University of York, UK
- ‘Olde Dublets and New Methodologies’, *Making and Mobilising Objects*, University of Warwick, UK
- 2014: ‘Dolled Up: The Dissemination of Foreign Fashions in Europe, c.1600’, *Thinking with Things*, CRASSH, University of Cambridge, UK

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SEMINARS ORGANIZED

- 2020 Imitation in Early Modern Clothes and Accessories
 Aalto University
- Making Invisible Colours Visible
 Aalto University
- 2019 Red Dyes in the Early Modern World
 Columbia University
- Tailoring Techniques
 Aalto University
- Weaving Knowledge Workshop on Lanna Weaving and Dyeing
 Columbia University and Ban Rai Jai Sook Studio, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- 2018 'Ephemeral Art', Making and Knowing Working Group Meeting
 Columbia University
- 2015 'History in the Making: Reconstructing the Early Modern World'
 St. John's College, University of Cambridge
- 'Clothing in Early Modern London' workshop
 The Museum of London
- 'Matter and Materiality in the Early Modern World'
 CRASSH, University of Cambridge
- 2014-16 'Things: Early Modern Material Cultures' seminar series
 CRASSH, University of Cambridge, 2014 – 2016

RESEARCH WORK

- 2016-17 Researcher, 'Colouring the Early Modern World'
 Cambridge Humanities Research Grant
- 2011-12 Research Assistant for Sophie Dahl
 London and New York

TEACHING EXPERIENCE – GRADUATE LEVEL

- 2020-21 Visual and Material Culture in the Early Modern World
 University of Cambridge (Guest Lecturer)
- 2018 Craft and Science in the Early Modern World - Printmaking
 Columbia University (Co-Instructor)
- 2017 Craft and Science in the Early Modern World – Ephemeral Art
 Columbia University (Co-Instructor)

2016 Survey of Decorative Arts, Design History, Material Culture
Bard Graduate Center, NY (Teaching Assistant)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE – UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

2018 Contemporary Civilization
Columbia University (Instructor)

2014-17 ‘Material Culture in the Early Modern World’
University of Cambridge (Lecturer and Supervisor)

2014-16 ‘British Economic and Social History, 1500-1750’
University of Cambridge (Class Leader)

TEACHING AREAS AND METHODS

I integrate hands-on methods, museum visits, and collection handling into all my teaching.

For my teaching methods, as well as a syllabus collaboration with a curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art to create a catalogue of objects relating to Columbia’s *Contemporary Civilization* Course: <https://sophiepitman.com/teaching>

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2022- Collections Committee, Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection

2021- Participant in *Cultural Heritage 360: Collaborative Approaches to Future Funding*, AHRC
Reviewer for *Renaissance Quarterly*
Reviewer for *Apparence(s): Histoire et culture du paraître* (bilingual French/English)

2020- Reviewer for *Textile History*

2019-21 Experimental Methodology Lead, Postdoctoral Fellow, Refashioning the Renaissance Project, Aalto University, Helsinki

2019-21 Advisor, Citizen Science Knitted Stocking Project, Aalto University, Helsinki

2017-18 Co-running scientific laboratory, co-editor of online edition, grant preparation, liaison with digital and library professionals, Making and Knowing Project, Columbia University

2016-18 Advisor, ‘Things: Early Modern Material Cultures’ seminar series, CRASSH, Cambridge

2015 Project Administrator, Kepler’s Trial: An Opera, St John’s College, Cambridge

2014-17 Postgraduate Mentor, Cambridge Admissions Office

2014	Costume Society Ambassador
2013-15	Graduate Outreach Officer, History Faculty, University of Cambridge
2009-10	Schools Liaison and Recruitment Officer, Churchill College, University of Cambridge
2007-9	College Mentor, Student Mentor, Oxford University

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Consulting:

2016- Formal and informal consulting with museums, the media, historical novelists, and TV and film producers about early modern material culture and dress.

Writing:

2019- Selvedge Magazine
Articles, Exhibition and Book Reviews
Recent articles include renaissance silk, and woad in contemporary Finnish fashion

2012-13 The Daily Telegraph
Columnist, writing about expat life in New York

Podcasts:

2020 'Weaving Emotions' as part of *Metaphors of the Mind* series:
<https://soundcloud.com/user-111400494/metaphors-of-the-mind-dr-sophie-j-pitman>

2019-21 *Refashioning the Renaissance* host: <https://soundcloud.com/user-265326599>

Videos:

2021 Imitation in Early Modern European Fashion <https://youtu.be/dSA9uJzeNxE>

2020 'Pins' in *One More Thing* Series, Bard Graduate Center:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoYaNa6pAsk&feature=emb_title

2020 Silk Processing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wu76BotifTU>

2019 Weaving Knowledge: *Looms of Banraijaisook*: <https://vimeo.com/310728471>

Blogs:

2019- Refashioning the Renaissance: <http://refashioningrenaissance.eu/author/sophie/>

2018-19 Weaving Knowledge: <https://weavingknowledge.org/2019/11/16/sophie-pitman/>

2013-15 First Book of Fashion Tumblr: <http://thefirstbookoffashion.tumblr.com/>

Social Media:

2011- Twitter – personal (work-related) account, as well as co-running accounts for Refashioning the Renaissance, Cambridge Things and Making and Knowing

2013- Instagram – personal (work-related) account

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

French (excellent)

Spanish (basic speaking, reading, and writing)

German (basic speaking, reading, and writing)

Latin (basic reading and writing)

Italian (basic reading, with dictionary)

Palaeography (English 1500-1700, French 1550-1700).

Holder of a Certificate of Fitness for Non-Production Chemical Laboratories (C-14), FDNY

Simple coding and digital mark-up for Digital Humanities projects