

FREYDA SPIRA

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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
2006 Ph.D. History of Art, Dissertation: *Daniel Hopper and the Reinvention of the Medium of Etching*
Committee: Larry Silver, Michael Cole (chair), and Catriona Macleod

Columbia University, New York, NY
1998 MA, History of Art, Advisor, Keith Moxey

Barnard College, New York, NY
1996 BA, History of Art, *magna cum laude*

WORK EXPERIENCE

July 2021-present Yale University Art Gallery
Robert L. Solley Curator of Prints and Drawing

2008–June 2021 The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Associate Curator of Northern Prints, Drawings, and Illustrated Books (2015–present)
Study Room Curator, Associate Curator of Visual Culture (2014–2015)
Study Room Curator, Assistant Curator of Visual Culture (2009–2014)
Research Assistant to the Curator of Northern Drawings (2008–2009)

2006–2007 Whitney Museum of American Art, *Interim Head of Cataloguing Department*

2004–2005 Christie's, *Specialist, Print Department*

1998–1999 C.G. Boerner Inc. / Artemis Fine Arts Ltd., *Research Assistant*

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMITTEES

2020 The Metropolitan Museum of Art DEIA Language Usage Ad Hoc Committee

2020 The co-chair of the subcommittee for Queer Histories at the Met for the LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group

2019 The Metropolitan Museum of Art Publishing Committee for the Curatorial Forum

2017–2020 The Metropolitan Museum of Art Grants Committee

2012–present Historians of Netherlandish Art, board member (2017–present)

2013–present Print Council of America, board member (2016–2020)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS and AWARDS

2020	International Fine Print Dealers Association (IFPDA) Foundation Book Award for <i>The Renaissance of Etching</i>
2007	Danish Arts Foundation Grant, Committee for Visual Arts Project Funding
2005–2006	The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Chester Dale Fellow
2003–2004	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, Graduate Research Grant
2003–2004	National Gallery of Art, Graduate Lecturing Fellowship
Summer 2002	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, Language Program, Wittenberg
2001–2002	Philadelphia Museum of Art, <i>Carl Zigrosser Fellow in the Prints, Drawings, and Photographs Department</i>
Summers 2000, 2001	University of Pennsylvania, Department of the History of Art Summer Travel Award
2000-2001	University of Pennsylvania, Teaching Fellowship
1999-2003	University of Pennsylvania, William Penn Fellowship

INVITED JUROR

2020	Schulman and Bullard Article Prize, Association of Print Scholars
2017	The Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT
2015	Three Rivers Arts Festival, Pittsburgh, PA

EXHIBITIONS

Picturing Beloved Denmark in Nineteenth Century Danish Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (February–May 2023); and The Getty Museum, Los Angeles (June–August 2023), in cooperation with the Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Making the Met, contributor, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (August 2020 –January 2021)

The Last Knight: The Art, Armor and Ambition of Emperor Maximilian I, contributor, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (October 2019–January 2020)

The Renaissance of Etching, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (October 2019–January 2020); The Albertina Museum, Vienna (February–May 2020)

Edward Penfield and the Poster Craze in America, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (January–March, 2019)

Visions of California: Posters from the Collection of Leonard Lauder, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (October 2016–January 2017)

Wordplay: Matthias Buchinger's Drawings from the Collection of Ricky Jay, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (January–April 2016)

The Power of Prints: The Legacy of William M. Ivins and A. Hyatt Mayor, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (January–April 2016)

Gridiron Greats: Vintage Football Cards from the Jefferson R. Burdick Collection, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (January–February 2014)

"A Sport for Every Girl": Women and Sports in the Collection of Jefferson R. Burdick (December 18, 2012–July 7, 2013)

Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings 1470-1540, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (September 2012–January 2013); Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art at the University of Texas, Austin (October 2013–January 2014); Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College (September–December 2014).

Breaking the Color Barrier in Major League Baseball, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (January–June 2012)

Dürer and Beyond: Central European Drawings in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1400-1700, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (April–September 2012)

Transformation: Jews and Modernity, Arthur Ross Gallery, University of Pennsylvania (April–June 2001)

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Making the Met, contributed essay (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, March 2020)

Hans Baldung Grien: Heilig, unheilig, ed. Holger Jacob-Friesen, contributed entries (Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe, November 2019)

The Renaissance of Etching (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, October 2019)

The Last Knight, contributed entries (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, October 2019)

The Power of Prints: The Legacy of William M. Ivins and A. Hyatt Mayor (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 2016)

Dürer and Beyond: Central European Drawings in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1400-1700 (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2012)

Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings 1470-1540 (National Gallery of Art, Washington, 2012)

A Pioneering Collection: Master Drawings from the Crocker Art Museum, ed. William Breazeale (Sacramento: Crocker Art Museum, 2010)

Articles, Essays, and Reviews:

“An Unpublished Proof of the Arch of Honor of Maximilian I,” *Print Quarterly*, vol. XXXVIII, no. 1 (2021)

“Johann Michael Püchler the Younger: Micrography in Print,” *Art in Print*, vol. 8, no. 3 (September 2018)

Review of Exhibition Catalogue: *Hans Baldung Grien: Holzschnitte*, edited by Felix Reuße (Freiburg, Städtische Museen Freiburg, Augustinermuseum, 17 September 2016–15 January 2017). *Print Quarterly* (June 2018)

“Micrographic Allegories by Johann Michael Püchler and Matthias Buchinger,” Shorter Notice in *Print Quarterly* (September 2017)

“The Eucharistic Controversy and Daniel Hopfer’s *Tabernacle for the Holy Sacrament*,” in *The Primacy of the Image in Northern European Art, 1400-1700: Essays in Honor of Larry Silver*, eds. Debra Cashion, Ashley West, and Henry Luttikhuisen (Brill, October 2017)

“Between Paper and Sword: Daniel Hopfer and the Translation of Etching in Reformation Augsburg,” in *Prints in Translation*, eds. Suzanne Karr Schmidt and Ed Wouk (Routledge, 2016)

Review: Burton L. Dunbar et al., eds. *A Corpus of Drawings in Midwestern Collections, [II B]: Sixteenth-Century Northern European Drawings* (London and Turnhout, Harvey Miller Publishers, 2012), for *Historians on Netherlandish Art* (HNA.com, posted July 2013)

“Daniel Hopfer’s *St. Paul Preaching* and the Question of Mediation,” in *Zeitschrift für Kunstgeschichte*, vol. 4 (2010)

“Daniel Hopfer and Early Etched Armor in Augsburg,” in *Daniel Hopfer: Ein Augsburger Meister der Renaissance*, ed. Achim Reiter, exh. cat. (Munich: Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, 2009)

“Daniel Hopfer and the Power of Women,” *The Arms and Armor Bulletin* (Spring 2005)

“Marketing Ideologies: Works on Paper in Fin-de-Siècle Berlin,” in *Transformation: Jews and Modernity*, exh. cat. (Philadelphia: Arthur Ross Gallery, 2001)

Danish Paintings of the Golden Age, sale cat. (New York: Artemis Fine Art, Inc., Spring 1999)

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

“Danish Drawings at The Metropolitan Museum of Art,” Master Drawings New York Symposium on New Areas of Collecting, in collaboration with the Met (January 2021).

“IFPDA Foundation Book Award Conversation with Contributors,” moderated by David Tunick, President, IFPDA (October 20, 2020).

Organize and chair annual Print Study Day at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in conjunction with the International Fine Print Dealers Association (IFPDA): *Prints and Politics* (2020); *German Renaissance Etching* (2019); *Early Nineteenth Century Lithography* (2018); *Oversized Prints* (2017).

Session Chair: “The Primacy of the Image: A Career Celebration of Larry Silver,” University of Pennsylvania (2017).

Session Chair: Renaissance Society of America (2017), “The Luther Effect.”

Session Chair: College Art Association (2016), “The Art of Collecting.”

Organized and chaired a Friday Focus at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, January 2016, “William Ivins’s Legacy in Prints.”

Chaired Sunday at The Met, April 2016, “The Power of Prints: The Pursuit of Knowledge and the Potential for Social Change.”

Celebrating Twenty Years of The Renaissance Print, Renaissance Society of America (2014), “Words, Words, Words: Daniel Hopfer’s Etched Sermons.”

Objectifying Prints, College Art Association (2014), “Between Paper and Sword: Daniel Hopfer and the Translation of Etching in Reformation Augsburg.”

Co-Chaired Sunday at The Met, April 2012, “Dürer and Beyond: German Renaissance Drawings.”

Art and Theater in Early Modern Northern Europe 2: The City as Stage, Renaissance Society Conference (2009), “The *Haus zum Tanz*: Spaces of Interest in the Early Work of Hans Holbein the Younger.”

The Art and Business of Printmaking 1500-1800, College Art Association (2007), “Daniel Hopfer’s Designs for a Tabernacle for the Holy Sacrament: Two Sides of a Confessional Debate.”

Reading, Community and Identity, Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Villanova University (2005), “Redefining Daniel Hopfer.”

Exploring the Renaissance, Pepperdine University and the Huntington Library (2005), “The Power of Women: Armor Designers and Printmakers in the Sixteenth-Century.”

Northern Renaissance Open Session, College Art Association Annual Conference (2005), “Coming in from the Margins: Armor Design and Works on Paper Related to the Power of Women.”

Politics and Art, University of Virginia Annual Conference (2004), “Frederick the Wise and the Making of a Court in Wittenberg.”

Bound, Unbound: Textuality Within and Beyond the Book, 3rd Annual Penn Humanities Forum (2003), “The Making of a Court in Wittenberg.”

INVITED LECTURES

“The Making of a Print Collection and a Print Curator,” Eskenazi Museum of Art at Indiana University (February 2021)

“Etching and Armor in the Sixteenth Century,” Department of History of Art, Selwyn College, University of Cambridge (February 2021)

“The Origins of Etching in Renaissance Germany,” Harvard Art Museums (February 2020)

“Text + Image: Historical Micrography of Johann Michael Püchler and David Levi van Gelder in Context,” International Print Center New York (October 2018)

“The Materials and Techniques of German Renaissance Etching,” The Making and Knowing Project, Columbia University (September 2018)

“Some Notes on the Prints of Hans Baldung Grien,” The Staatliche Kunsthalle, Karlsruhe (September 2018)

“William Ivins, Philip Hofer and the Art of the Book,” Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge (October 2016)

“The Power of Prints: The Legacy of William Ivins and Hyatt Mayor,” International Fine Print Dealers Association, Print Fair, New York (November 2015)

“William Ivins and the Grolier Club,” Grolier Club, New York (October 2015)

“Imperial Augsburg: Renaissance Prints and Drawings, 1475-1540,” The Frances Lehman Loeb Center, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie; and Blanton Museum of Art, Austin (2013/14)

“The Market for Prints in Imperial Augsburg, 1475-1540,” The National Gallery of Art, Washington (October 2012)

DIGITAL PROJECTS

Timeline of Art History Essay on the Allegory of the Four Continents, part of a series on Cataloguing in the Present Moment (January 2021)

Wrote new content for the Department of Drawings and Prints website (July 2020)

Created a web feature for the Met’s *The Arch of Honor of Maximilian I* (launched with opening of *The Last Knight*, October 2019, and to remain as an evergreen feature)

Editing Timeline of Art History Essays on Printmaking Techniques (ongoing)

Created and supplied content for the Department of Drawing and Prints’ web feature on the *Material and Techniques of Printmaking* (2018)

Blog: *Wordplay at the Met: The Drawings of Matthias Buchinger* (launched, January 28, 2016)

Blog: *Celebrating the Jefferson R. Burdick Collection* (launched, September 24, 2015)

Created and supplied content for the Landing Page for the Jefferson Burdick Collection (2015)

Blog: *Spectrum Spotlight: Freyda Spira* with Christopher Gorman (launched, January 29, 2014)

Blog: Reinventing an American Brand: A Poster Competition at LIFE Magazine (launched, December 2, 2014)

“Exposure,” 82nd and Fifth (launched, 2013)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND ADVISING

Co-taught with Nadine Orenstein, The Institute of Fine Arts/Metropolitan Museum of Art, “The Emergence of Etching in Renaissance Europe,” (Fall 2019)

Dissertation Committee: Julia Lillie, Bard Graduate Center: Decorative Arts, Design History, Material Culture (ongoing)

Orals Committee: John Byck, The Institute of Fine Arts, New York University (Spring 2015)

Adjunct Professor, Adelphi University, New York. “Renaissance Art” (Fall 2006)

Lecturer at the Lutheran College Consortium, Washington, DC. “Art and Architecture in Washington, DC” (Spring 2004)

Lecturer at the Goethe Institute, Washington, DC. “Renaissance Prints” (Fall 2003)

LANGUAGES

French and German