

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rebecca Messbarger

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EDUCATION:

University of Chicago, Doctor of Philosophy with Honors, Italian, 1994
Dissertation: "Woman Disputed: The Representation of Women in Eighteenth-Century Italian Public Discourse"
Director: Elissa Weaver

University of Wisconsin, Madison
Master of Arts, Italian, 1986

Loyola University, Chicago
Bachelor of Arts, magna cum-laude, English, 1983

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Professor of Italian, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University
Affiliate Professor of History; Art History; International and Area Studies; Performing Arts; and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Director, Medical Humanities, Washington University, 2015-date

Fellow, Institute of Public Health, 7/2015-date

SELECT RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Interdisciplinary Teaching Grant (with Patricia Olynky), Office of the Provost, Washington University, July 2014-date
Humanities Center Grant, (with Tili Boon Cuille) 18th-Century Interdisciplinary Salon 2011-date
Humanities Center Faculty Fellow Award, Spring 2013
Washington University Humanities Research Grant 2011-2016
Mellon *New Directions* Fellowship, 7/2005-3/2009
National Endowment for the Humanities, 12-Month Fellowship, 2000-2001

American Philosophical Society, 1999-2000
Fulbright Fellowship to Italy, 1991-1992

COURSES TAUGHT:

Literature, History, and culture Courses

(Graduate) Mellon Dissertation Seminar: *Enlightenment Bodies and Texts: From Word and Image to Flesh and Bones*

(Undergraduate) *The Art of Medicine; Basilisks to Botticelli: The Development of Museums in Italy; Theaters of Knowledge: The Origins and Cultural Controversies of Museums; Survey of Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature; Survey of Italian Literature 17th-20th Centuries; Seminar on The Grand Tour; Seminar on Divergent Voices: Italian Women Writers; Seminar on the Italian Detective Novel; Seminar on Italian Postmodernism; Seminar on Literature and Culture of the Italian Enlightenment; Topics on Rome: Caput Mundi to the Borgata; Topics on the Italian Resistance;*

(Approved) *Madness, Disease and Death Italian Style*

Language Courses:

Intermediate Italian; Advanced Grammar and Composition; Advanced Study of Poetry and Theater; Playing the Part: Learning Italian Language and Culture Through Theater

PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS:

Benedict XIV and Enlightenment: Art, Science and Spirituality, Co-edited with Christopher Johns and Philip Gavitt. University of Toronto Press, 2016.

Reviewed:

Metascience 1 (October 2017):27-32

Journal of Jesuit Studies 4 (2017):520-22

Studies in Religion/Sciences Religieuses 4 (2016): 614-15

Signora Anna, Anatomin der Aufklärung Eine Kulturgeschichte aus Bologna. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2015. (German Translation of *The Lady Anatomist*)

The Lady Anatomist: The Life and Work of Anna Morandi Manzolini. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2010.

Finalist: The College Art Association's **2012 Charles Rufus Morey Book Award** that honors the most distinguished book in the history of art.

Reviewed:

Women's Art Journal (Spring/Summer 2013): 61-63

Italica 89.3(Autumn 2012): 414-416

Journal for the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences (June 14, 2012): 1-3

Isis 103.1 (March 2012): 182-183

The Atlantic (March, 2012): <http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2012/03/the-lady-anatomist-18th-century-wax-sculptures-by-anna-manzolini/254515/>
British Journal for the History of Science 45.1 (March 2012): 132-133
Social History of Medicine (2012) 25(2): 544-545
Eighteenth-Century Studies 45.2 (Winter, 2012): 329-331
The Journal of Clinical Investigation 121.7 (1 July 27, 2011): 2532
Bookforum (February/March) 2011: 42
The Times Higher Education, London (24 February) 2011:
<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storyCode=415248§ioncode=26>

The Century of Women: Representations of Women in Eighteenth-Century Italian Public Discourse. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002.

Reviewed:

Canadian Journal of History December (2004):572-73
The Modern Language Review October (2004): 1070-72
American Historical Review June (2004): 994-95
Annali d'italianistica 21 (2003): 557-558

IN PROGRESS: *The Re-birth of Venus: Conquest of the Renaissance in Enlightenment Florence*

Edited Translation:

The Contest for Knowledge: Debates Over Women's Learning in Enlightenment Italy. Edited and translated with Paula Findlen. *The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe Series*, University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Reviewed:

Quaderni d'Italianistica 27.1 (2006): 134-136
Annali d'Italianistica 24 (2006): 400-405
Forum for Modern Language Studies 42 (July 2006): 318
Nuncius Vol. 22.1 (2007) 161-162

Documentary Film:

"The Anatomist," directed by Iris Fegerl, based on, *The Lady Anatomist*, forthcoming on German television, 2019

SELECT ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS:

"From the Body to the Body Politic: Peter Leopold's Florentine Enlightenment State," *Florence After the Medici*, edited by Jacob Soll, Paula Findlen, and Corey Tazzara, Routledge Press, forthcoming.

"Modeling the Modern Body," Preface to *Visualizing the Body in Art, Anatomy and Medicine since 1800: Models, Modelling* for series *Art and Science since 1750* edited by Barbara Larson, Routledge Press, forthcoming.

“Faith, Science, and the Modern Body: Anna Morandi’s Studies of Human Anatomy in Wax,” *Women, Enlightenment and Catholicism: A Transnational Biographical History*, edited by Ulrich L. Lehner, Routledge Press, 2017.

“The Recollected Century...of Women: A Survey of North American Scholarship on Women and Enlightenment Italy,” *La storia di genere in Italian in età moderna*. Edited by Elena Brambilla. Milan: Viella, 2014.

“Anna Morandi’s Self-Portrayal in Wax with Brain,” *The Fine Arts, Neurology, and Neuroscience: History and Modern Perspectives*. Edited by Stanley Finger, Dahlia Zaidel, et al. Oxford: Elsevier’s series, *Progress in Brain Research*, 2014.

“The Re-birth of Venus in Florence’s Royal Museum of Physics and Natural History” *The Journal of the History of Collections*, May, 2012: 1-21. **Awarded the 2012-2013 James L. Clifford Prize** from the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies for the best article on an aspect of eighteenth-century culture published in a scholarly journal. **Awarded the 2013 Percy G. Adam’s Prize** from the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies for the best article on an eighteenth-century subject published in a scholarly journal.

“As Who Dare Gaze the Sun: Anna Morandi Manzolini’s Anatomical Sculptures of the Male Reproductive System and Genitalia,” 251-271. *Italy’s Eighteenth Century: Gender and Culture in the Age of the Grand Tour*. Edited by Paula Findlen, Wendy Wassing Roworth and Catherine Sama. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 2009.

“Cognizione corporale: La poetica anatomica di Anna Morandi Manzolini,” 39-60. *Scienza a due voci*. Ed. Raffaella Simili. *Biblioteca di Nuncius Series*. Florence: Olschki Press, 2005.

“Re-membling a Body of Work: Anatomist and Anatomical Designer Anna Morandi Manzolini.” *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 32 (2003): 123-154.

“Waxing Poetic: Anna Morandi Manzolini’s Anatomical Sculptures.” *Configurations* 9 (2001): 65-97.

“Reforming the Female Class: *Il Caffè*’s ‘Defense of Women.’” *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 32. 3 (1999): 355-69.

SELECT BOOK REVIEWS:

Julie Anderson, Emma Barnes & Emma Shackleton. *The Art of Medicine: Over 2,000 Years of Images and Imagination*. 255 pp., illus., apps., bibl., index. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011. *Isis* Vol. 104.1 (March 2014): 145.

Miriam Focaccia, (ed.), *Anna Morandi Manzolini una donna fra arte e scienza. Immagini, documenti, repertorio anatomico*, Firenze: Leo S. Olschki, 2008. *Journal of the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, 31.3-4 (2009): 502-03.

Sandra Cavallo, *Artisans of the Body in Early Modern Italy: Identities Families and Masculinities*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2007. *The American Historical Review*. 114.4 (2009): 1184-85.

Judith Zinsser, ed., *Men, Women and the Birthing of Modern Science*. De Kalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 2005. *Nuncius: Journal for the History of Science*, 21.1 (2006) 174-75.

The Art of Rhetoric, by Giambattista Vico, ed. and trans. Giorgio A. Pinto and Arthur W. Shippee. Atlanta, GA: Editions Rodopi, B.V. 1994. *Forum Italicum* 31.1 (1997): 265-66.

Sexual Difference: A Theory of Social-Symbolic Practice, by the Milan Women's Bookstore Collective. *Italica* 69.3 (1994): 433-36.

SELECT LECTURES:

Washington University Faculty Spotlight Talk “Medical Humanities and Shelley’s Frankenstein,” October, 2017. By invitation.

“Believing is Seeing: The Ideological Foundations of Sexual Difference,” Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, Washington University Medical School, April, 2017. By invitation.

“After the Medici: The Florentine Enlightenment State,” Italian Department, McGill University, Montreal, February 2017. By invitation.

“Medical Humanities and a Story of Infanticide,” Chancellor’s Invited Faculty Lecture, November 2016.

“Dissecting Venus,” Laser Talk: Leonardo Art Science Rendezvous, New York City, May, 2016. By invitation.

“The Art of Medicine: From the Gallows to the Dissection Table,” Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities A2Ru Conference, September 2016.

“From the Body to the Body Politic: Peter Leopold’s Conception of the Enlightenment State” Notre Dame University, September 2016. By invitation.

Keynote Address, Conference on *Art, Anatomy and Medicine since 1700*, two-day symposium sponsored by the University of South Carolina Provost’s Office and the Department of Visual Art and Design in cooperation with the Columbia Art Museum, April 2016. By invitation.

“Wax Anatomies: Between Spectacle and Science,” Museum of Morbid Anatomy, Brooklyn, NY. October, 2015. By invitation.

“With the Greatest Sweetness and Docility”: Regulating Citizen Bodies in the Florentine Enlightenment State,” Conference on *Florence After the Medici*, The Early Modern Studies Institute, The Huntington Library, September 2015. By invitation.

“Metaphor and Metamorphosis, Or the Power and Limits of Translation,” Conference on *Humanities Futures: Theorizing the Emergence of Global Health Humanities*, Duke University, April 2015. By invitation.

“Revision and Reform of the Body in Peter Leopold’s New Florence (1765-1790),” for the *Materiality Lecture Series*, Department of the History of Art and Architecture, University of California Santa Barbara, March 2015. By invitation.

“Re-casting the Vesalian Dissection Scene” Conference on *Vesalius and the Invention of the Modern Body*, Washington University and Saint Louis University, February 2015. By invitation.

“Peeling the Fruit of Knowledge: Anna Morandi’s Anatomy of the Brain,” *Art + the Brain: Stories and Structures Symposium*, UCLA, November 2014. By invitation.

“The Light of Reason and Sanctity in Pope Benedict XIV’s Revision of the Human Body,” Symposium on *Let There Be Enlightenment*, Stanford University, May 2014, By invitation.

Gallery Talk: “Wanting Women: Expressions of Desire and Difference in Images of Women from the fifteenth century to today,” Kemper Art Museum, February 2014. By invitation.

“Images of the Body: Anna Morandi Manzolini’s Anatomical Waxworks,” Rutgers University, March 8, 2013. By invitation.

“The Art and Science of Human Anatomy in Benedict's Vision of the Enlightenment Church,” International Conference on *The Enlightenment Pope: Benedict XIV (1675-1758)*, Washington University, Saint Louis University and the Missouri History Museum, May 2012.

“The Waxing and Waning of Anna Morandi Manzolini’s Art and Science of Anatomy,” New York Academy of Medicine, New York, New York, January 19, 2012. By invitation.

“More than Art: Anatomical Bodies in Wax,” *History of Science and Medicine Colloquium 2011-2012*, Yale University, September 12, 2011. By invitation.

“Anna Morandi Manzolini’s Anatomical Art,” The Poggi Museum, Bologna, Italy, April 8, 2011. By invitation.

“The First Italian Anatomy Museum,” The Departments of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology and the Program in Museums and Society, Johns Hopkins University, October 2007. By invitation.

“Beneath the Fig Leaf: The Study of the Male Reproductive System and Genitalia by Anatomist and Anatomical Modeler Anna Morandi Manzolini,” Anatomy of Gender Symposium, Northwestern University, January 2005. By invitation.

UPCOMING LECTURES:

Plenary: “The Historical Foundations of Medicine and Religion: The Italian Enlightenment,” Conference on Medicine and Religion. St Louis, April 13-15, 2018.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Conferences and Symposia:

Organizer: “The Curren(t)cy of Frankenstein,” Washington University Medical School, in planning for September 28, 29, 30, 2018.

Co-Organizer of 18th-Century Studies Salon Conference “From Metaphysics to Mad Science,” Spring 2018.

Co-Organizer 18th-Century Studies Salon Conference on “Enlightenment Science and Religion,” Spring 2017.

Co-Organizer 18-Century Studies Salon Conference on “Material Culture, Thing Theory, and It-Narratives,” Spring 2016.

Co-Organizer of Conference “Vesalius and the Invention of the Modern Body,” Washington University and Saint Louis University, February 2015.

Organizer and Co-Chair of the International Conference on “The Enlightenment Pope: Benedict XIV (1675-1758)” April 30-May 2, 2012 hosted by Washington University, Saint Louis University and the Missouri History Museum: <http://rll.wustl.edu/enlightenmentpop>

Editorial Work:

Member, Editorial Board, *Italian Culture*

Member, Editorial Board, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*, 2003-Spring 2005

Member, Editorial Board, *Italian Women Writers Database*, University of Chicago, 2003-date

Specialist Reader: *British Journal of the History of Science*

Specialist Reader: *Eighteenth-Century Life*

Specialist Reader: *Eighteenth-Century Studies*

Specialist Reader: *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*

Specialist Reader: *Nuncius: Journal of the History of Science*

Specialist Reader: *The American Historical Review*

Specialist Reader: The University of Chicago Press

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Cultural History of Anatomy and Medicine

Art History and Medicine

Museum Studies

Eighteenth-Century Cultural History

History of Women in Italy and Gender Studies

TEACHING INTERESTS:

Medical and Health Humanities

Italian Enlightenment

Early Modern History of Medicine and Science

Early Modern Italian Literature and Culture
Postmodern Italian Literature and Theory
Women Writers, Seventeenth Century to Present
Collecting and Museums

SELECT DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

Director, Medical Humanities 2015-2018
Chair, University Assembly Series, date
Member Assembly Series Committee, date
Organizer, "Return of the Warrior: Ancient Greeks and Modern Combat," Oct. 2017
Moderator, Conversation with playwright Nick Dear on "Which One is the Monster"
Organizer, "Sexploration of Masters and Johnson," Nov. 2016
Advisor, Medical Humanities Minors
Provost's Representative on Library Committee 2015-date
Major/Minor Advisor and Study Abroad Advisor for Italian, Spring 1995-date
Director of Undergraduate Studies in Italian, 2001-2007, 2011- 2015
Co-Convener, Medical Humanities Reading Group, 2014-2015
Co-Convener Interdisciplinary Eighteenth-Century Studies Reading Group, 2002-date
President, Association of Women Faculty, 2008-2009
Organizer, *Town Hall Meeting on Diversity at Washington University*, Spring 2009
Invited Speaker, Graduate Student Council Round Table on *Diversity*, Fall 2008
Co-chair, Washington University Faculty Council, Fall 2006-Spring 2007
Member, Dissertation Committee, History, 2017
Member, Dissertation Committee, Romance Languages and Literatures, 2016
Member, Dissertation Committee, Comparative Literature, 2015
Member, Dissertation Defense Committee, English Department, Spring 2005
Member, Dissertation Defense Committee, Department of Romance Languages, Fall 2001
Member, Dissertation Defense Committee, Romance Languages and Literatures, Fall 1999
Member, Dissertation Defense Committee, Department of Comparative Literature, Fall 1997
Member, Dissertation Defense Committee, Music Department, Spring 1996

EXTRA-UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

Member, Executive Board, St. Louis Public Radio, 2009-2015

LANGUAGES:

English, Italian. Reading knowledge of French, Spanish, Latin.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
Modern Language Association
College Art Association
History of Science Society
American Association for Italian Studies
Association of Women Faculty, Washington University