

Jessie Wei-Hsuan Chen

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Education

- 2018-present **PhD Candidate (Promovendus)**
Department of History and Art History, Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University (UU), Utrecht, The Netherlands.
Dissertation Project—Botanical Watercolors in Seventeenth-Century Germany and the Low Countries, funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO, Project Number: PGW.18.016), supervised by Prof. Dr. Sven Dupré and co-supervised by Dr. Florike Egmond.
- 2016-2018 **ResMA (Cum Laude), Research Master Art History of the Low Countries**
Department of History and Art History, Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University (UU), Utrecht, The Netherlands.
Thesis Project—The Blocks, the Tools, and the Printed Plants: The Making and Printing of Botanical Woodblocks at the Early Modern *Officina Plantiniana*, research supported by the Museum Plantin-Moretus, supervised by Prof. Dr. Sven Dupré and with Dr. Florike Egmond as second reader.
- 2014-2015 **MA, Art History**
Department of Art History, School of Liberal Art, Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), Savannah, GA, USA.
Thesis Project—Unpacking the Printed *Wunderkammer*: Matthäus Merian's *Florilegium Renovatum et Auctum* (1641), supervised by Dr. Arthur DiFuria and with Dr. David Gobel and Dr. Rebecca Trittel as committee members.
- 2009-2013 **BFA (Summa Cum Laude, Academic Outstanding Achievement Award), Illustration**
Department of Illustration, School of Communication Art, Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), Savannah, GA, USA.

Additional Functions (Since 2014)

- 2019-present **Advisory Committee Member**
Project “Digital resuscitation: The *Officina Plantiniana*'s collection of 14.000 woodblocks,” funded by the Flemish Minister of Culture, Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.
- 2018 **Visiting Researcher**
Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.
- 2017-2018 **Editor-in-Chief**
Junctions: Graduate Journal of the Humanities, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 2017-2018 **Research and Curatorial Intern**
Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.
- 2014-2015 **Reference Assistant**
Jen Library, SCAD-Savannah, Savannah, GA, USA.

Publications

Journal Articles

- 2018 “Printing matrices as a source: Studying the botanical woodblocks at the Museum-Plantin-Moretus.” *De Gulden Passer* 96 (2): 245–259.
- 2016 “Unpacking the Printed Wunderkammer: Matthäus Merian’s *Florilegium Renovatum et Auctum* (1641).” *Athanas* 34: 51–59.

Webtexts

- 2017 [with Andrea van Leerdam] “Densely Annotated and Richly Illustrated: A Famous Herbal in Dutch Translation.” Utrecht University Library, Special Collections. <http://bc.library.uu.nl/densely-annotated-and-richly-illustrated-famous-herbal-dutch-translation>.
- 2017 [with Andrea van Leerdam] “A Renaissance Herbal Owned by a Noble Lady.” Utrecht University Library, Special Collections. <http://bc.library.uu.nl/renaissance-herbal-owned-noble-lady>.
- 2017 [with Andrea van Leerdam] “Healthy Herbs in Print.” Utrecht University Library, Special Collections. <http://bc.library.uu.nl/healthy-herbs-print>.

Presentations

Academic Functions (selection)

- 27 Mar. 2019 “Tracing the Printing History of the Botanical Woodblocks at the Museum Plantin-Moretus Using VGG Image Search Engine (VISE),” Workshop: Computer Vision in Book History, The Hague, The Netherlands, Visual Geometry Group at the University of Oxford and the National Library of the Netherlands.
- 14-15 Feb. 2019 “Everlasting Flowers Between the Pages: Seventeenth-Century Botanical Watercolors,” History of Science and Humanities PhD Conference, Kerkrade, The Netherlands, Multiple Organizers from the University of Amsterdam.
- 20 Sep. 2018 “The Enablers of the Printed Plants: The Making of Botanical Woodblocks for the Early Modern Plantin Press,” Technical Art History Colloquium, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Multiple Organizers.
- 1 Jun. 2018 “Poster Presentation: The Blocks, The Tools, and the Printed Plants,” Jubileumcongres: Perspectieven in boekhistorisch onderzoek, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Nederlandse Boekhistorische Vereniging.
- 21 Sep. 2017 “*Den nieuwen herbarius* of Leonhart Fuchs (1501-1566) at the UU Special Collections,” WEMAL-Studiedag: Medische boeken uit de collectie van de UBU, Utrecht, The Netherlands, WEMAL (De Werkgroep Middelnederlandse Artesliteratuur) and Utrecht University Special Collections.
- 19-22 Apr. 2017 “Decorative and Scientific: Adriaen Collaert’s Engravings as a Promoter of Natural History,” *Scientiae Mixtae*, Padua, Italy, *Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World* and University of Padua.
- 27-28 May 2016 “Unpacking the Printed *Wunderkammer*: Matthäus Merian’s *Florilegium Renovatum et Auctum* (1641),” *Forgotten Books and Cultural Memory*, Taipei, Taiwan, English Department at the National Taipei University of Technology.

- 13 May 2015 "The Golden Age of Botanical Illustrations: What Does a Tulip Watercolor Tell Us?"
Larry W. Forrest Memorial Writing Competition Symposium, Savannah, GA, USA,
Department of Art History at Savannah College of Art and Design.

Public Functions (selection)

- 9 Sep. 2018 "4,000 houtblokken onder de loep," Open monumentendag 2018, Antwerp, Belgium,
Museum Plantin-Moretus.
- 26 Nov. 2017 "Botanische houtblokken: een verkenning van de eigen collectie," Dag van de
wetenschap 2017, Antwerp, Belgium, Museum Plantin-Moretus.

Organization of Conferences and Workshops

- 23 May 2019 **Organizer [with Andrea van Leerdam]**
Printing Colour in Late Medieval England: The Baffling 'Craft' of the Book of St. Albans
(1486), Lecture and Workshop by Elizabeth Savage, Utrecht Centre for Medieval Studies
& Technical Art History Colloquium, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 17-18 May 2018 **Organizer**
Work Session: Early Modern Botanical Woodblocks at the Museum Plantin-Moretus,
Antwerp, Belgium.
- 12-16 Jun. 2017 **Organizer [with Jenny Boulboulé, Erma Hermens, and Jo Kirby Atkinson]**
Reconstructing Colored Ink Recipes/Re-Performing Writing Technology
Experiments/Replicating Early Modern Experimental Documentation Techniques
(Source: "Mayerne Manuscript" MS Sloane 20152), Re-Enactment Replication
Reconstruction: Interdisciplinary Workshop on Performative Methodologies, Leiden,
The Netherlands.
- 10 Feb. 2017 **Chair of the Conference Committee**
UU Humanities Student Conference: Imaginaries of the Future, Utrecht, The
Netherlands.

Awards/Grants/Honors

- 2018 Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) Grant Promoties in de
geesteswetenschappen (PhDs in the Humanities), Project Number: PGW.18.016
- 2018 Institutional Bursary Grant for the London Rare Books School 2018 (Course: Blocks
and Plates) from the Institute of English Studies (IES)
- 2017 Selected participant for the International Student Roundtable at the 7ème Édition du
Festival de L'Histoire de L'Art (Theme: Nature/United States) in Fontainebleau, France
- 2017 UU Graduate School of Humanities Conference Grants (Padua 2017)
- 2015 Larry W. Forrest Scholar Award
- 2014-2015 SCAD Honors Award
- 2014-2015 SCAD International Student Scholarship
- 2013 SCAD Class of 2013 Illustration Academic Outstanding Achievement Award
- 2013 SCAD Lacoste Board of Trustees Travel Scholarship
- 2012-2013 Traci Haymans Memorial Scholarship
- 2011-2012 Betty Anderson Endowed Scholarship
- 2009-2013 SCAD Academic Honors Scholarship
- 2009-2013 SCAD Dean's List

Affiliations

Member of Descartes Centre

Member of Dutch Postgraduate School for Art History (Onderzoekschool Kunstgeschiedenis)

Member of Gewina (Belgian-Dutch Society for History of Science and Universities)

Member of Historians of Netherlandish Art (HNA)

Member of ICOM Individual Member

Member of RRR Network

Member of Utrecht Centre for Early Modern Studies

Teaching

2018

Guest Lecturer

Seminar: Image-Making as Knowledge-Making—Natural History, Research Master
Course: Art History I: Art & Knowledge (GKRMV16051), Utrecht University, Utrecht,
The Netherlands.

2015

Instructor

Workshop: Scientific Illustration, SCAD Educator Forum (SEF), SCAD-Savannah,
Savannah, GA, USA.

2015

Instructor

Workshop: 3D Illustration, SCAD Educator Forum (SEF), SCAD-Savannah, Savannah,
GA, USA.

2014

Instructor

Workshop: Scientific Illustration, SCAD Educator Essential Conference (SEEC),
SCAD-Savannah, Savannah, GA, USA.