

Jessie Wei-Hsuan Chen

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Education

- 2018-present **PhD Candidate (Promovenda)**
Department of History and Art History, Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University (UU), Utrecht, The Netherlands.
Dissertation Project—Everlasting Flowers Between the Pages: Botanical Watercolors in Seventeenth-Century Germany and the Low Countries, funded by the Dutch Research Council (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)

- Apr. 2020 **Visiting Fellow**
Forthcoming Stacy Lloyd III Fellowship for Bibliographic Study, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Upperville, VA, USA.
- Jan. 2020 **Visiting Scholar**
Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C., USA.
- Apr. 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.
- Oct. 2018-present **Project Associate**
European Research Council (ERC) Project “ARTECHNE: Technique in the Arts, 1500–1950: Concepts, Practices, Expertise,” Utrecht University / University of Amsterdam, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Feb. 2018-Aug. 2018 **Guest Researcher**
Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.

- Oct. 2017-
Aug. 2018 **Editor-in-Chief**
Junctions: Graduate Journal of the Humanities, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- Sep. 2017-
Feb. 2018 **Research and Curatorial Intern**
Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.
- Sep. 2014-
Nov. 2015 **Reference Assistant**
Jen Library, SCAD-Savannah, Savannah, GA, USA.

Publications

Scholarly Publications

- 2021 “Digital Program as a Remedy: Studying the Historical Use of the Botanical Woodblocks
Forthcoming at the Museum Plantin-Moretus Using VGG Image Search Engine (VISE).” In Elizabeth Savage and Femke Speelberg (eds.), *Printing Things: Blocks, Plates, and Stones 1400-1900*. Under contract with Oxford University Press in British Academy Proceedings. In preparation.
- 2020 “A Woodblock’s Career: Transferring Visual Botanical Knowledge in the Early Modern
Forthcoming Low Countries.” *Nuncius: Journal of the Material and Visual History of Science*. Accepted for publication.
- 2019 “Review of Marisa Anne Bass, *Insect Artifice: Nature and Art in the Dutch Revolt* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019).” *Nuncius: Journal of the Material and Visual History of Science* 34 (3): 717–719.
- 2019 “Website Review of ‘Time Capsule’ (<http://www.timecapsule.nu/>).” *Isis: A Journal of the History of Science Society* 110 (4): 796–797.
- 2018 “Printing matrices as a source: Studying the botanical woodblocks at the Museum-Plantin-Moretus.” *De Gulden Passer: Journal for Book History* 96 (2): 245–259.
- 2016 “Unpacking the Printed *Wunderkammer*: Matthäus Merian’s *Florilegium Renovatum et Auctum* (1641).” *Athanon: Florida State University, Department of Art History* 34: 51–59.

Collection/Exhibition Entries

- 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>.

Online Publications

- 2019 “Books of Painted Flowers on Paper and Parchment: Rethinking the Florilegium as a Book Genre?” *Société bibliographique de France*. <https://histoirelivre.hypotheses.org/4445> (published 21 September 2019).

- 2019 “Learning from a ‘Living Source’ in Working with Historical Recipes: Reflections on the Burgundian Blacks Collaboratory.” *ARTECHNE Project / The Recipes Project*. <https://artechne.wp.hum.uu.nl/learning-from-a-living-source-in-working-with-historical-recipes-reflections-on-the-burgundian-blacks-collaboratory/> (published 3 July 2019) / <https://recipes.hypotheses.org/15500> (published 15 October 2019).
- 2019 “Interpreting the Ragged Edges: The Danger of Being a Modern Image-Maker in Historical Research.” *ARTECHNE Project*. <https://artechne.wp.hum.uu.nl/interpreting-the-ragged-edges-the-danger-of-being-a-modern-image-maker-in-historical-research/> (published 3 April 2019).

Presentations (Selection)

- 7-9 Nov. 2019 “Filling in the Gaps: Historical Remaking as a Methodology to Research Early Modern Botanical Episteme (Invited Speaker),” Workshop Digital Age Approaches to Early Modern Engraved, Etched, and Imprinted Episteme: Images, Objects, Materials and Methods, Copenhagen, Denmark, Ruth S. Noyes (Novo Nordisk Foundation and the National Museum of Denmark).
- 21-22 Jun. 2019 “Making Image, Making Knowledge: Practices of Artistic Production in Visualizing Early Modern Botanical Knowledge,” 8th Gewina Woudschoten Conference – Towards a History of Knowledge, Woudschoten, The Netherlands, Gewina: Belgian-Dutch Society for History of Science and Universities.
- 17 Jun. 2019 “The Colorful Flowers of Anselmus De Boodt and the Color Practice Behind Them,” Workshop Anselmus Boëtius de Boodt at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Jetze Touber (Ghent University), Jonathan Regier (Ghent University), and Jan de Hond (Rijksmuseum).
- 12-15 Jun. 2019 “Not So ‘After Nature:’ The Subtle Imaginations in Early Modern Botanical Illustrations,” Scientiae 2019 Conference, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World and the Queen’s University.
- 6-7 Jun. 2019 “Picturing Flowers as a Genre: Visualizing the Culture of Collecting Nature in the Dutch Golden Age,” The Contribution of Artistic Genres to the Construction of the Dutch Golden Age Conference, Haarlem, The Netherlands, Project “A Golden Age?” at the University of Genève.
- 27 Mar. 2019 “Tracing the Printing History of the Botanical Woodblocks at the Museum Plantin-Moretus Using VGG Image Search Engine (VISE) (Invited Speaker),” 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 (Invited Speaker),” Technical Art History Colloquium, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Multiple Organizers.
- 1 Jun. 2018 “Poster Presentation: The Blocks, The Tools, and the Printed Plants (Invited Presenter),” 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 (Invited Speaker),” 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 2017 Conference, 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.

Peer Review

Journal of the LUCAS Graduate Conference (Leiden University)

Junctions: Graduate Journal of the Humanities (Utrecht University)

Organization of Conferences and Workshops

- 3-6 Jun. 2020 **Assistant Local Organizer**
Forthcoming Scientiae 2020 Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World and the University of Amsterdam.
- 2-4 Apr. 2020 **Organizer [with Ruth S. Noyes]**
Forthcoming Panels Reassessing Epistemic Images: I. Theory, Observation, and Practice; II. Curiosity, Collecting, and Wonder; III. Images of Natural Philosophy and Natural History, RSA 2020 Conference, Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- 27 Mar. 2020 **Organizer [with Alice Zamboni]**
Forthcoming Workshop Willem Goeree and the Production of Knowledge, National Library of the Netherlands, The Hague, The Netherlands.
- 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.

Exhibition/Public Engagement

- Jan. 2019 **Contributing Researcher**
Reconstruction of Historical Recipes on Black Dyes for Long-Term Exhibition (21 June 2019 – 21 June 2021) *Back to Black*, Museum Hof van Busleyden, Mechelen, Belgium. In collaboration with Studio Claudy Jongstra, University of Antwerp, Rijks erfgoedlaboratorium - Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (RCE), University of York.
- 9 Sep. 2018 **Public Presentation**
"4,000 houtblokken onder de loep (Talk in English)," Open monumentendag 2018, Antwerp, Belgium, Museum Plantin-Moretus.
- Dec. 2017-
May 2018 **Assistant Coordinator and Illustrator**
Production and Installation of Interactive Stations of Historical Type Casting and Book Printing And Binding Materials for Visitor Experience, Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp, Belgium.
- 26 Nov. 2017 **Public Presentation**
"Botanische houtblokken: een verkenning van de eigen collectie (Talk in English)," Dag van de wetenschap 2017, Antwerp, Belgium, Museum Plantin-Moretus.

Funded Participations/Grants

- 2020 Stacy Lloyd III Fellowship for Bibliographic Study, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Upperville, VA, USA
- 2019 Selected participant for the 2019 Plant Humanities Summer Program at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection in Washington D.C., USA
- 2018 The Dutch Research Council (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)

Honors/Scholarships

- 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

Current 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 (Reconstruction, Re-enactment, and Replication)

Member of Renaissance Society of America (RSA)

Member of Utrecht Centre for Early Modern Studies (UCEMS)

Teaching

- 2019 **Lab and Teaching Assistant**
 First-Year Bachelor Course: Van papier tot plastic. Materialen en technieken.
 (KU1V17002), Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 2019 **Guest Lecturer**
 Seminar: Interdisciplinarity, Third-Year Bachelor Course: Denken over kunst
 (KU3V19001), Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 2018, 2019 **Guest Lecturer**
 Seminar: Image-Making as Knowledge-Making in Natural History, First-Year Research
 Master Course: Art History I: Knowledge, Technologies, and Material Culture
 (GKRMV16051), Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 2015 **Instructor**
 Workshop: 3D Illustration, SCAD Educator Forum (SEF), SCAD-Savannah, Savannah,
 GA, USA.
- 2014, 2015 **Instructor**
 Workshop: Scientific Illustration, SCAD Educator Forum (SEF), SCAD-Savannah,
 Savannah, GA, USA.