

# Laurel J. Waycott

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## EDUCATION

- 2019 Ph.D., Yale University, New Haven, CT  
History, Program in the History of Science and Medicine  
“The Pattern Seekers: The Science of Discernment, 1850–1920”
- 2016 M.A. and M.Phil., Yale University, New Haven, CT  
History, Program in the History of Science and Medicine
- 2008 M.A., Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY  
History of Decorative Arts, Design, and Culture  
“The Aquarium in America, 1850–1920”
- 2005 B.A., University of California, Santa Cruz, CA  
History of Art and Visual Culture, Highest Honors in the Major

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2020–present University of California, San Francisco, CA  
Assistant Adjunct Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 2019–2020 Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN  
Mellon Assistant Professor, Communication of Science and Technology

## PUBLICATIONS

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2020 “Reflective Creatures: Goldfish, Affluence, and Affect in Gilded Age New York,”  
*Winterthur Portfolio* 54, no. 2–3 (2020): 149–83, <https://doi.org/10.1086/712108>.
- In preparation “Taste and Civilization in “The Yellow Wall-Paper””

### BOOK REVIEWS

- 2019 “Objects and Others,” *History of Anthropology Newsletter*, June 5, 2019.  
<http://histanthro.org/bibliography/objects-and-others/>
- 2018 “Luis A. Campos, *Radium and the Secret of Life*,” *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*  
40 (June 2018): 34. DOI: 10.1007/s40656-018-0203-4
- 2007 “*Feeding Desire: Design and the Tools of the Table, 1500–2005* by Sarah D. Coffin,” *Studies  
in the Decorative Arts* 15 (no. 1, Fall-Winter 2007): 201–203. DOI: 10.1086/652851

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 “Evolution Made Easy: Henry Balfour, Pitt Rivers, and the Evolution of Art,” JHI Blog,  
[jhiblog.org](http://jhiblog.org), April 26, 2017
- 2016 “Instead of endorsing Bible, why not advance literacy,” [Op Ed], *The Tennessean*,  
[www.tennessean.com](http://www.tennessean.com), April 18, 2016

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## AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Dibner Research Fellow in the History of Science and Technology, Huntington Library
- 2019 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Short-Term Fellow, American Philosophical Society
- 2018–2019 Research Fellow, Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine
- 2017–2018 Frederick W. Hilles Fellow, Yale University
- 2017–2018 International Dissertation Research Fellowship, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale
- 2014–2015 Hord Fellowship, Yale University
- 2014–2015 Dean's Fund, in support of Holmes Workshop Series, Yale University
- 2013–2014 Danforth Fellowship, Yale University
- 2008 Clive Wainwright Thesis Award, Bard Graduate Center: Awarded to one outstanding thesis noteworthy for its originality of concept, soundness of research, and clarity of presentation
- 2005–2006 Edward Lee Cave Fellowship, Bard Graduate Center

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

### SYMPOSIA ORGANIZED

- 2017 Organizing Committee, “Critical Histories & Activist Futures: Science, Medicine, and Racial Violence,” Graduate Conference, Yale University, Feb 24–25, 2017

### PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2020 “Fixing and Fading: the material photograph over time,” College Art Association (CAA), Chicago, Feb 12–15, 2020
- 2017 “Evidence of Creation, Creation of Evidence: The Ambiguities of the Chambered Nautilus,” speaker and organizer of panel, “Specimens and Artifacts: Objects of Evidence in the Life Sciences,” History of Science Society (HSS) Annual Meeting, Toronto, Nov 10, 2017

### INVITED TALKS

- 2021 “Putting the ‘Father’ in the ‘Father of Cambridge Anthropology’: Reading Alfred C. Haddon's Letters Home,” *What is a Field? A Workshop at the University of Pennsylvania*, Apr 9–10, 2021

### PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2021 “Lustrous Shells and Rotting Bodies: The Material Duality of the Chambered Nautilus,” *Animaterialities: The Material Culture of Animals (including Humans)*, 2021 Material Culture Symposium for Emerging Scholars, University of Delaware's Center for Material Culture Studies, Apr 24, 2021
- 2019 “Wallpaper, Crystals, and Symmetry: Pattern Recognition in a Pre-Digital Age,” Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), Milan, Oct 25, 2019
- 2019 “Biomorphs, Phyllo-morphs and Zoomorphs: Biological Explanations of Art-Making in Early Anthropology,” Society of Social Studies of Science (4S), New Orleans, Sep 7, 2019

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- 2019 “Tracing the Zigzags of Early Anthropology,” History of Science Society (HSS) Annual Meeting, Utrecht, Jul 25, 2019
- 2019 “‘A Question of Permanence’: Debating the Causes of Fading Photographs, 1850–1900,” *Fixing and Fading: Photographic Histories*, Yale Center for British Art, Mar 25, 2019
- 2018 “Scientists of Form: Craft and Morphology in the Late Nineteenth Century,” *Shared Ground: Cross-Disciplinary Approaches to Craft Studies*, Bard Graduate Center and the Museum of Arts and Design, Sep 21, 2018
- 2017 “‘Evolution Made Easy!’ Henry Balfour and the Evolution of Decorative Art,” Southern History of Science and Technology Conference, Vanderbilt University, Apr 8, 2017
- 2015 “How the Great New York Aquarium was Made and Lost,” *Lost Museums: A Symposium on the Ephemerality & Afterlives of Museums & Collections*, Brown University & The Rhode Island School of Design, May 7, 2015
- 2015 “Henry Hitchings and the American West,” *Writing Fieldwork*, Princeton University, Apr 24, 2015
- 2015 “Breeding Profits: Goldfish, Heredity and Intellectual Property,” Joint Atlantic Seminar in the History of Biology (JAS Bio), Yale University, Mar 28, 2015

### CAMPUS TALKS

- 2018 “Introduction to Science and Technology Studies,” Workshop for graduate students in biological sciences, Capra Lab, Vanderbilt University, Aug 28, 2018
- 2016 “Slavery and William Bartram: The Complicated Relationship of Race and Friendship in Colonial America,” Yale Center for British Art, Apr 18, 2016
- 2016 “Fishes of Fortune: Intellectual Property and the Goldfish Trade,” Material Culture Lunch Group, Yale University, Feb 11, 2016

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

- Spring 2020 Instructor, *Art and Science: A Shared Past*  
Writing-intensive undergraduate seminar
- Spring 2020 Instructor, *The Craft of Computation*  
Undergraduate seminar
- Fall 2019 Instructor, *Art and Controversy*  
First-year writing seminar
- Fall 2019 Co-Instructor with Kevin Murphy, *The Vanderbilts as Patrons: Taste-Makers of Gilded-Age Art and Architecture*  
Undergraduate lecture course

#### YALE UNIVERSITY

- Fall 2016 Teaching Fellow, *The Scientific Revolution*  
Undergraduate lecture course, Paola Bertucci

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- Spring 2016 Head Teaching Fellow, *Historical Perspectives on Global Health*  
Undergraduate lecture course, Joanna Radin
- Fall 2015 Teaching Fellow, *Science from Newton to Neutrons*  
Undergraduate lecture course, William Summers

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Graduate Research Assistant, Yale Center for British Art  
Constructed primary and secondary bibliography and performed object research for *Fixing and Fading: Photographic Histories*
- 2015–2016 Graduate Curatorial Intern, Yale University Art Gallery  
Researched historical scientific instruments and related artworks for exhibition featuring objects of art and science from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries
- 2015 Graduate Research Assistant, Yale Center for British Art  
Researched American naturalist William Bartram (1739–1823)
- 2010–2013 Assistant to the Director of Museum Services, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco  
Managed special exhibition schedules and budgets; maintained exhibition object lists; managed exhibition proposal review process; coordinated exhibitions and publications board committee
- 2006–2010 Art Historian, The Art Loss Register, New York  
Managed North American operations; assisted in the recovery of stolen artwork; researched artwork provenance; managed client relationships

## SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Bibliographies Editor and Reviews Editor, *History of Anthropology Review*, 2017–2020

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Writing Curriculum Committee, Vanderbilt University, 2019–2020  
Co-organizer (with Tess Lanzarotta), Holmes Workshop Series, Yale University, 2014–2015

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2019 Residential Summer Institute in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, Huntington Library
- 2018 Master Class in Typography & Design, Beinecke Library, Yale University
- 2017 Ischia Summer School for the History of the Life Sciences
- 2014 History of Biology Seminar, Marine Biological Laboratory

## LANGUAGES

French: advanced reading/speaking knowledge  
German: reading knowledge

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## SKILLS

Experience with artistic production: jewelry metalwork, printmaking, ceramics, knitting, sewing, graphic design, and scientific illustration.

## REFERENCES

Joanna Radin, Associate Professor, Section of the History of Medicine (Primary); Program in the History of Science and Medicine (Primary); Department of Anthropology; Department of History; Department of American Studies; Program in Ethnicity, Race, and Migration; Program in Religion and Modernity; Yale University | PO Box 208015, New Haven, CT 06520 | 203-785-4258 | joanna.radin@yale.edu

Edward S. Cooke, Jr., Charles F Montgomery Professor of the History of Art; Director of the Center of Study in American Decorative Arts and Material Culture; Professor of American Studies; Yale University | PO Box 208272, New Haven, CT 06520 | 203-432-2724 | edward.cooke@yale.edu

John Tresch, Mellon Professor in Art History, History of Science and Folk Practice; The Warburg Institute, School of Advanced Study, University of London | Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB, United Kingdom | +44 (0) 20 78628949 | john.tresch@sas.ac.uk

Chitra Ramalingam, Assistant Curator of Photography, Yale Center for British Art; Lecturer in History, Yale University | PO Box 208280, New Haven, CT 06520 | 203-432-1049 | chitra.ramalingam@yale.edu