

Agnieszka E. Szymańska, PhD

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EDUCATION:

- 2017 PhD in Art History
Department of Art History, Tyler School of Art, Temple University
Dissertation Title:
Divine Spectacle: The Late Antique Triconch at the Red Monastery in Egypt
- 2010 MA in Art History
Department of Art History, Tyler School of Art, Temple University
Thesis Title:
Liminal Bishops: Episcopal Portraits from the Cathedral of Pachoras, Nubia
- 2008 BA in Art History (Department of Art and Art History)
Double Major in French, Minor in Classical Greek (Department of Modern Languages)
DePaul University
Magna Cum Laude

PROFESIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

- 2017 Assistant Professor of Art History, Department of Art & Art History, University of Richmond

PUBLICATIONS:

- Forthcoming “Decoding the *Mise-en-page* of NEP-27,” in a peer-reviewed publication edited by Renata Holod and Yael Rice (University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology). NEP-27 is a Qur’anic manuscript produced in twelfth-century Iran.
- Forthcoming with contributions by Elizabeth Bolman and Stephen Davis, “The Red Monastery,” in *Egypt from Alexander to the Early Christians: An Archaeological and Historical Guide*, ed. Roger Bagnall and Dominic Rathbone.
- In Progress “The Holy Rider of Bawit: A Violent Image for Ascetic Zealots.” To be submitted to the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*.

- 2016 with Elizabeth Bolman, “Ascetic Ancestors: Identity and Genealogy,” in *The Red Monastery Church: Beauty and Asceticism in Upper Egypt*, ed. Elizabeth Bolman (New Haven: Yale University Press): 165-173.
- 2015 “*Theōria* and the Visual Environment of the Red Monastery,” *The Bulletin of the American Research Center in Egypt* 206: 35-39. 2014
- 2014 with Elizabeth Bolman (principal author), with contributions by Luigi De Cesaris, Alberto Sucato, Emiliano Ricchi, Matjaz Kacicnik, Saad Mohammed Mohammed Osman, Aly Zaghoul Aly, Stephen J. Davis, Father Maximous al-Anthony, and Gillian Pyke, “The Tomb of St. Shenoute at the White Monastery: Final Conservation and Documentation,” *The Bulletin of the American Research Center in Egypt* 204: 21-24.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

- 2016 Junior Fellowship in Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Harvard University’s Center for Byzantine Studies
- 2016 Council of American Overseas Research Centers, Andrew W. Mellon Mediterranean Regional Research Fellowship Program
- 2015 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, Jane and Morgan Whitney Fellowship
- 2015 Graduate Student Paper Prize, 66th Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (Second Prize)
- 2014 J. William Fulbright Grant to Egypt, declined
- 2014 Dissertation Fellowship, American Research Center in Egypt
- 2013 Koç University Scholarship, Intensive Graduate Summer Seminar *Cappadocia in Context*
- 2012 Graduate Student Paper Prize, Delaware Valley Medieval Association
- 2012 Spiro Kostof Fellowship, Society of Architectural Historians
- 2011 A. G. Leventis Foundation Fellowship, American School of Classical Studies at Athens
- 2010 Summer Fellowship, Provost’s Seed Grant, Temple University
- 2010 Temple University Fellowship

- 2009 Teaching Assistantship, Temple University
- 2008 Dean's Award for Scholastic Excellence, DePaul University
- 2007 Study Abroad in Turkey, DePaul University
- 2006 Research Assistantship, DePaul University
- 2006 Undergraduate Summer Research Grant, DePaul University
- 2006 Study Abroad in Russia, DePaul University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Instructor, Department of Art History, Tyler School of Art, Temple University

- 2013 Spring Romanesque and Gothic Visual Culture: Writing Intensive
- 2012 Fall Art Heritage of the Western World: Part I
- 2010 Spring Art Heritage of the Western World: Part I

Teaching Assistant, Temple University, Tyler School of Art, Department of Art History

- 2009 Fall Arts of the Western World
- 2009 Spring Arts of the Western World
- 2008 Fall Art Heritage of the Western World: Part I

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS:

- 2017 "From Theater to Church: The Architecture of Divine Spectacles," 47th Middle Atlantic Symposium, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. March 3-4.
- 2017 "Divine Spectacle: The Early Byzantine Triconch at the Red Monastery in Egypt," Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, DC. January 30.
- 2016 "Apa Enoch, Scribe of Righteousness: Writing the Book of Life in the Egyptian Desert," 42nd Byzantine Studies Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. October 6-9.
- 2015 "The Vision of Christ as God: Picturing the Monk's Spiritual End in Byzantine Egypt," 41st Byzantine Studies Conference, Columbia University, City University of NY and Fordham University, New York City, NY. October 22-25.
- 2015 "Divine Spectacle: The Red Monastery Church as a Memory Theater," Fellows Colloquium, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, NY. May 1.
- 2015 "*Theōria* as a Mode of Spiritual Seeing in Early Byzantine Asceticism," 66th Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, Houston, TX. April 24-26.

- 2015 “Vehicles of Memory: The Early Byzantine Ensemble of Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting at the Red Monastery in Egypt,” Graduate Student Conference on Byzantine Studies, Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture at Hellenic College Holy Cross, Brookline, MA. April 18.
- 2014 “The Memory of God in the Early Byzantine Sanctuary at the Red Monastery,” 2nd International Conference, Institute of Coptic Studies in Cairo, Egypt. December 5-7.
- 2013 “Designing the Vault of Heaven at the Cappella Palatina, Palermo,” Symposium in Celebration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Delaware Valley Medieval Association,” University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. April 13.
- 2013 “The Mise-en-page of NEP-27,” *Toward a “Biography” of a Manuscript: A Copy of the Qur’an from Twelfth-Century Iran*, workshop organized by Renata Holod and Yael Rice, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. February 22-23.
- 2012 “The Celestial Firmament and the Geometric Construction of the *Muqarnas*,” 38th Byzantine Studies Conference, Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Boston, MA. November 1-4.
- 2012 “Violence, Asceticism, and the Image of St. Sisinnios at Bawit,” 10th International Congress of Coptic Studies, Sapienza Università di Roma, Institutum Patristicum Augustinianum, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Rome, Italy. September 17-22.
- 2012 “The Alchemical Harmony of the Musical Firmament and the *Muqarnas*,” 65th Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, Detroit, MI. April 18-22.
- 2011 “A Holy Rider from Bawit and the Ascetic Performance of Militant Piety,” 37th Byzantine Studies Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, IL. October 20-23.
- 2010 “Painting Episcopal Authority in the Cathedral of Pachoras (Faras),” 36th Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. October 7-10.
- 2010 “Showing a Path to Salvation: The Portrait of Bishop Marianos (1005-1036) from the Cathedral of Pachoras (Faras), Nubia,” Graduate Fellows Research Symposium, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. October.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 2016-Present Painted Plaster Specialist, Princeton University, Department of Art and Archaeology, Archaeological Project in Polis Chrysochous, Cyprus
- 2009-Present Assistant Painted Plaster Specialist, Ceramicist, and Art Historian, Yale Monastic Archaeology Project in Wādī al-Natrūn, Egypt

- 2009-2014 Project Assistant, Red Monastery Conservation Project, United States
- 2009-2010 Project Assistant, Red Monastery Virtual Reality Project
- 2010 Co-Curator, *Art and Salvation in Upper Egypt: The Red and White Monasteries*, exhibition held in the Tyler School of Art, Temple University, <https://tyler.temple.edu/student-work/art-salvation-exhibition>
- 2006-2008 Writing Consultant and Office Manager, DePaul University Center for Writing-based Learning

MEDIA COVERAGE:

- 2017 “The Monks at the Theater: Agnieszka Szymańska Discusses the Unlikely Design of the Red Monastery” (<https://www.doaks.org/news-events/newsletter/the-monks-at-the-theater>)
- 2015 “Met fellowship exposes Tyler student to new possibilities,” by Erica Brooke Fajge (<http://news.temple.edu/news/2015-05-26/met-fellowship-exposes-tyler-student-new-possibilities>)
- 2015 “Peace through Scholarly Exchange,” Visionaries documentary series for public television (http://www.visionaries.org/episode_listings/season_20/index.php)

FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

- Polish, French, Arabic, German, Ancient Greek
- 2015 Intensive Course in Modern Standard and Levantine Arabic, Jordan Language Academy, Certificate of Attendance
- 2011 Gennadios Medieval Greek Summer School, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Certificate of Completion

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE:

- Graduate Student Representative of the Delaware Valley Medieval Association, 2012-2013
- Secretary, Graduate Art History Organization, Temple University, 2010
- Vice-President, Graduate Art History Organization, Temple University, 2009
- Byzantine Studies Association of North America, member since 2008
- College Art Association, member since 2009
- Delaware Valley Medieval Association, member since 2010
- Society of Architectural Historians; member since 2011
- International Association for Coptic Studies, member since 2012
- International Center of Medieval Art, member since 2013
- The Medieval Academy of America, member since 2014

The American Research Center in Egypt, member since 2014
The American Academy in Rome, Affiliated Fellow in 2016
The American School of Classical Studies, Associate Member in 2016