

CURRICULUM VITAE

PHOEBE DENT WEIL

NORTHERN LIGHT STUDIO, LLC

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Education:

St. Mary's Episcopal School, Memphis, TN (1942-1949)

East High School, Memphis, TN (1950-1954)

Wellesley College, BA, Art History (1954-1958)

Memphis Academy of Arts, studio sculpture study (1959-60)

New York University, Institute of Fine Arts, MA, Art History and Art
Conservation (1960-1966)

Fulbright Fellowship, Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique, Brussels, Belgium.
Technical examination and conservation treatment of mediaeval
polychrome wood sculpture with Paul Coremans and Jean Thyssen.
(1962-63)

Conservation Intern, Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome, Italy. Studied under
Paolo and Laura Mora and Giovanni Urbani. Participated in the
conservation treatment of three large oil paintings by Caravaggio from the
Church of S. Luigi dei Francesi; worked on ancient frescoes from the
Aula Isiaca on the Palatine Hill (1965-1967).

Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, M.Div., Pastoral Theology (1990-
1993)

St. Louis University, graduate study in theology (1994-95)

Occupational History:

1958-59: Conservation Assistant and Secretary for Music Programs, Isabella Stuart
Gardner Museum, Boston, MA.

1959-60: Instructor of Drawing, Memphis Academy of Art, Memphis, TN

1961 (Spring): Assistant in painting conservation, Caroline Keck, Brooklyn, NY

1961 (Summer and Fall): Part-time assistant in conservation of rare books, Grolier Club,
with Carolyn Horton, NY

1961 (Summer): Part-time assistant in conservation of paintings from the Rockefeller
collection under Jean Volkmer and Tosca Zagni, Museum of Modern Art, NY

1962 (Summer): Assistant in conservation of paintings under Bernard Rabin, Newark, NJ

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- 1972-73: Rome, Italy. Research for a paper on the state-of-the-art of outdoor bronze and stone sculpture conservation
- 1973-1982: Research Associate and Director of the Conservation Laboratory, Center for Archaeometry, Department of Physics, Washington University, St. Louis, MO. Co-Principal Investigator in a three-year research project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts with local matching funds to undertake research in the technical examination and conservation of outdoor bronze and stone sculpture. Directed the conservation laboratory and coordinated the research and treatment. The Center for Archaeometry was the first conservation laboratory in the United States devoted to the conservation of sculpture with a particular emphasis on outdoor bronzes. The lab pioneered new approaches to technical examination and treatment of outdoor bronzes. Presented numerous lectures in the United States and abroad and numerous publications.
- 1982-1993: Technical Director and Chief Conservator, Washington University Technology Associates (WUTA, Inc.), St. Louis, MO, specializing in the conservation of sculpture. Undertook major projects throughout the United States for museums, cities and individuals, including City of St. Louis (survey and treatment of all public sculpture); St. Louis Art Museum treatment of major sculptures); Chicago (general survey of all public sculpture plus treatment of major works); Richmond, VA (general survey of all public sculpture and treatment of major works); National Park Service (2 major bronzes in NY); Central Park Conservancy (survey of Central Park sculpture and treatment of four sculptures); Prospect Park, Brooklyn (one sculpture); Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, sculpture garden; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, sculpture garden; St. Louis, MO; survey and technical study with treatment proposal for the bronze statue on the top of the U.S. Capitol; and other projects.
- 1995-96: part-time position as Director of Spiritual Formation, Church of St. Michael and St. George, Episcopal, St. Louis, MO
- 1996-1997: Two two-week campaigns as Consulting Conservator with Art Historian, Virginia Bonito on the conservation of a marble sculpture by Andrea Sansovino and fresco by Raphael in the church of Sant'Agostino, Rome
- 2000-2003: Amsterdam-Maastricht Summer University, Summer course for three consecutive Summers in Maastricht at the Stichting Restauratie Atelier Limburg (SRAL) entitled "The Painter's Palette in the 16th and 17th Centuries", studying historic painting materials and techniques.
- 2001 (Spring semester): Adjunct faculty position at Webster University in the Department of Religious Studies teaching an undergraduate course on theology and the visual arts
- 2001: Amsterdam-Maastricht Summer University, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam and RKD in The Hague, two-week course, "Recent Developments in the Study of Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art".

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- 2001-present: Established Northern Light Studio, LLC, specializing in research and teaching historic painting and sculpture techniques. Taught workshops for Washington University and Webster University on Vermeer's painting techniques. Taught workshops for the docents, family programs, and course for adults on 17th century Italian painting techniques for the St. Louis Art Museum in connection with the exhibition, "Orazio and Artemisia Gentileschi". Presented a program for docents on historic painting techniques in November 2004.
- 2003: Fall semester: Lecturer, Washington University School of Art, teaching a survey of the theory and practice of historic European painting techniques 1400-1675.
- 2004: With Sarah Belchetz-Swenson, painter and printmaker, now Co-Director of Northern Light Studio, conducted three workshops for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, on Rembrandt's drawing and painting techniques and materials, and one illustrated lecture on the same topic for the Chicago Art Institute, both in connection with the exhibition, "Rembrandt's Journey" shown at both institutions.

Affiliations:

- 1961-present: American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC);
1981-83: Board member (Treasurer); First Co-coordinator of the Objects Group.
- 1992 (Summer): volunteer Chaplain, St. Louis Juvenile Detention Center
- 1996-present: Board of Trustees, Vice-Chair, American Friends of the Anglican Centre, Rome
- 2000-present: Committee on Religious and Spiritual Life, Wellesley College
- 2002-present: Board, St. Louis Classical Guitar Society
- 2003-present: Board, Kingsbury Ensemble (early music on period instruments)
- 2003-present: Member, Episcopal Church Network for Science, Technology and Faith
- 2004-present: Board of Directors, Opera Theatre of St. Louis
- 2005-2007: Board of Trustees, St. Louis Art Museum
- 2006-present: Adjunct Faculty, Smith College
- Fellow, American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)
- Fellow, International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (IIC)
- 1977-present-Member, International Council of Museums Conservation Committee (ICOM-CC)
- Fellow, Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, MA
- Officer, Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem
- Member, St. Louis Forum
- Member, College Art Association
- Member, Historians of Netherlandish Art
- Member, American Association of Museums
- Member, Midwest College Art Association

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Selected public lectures:

- 1988: Kajima Foundation, Tokyo, Japan: Four lectures on history of bronze casting and patination, bronze sculpture deterioration and conservation, for curators of Japanese museums.
- 1986: Istituto Centrale del Restauro, Rome, Italy: Taught a five-day course on outdoor bronze sculpture conservation
- 1997: Brookgreen Gardens, SC: Keynote address for workshop in outdoor bronze sculpture conservation sponsored by the National Park Service: “The Problem of Determining Artist’s Intent in Sculpture Conservation”.
- 1998: Harvard University, Harvard University Art Museums, Cambridge, MA: Lecture, “Saul has Killed his Thousands and David his Ten Thousands: Boselli and Bernini on the Challenge of Three Dimensions”, for the symposium, “Modeled in Mud: Baroque Clay Sculpture, its Progeny and Afterlife”.
- 1999: French Academy, Villa Medici, Rome, Italy: Lecture, “A Terracotta Female Bust by Gian Lorenzo Bernini”, for the symposium, “Bernini dai Borghese ai Barberini: La Cultura a Roma intorno agli Anni Venti”
- 2000: Ferrara Fiere Restauro 2000, Ferrara, Italy: Lecture, “Scultura all’aperto in America: racconti di ruggine, crisi di corrosione e rimedi vari per il restauro”, for the conference “Meteo e Metalli: I problemi di conservazione e di restauro delle sculture all’aperto”, organized by the Istituto Beni Culturali della Regione Emilia-Romagna (published 2007, Nardini).
- 2000: Four lectures on 17th c. Dutch art for the Harvard Alumni Association educational tour: “Waterways of Holland and Belgium, Amsterdam, Bruges”
- 2004: Workshops at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and a public lecture at the Chicago Art Institute on Rembrandt’s painting materials and techniques
- 2004: Instituut Collectie Nederland, Amsterdam: Poster presentation with Sarah Belchetz-Swenson: “Exploring Rembrandt’s Painting Materials and Techniques: Rembrandt and Burnt Plate Oil”, for the conference, Approaching the Art of the Past: Sources and Reconstructions organized by the Art Technological Sources Research Group (ATSR)
- 2004: Genoa, Italy: Lecture, “Patina from the Historical-Artistic Point of View”, for the conference, “Conservazione dei monumenti in bronzo all’aperto: esperienze a confronto”, sponsored by the Ministero per I Beni e le Attività Culturali, and CNR-ISMAR of Genoa.
- 2005: Rome, Italy: Lecture, for International Center for Conservation, Rome (ICCRUM)--Conservation Research Group Discussion Day on Cleaning 5/19
- 2005: Chicago, IL: Lecture for Loyola University Museum of Art on Caravaggio’s painting materials and techniques in connection with the exhibition, “Caravaggio: La Mostra Impossibile.”
- 2006: Olinda, Brazil: Conference sponsored by AERPA: Three lectures: 1) Patina: Historical and Practical Considerations, 2) Technical Art History and Archeometry: An Exploration of Caravaggio’s Painting Techniques, 3) Technical Art History and Archeometry: An Exploration of Rembrandt’s Painting and

Drawing Techniques

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- 2006: Northampton, MA: Smith College: Workshop and lecture with Sarah Belchetz-Swenson on Rembrandt's painting materials and techniques
- 2006: Lisbon, Portugal: New University of Lisbon, Departamento de Conservação e Restauro: Lecture "Doing Technical Art History: an Exploration of the Materials and Techniques of Caravaggio and Rembrandt"
- 2007: Williamstown, MA, Clark Art Institute: Lecture, "Claude Lorrain and 17th Century Italian Studio Practice", and, with Sarah Belchetz-Swenson, a Workshop/Demonstration on the Drawing Materials and Techniques of Claude Lorrain
- 2007: London, UK: Courtauld Institute, for a symposium on Cesare Brandi: Lecture "Brandi and the Concept of Patina"
- 2007: Northampton, MA, Smith College: Conference Planning Committee for the conference "Art of the Matter: Doing Technical Art History"

Selected Publications:

Publications include approximately twenty articles in professional journals and other publications (symposia) and one book:

- 1978: *Orfeo Boselli, 'Osservazioni della Scoltura Antica'* (Florence:SPES) – an edition of a 17th century manuscript written by a Roman sculptor.
- 1996: "A Review of the History and Practice of Patination" in *Historical and Philosophical Issues in the Conservation of Cultural Heritage*, N.S. Price, et. al. Eds. (Los Angeles: Getty Conservation Institute)
- 2004: "Patina from the Historical-Artistic Point of View", in *Monumenti in Bronzo All'Aperto: Esperienze di Conservazione a Confronto*, a cura di Paola Letardi, Ilva Trentin, Giuseppe Cutugno (Florence:Nardini Editore)
- 2005 -with Sarah Belchetz-Swenson: "Rembrandt and Burnt Plate Oil: New Observations and Proposals on Rembrandt's Paint", in *Approaching the Art of the Past: Sources and Reconstructions* produced by Art Technological Sources Research Group (ATSR) (London:Archetype)

Awards

- 1962-63: Fulbright Fellowship to study art conservation at the Institut Royal du Patrimoine Artistique, Brussels, Belgium
- 1976: Key to the City of St. Louis for conservation of Public Monuments
- 1986: Citation award from City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation for conservation of public monuments in Central Park, New York City.
- 1986: Key to the City of Kansas City for conservation of Public Monuments
- 1993: Nelson Waite Rightmyer Memorial Prize in Church History, Episcopal Divinity School
- 2007: March-April: James Marston Fitch Residency at the American Academy in Rome

2008: March-April: Visiting Scholar/Artist, the American Academy in Rome