

KISHWAR RIZVI
DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF ART
YALE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE YALE
UNIVERSITY
2026

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

Department of Architecture, Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 2000.

Master of Architecture

Graduate School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Bachelor of Art

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.

LANGUAGES

Persian, French, Urdu, Arabic (reading), German (reading).

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Architectural fieldwork in Iran, Syria, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Pakistan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia.

Museum research in Germany, Austria, United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Robert Lehman Professor, Department of the History of Art and School of Architecture, 2023 -

Professor, Department of the History of Art, 2018 - 2023

Associate Professor, Department of the History of Art, 2012 –14; 2014-2018 (with tenure).

Assistant Professor, Department of the History of Art, 2006 – 2012.

Assistant Professor, Department of Art History and Archeology, Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY. 2004 – 2006.

Lecturer, Department of the History of Art, Yale University, 2002 – 2003.

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Yale Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, 2000 – 2002.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editor, Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes, 2020 -

Associate Editor, *Iranian Studies: Journal of the Iranian Studies Association*, 2020 - 2024.

Historians of Islamic Art Association.

President, 2020-2023.

President-Elect, 2017-2020

Secretary Treasurer, 2005-2008.

Chair of the committee for the 2007 Margaret B. Sevcenko prize (member of committee, 2011).

Organizer, HIAA Majlis 2007 and 2008.

PUBLICATIONS

A. BOOKS

Subjectivities: Constructing early modernity through artistic and cultural encounters in Safavid Iran, (Yale University Press, under contract).

Affect, Emotion, and Subjectivity in Early Modern Muslim Empires: New studies in Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal art and culture, editor, (Leiden: Brill, 2017).

The Transnational Mosque: Architecture and historical memory in the contemporary Middle East, Islamic Civilization and Muslim Networks Series (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015).

- Winner of the 2017 Gustav Ranis International Book Prize, Yale University.
- Winner of the 2017 College Art Association's Charles Rufus Morey Award, which "seeks to honor an especially distinguished book in the history of art."
- Winner of the 2016 American Library Association's Choice Outstanding Academic Title Award.

Reviewed by Bulent Batuman in *Art Bulletin* (December 2017); Wendy Shaw in *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (September 2017); Unver Rustem in *Constructs* (Fall, 2016), Pamela Karimi in *Choices: A publication of the American Library Association*, (August 2016), Mohammed Alshahed in *The Journal of Arab and Islamic Studies* (May, 2016).

"Neo-Ottoman Architecture and the Transnational Mosque," Author Interview in the *Ottoman Studies Podcast* (July 2, 2016) <http://www.ottomanhistorypodcast.com/2016/07/mosque.html>

Excerpt in New Texts Out Now *Jadaliyya*, (March 23, 2016)
http://oil.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/24122/new-texts-out-now_kishwar-rizvi-the-transnational-

Author Interview in *New Books in Islamic Studies*, (February 8, 2016)
http://oil.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/24122/new-texts-out-now_kishwar-rizvi-the-transnational-

Excerpt in *Faith and Form: the Interdisciplinary Journal on Religion, Art, and Architecture* (Volume 48, Issue 3, September 2015): <http://faithandform.com/feature/the-symbolic-potential-of-the-transnational-mosque/>

The Safavid Dynastic Shrine: Architecture, religion and power in early modern Iran (London: British Institute for Persian Studies, I. B. Tauris) 2011.

Reviewed by Guy Burak in *Arab Studies Journal*, Vol. XXII, (Spring 2014); Bernard O'Kane in *The Journal of Islamic Studies*, Vol. 24 issue 3, (September 2013); Seth Frantzman in *Digest of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 21, No. 1, (Spring, 2012).

Modernism and the Middle East: Architecture and politics in the twentieth century, editor, Studies in Modernity and National identity Series (Seattle: University of Washington Press) 2008.

Reviewed by Mohammad Gharipour in *The Journal of the Society for Architectural Historians (JSAH)*, March, 2010; Christian A. Hedrick in *H-Levant*, H-Net Reviews. November, 2010.
<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=31452>

B. CURATORIAL

Karachi Gymkhanas: Religion and community in the post-colony, photograph and video installation. Sharjah Architecture Triennial, Sharjah, UAE. November 2026.

Modern Art from the Middle East, exhibition of loan works from the Barjeel Foundation Collection, curated by Frauke Josenhaus, Kishwar Rizvi, and Mandy Merzaban. Yale University Art Gallery, 2017.

C. ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Future/Structure: The *mashhad* as an alternative,” with Yasmin Z Bergemann, in *Public Culture: Special Volume on Palestine as a Feminist Subject* (forthcoming).

“Justice” SAH Plenary Roundtable, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, (forthcoming, December 2026).

“Freehold not Freedom: Ex-urban existence in the UAE,” in Reinhold Martin and Claire Zimmerman, eds. *Architecture against Democracy: Histories of the Nationalist International*, (University of Minnesota Press, 2024).

“Baltistan’s Architectural Heritage: Resistance and Identity Formation in Northeastern Pakistan,” *Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes*, (August 5, 2024).

“Diaspora and Dispossession,” in “A Questionnaire on Diaspora and the Modern,” *October* 186 (2023).

“Eve Arnold in the Trucial States: The United Arab Emirates before Federation,” *Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes*, (December 6, 2021).

“Towards Barefoot Social Architecture: A conversation with Yasmeen Lari I and II,” *Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes* (August 2021).

“History, Narrative, and the Female Figure (as Disruption),” in Sadia Abbas and Jan Howard, eds., *Shazia Sikander: Extraordinary Realities*, (RISD Museum Exhibition Catalog, 2021).

“Contingency and Architectural Speculation,” Special volume on Architecture as a Form of Knowledge, in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, 40.3 (December 2020): 584-595.

“The Other Side of Paradise, or an “Islamic” Architecture of Containment,” *Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes*, (June, 2019).

“Islamic Art at the Yale University Art Gallery,” *Arts of Asia*, Special Edition on the Yale University Art Gallery (March 2018).

“Introduction: Emotion and Subjectivity in an early modern context,” in *Affect, Emotion, and Subjectivity in Early Modern Muslim Empires: New studies in Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal art and culture*, edited by K. Rizvi, (Leiden: Brill), 2017.

“Between the Human and the Divine: *Majālis al-Ushhāq* and the materiality of love in early Safavid art,” in *Ut pictura amor: The Reflexive Imagery of Love in Artistic Theory and Practice, 1400-1700*, edited by Walter Melion, Joanna Woodall, and Michael Zell (Leiden: Brill), 2017.

“Dubai, Anyplace: Histories of architecture in the contemporary Middle East,” *A Companion to Islamic Art*, edited by Gülru Necipoğlu and Finbarr B. Flood, (Malden, MA: Blackwell), 2017.

“Entangled Modernities,” (with Frauke Josenhaus) *Modern Art from the Middle East*, brochure accompanying the Yale University Art Gallery Exhibition of loan works from the Barjeel Foundation Collection, curated by Frauke Josenhaus, Kishwar Rizvi, and Mandy Merzaban, (Yale University Press, 2017).

“History and Representation: Venturi’s Engagement with Modern “Islamic” Architecture,” invited review essay, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. 75, No. 4, (December, 2016).

“The Incarnate Shrine: Commemorating the cult of Shi’i imams in Safavid Iran,” in *Saints and Sacred Matter: The cult of relics in Byzantium and beyond*, edited by Cynthia Hahn and Holger Klein, (Washington, DC: Dumbarton Oaks), 2015.

“Transnational Architecture, Ethics, and the Reification of History: Park51 Islamic Community Center in New York City” in *In the Wake of the Global Turn: Propositions for an ‘Exploded’ Art History without Borders*, edited by Aruna D’Souza and Jill Casid, (Williamstown, MA: Clark Art Institute), 2013.

“Architecture and the Representations of Kingship during the reign of the Safavid Shah Abbas I,” in *Every Inch a King: From Alexander to the King of Kings*, eds. Charles Melville and Lynette Mitchell (Leiden: Brill) 2012.

“The Suggestive Portrait of Shah ‘Abbas: Prayer and likeness in a 1605 Safavid *Shahnama* (Book of Kings),” *The Art Bulletin* 94/2, (June, 2012): 226-250.

“Mosques and Commemorative Shrines: Piety, patronage, and performativity in religious architecture,” *Treasures of the Aga Khan Museum: Arts of Islamic Architecture*, eds. M. Graves and B. Junod, accompanying the exhibition at the Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia, December, 2011.

“Kings, Heroes, and the Divine: The 1605 *Shahnama* at the National Library in Berlin,” in *Heroic Times: A thousand years of the Persian Book of Kings*, eds. Julia Gonnella und Christoph Rausch, publication accompanying exhibition at the Islamic Art Museum, (Berlin: Edition Minerva), 2012; (in German) *Heroische Zeiten: Tausend Jahre persisches Buch der Könige*, eds. Julia Gonnella und Christoph Rausch, publication accompanying exhibition at Islamic Art Museum, (Berlin: Edition Minerva), 2011.

“Persian Pictures: Artifice and authenticity in representations of Islam in the early 18th century,” in *The First Global Vision of Religion: Bernard Picart’s Religious Ceremonies and Customs of All the Peoples of the World*, eds. Lynn Hunt, Margaret Jacob and Wijnand Mijndhardt, (Getty Research Institute), 2010.

Reviewed by Nancy Vogeley, “Religion as an Enlightenment Concept,” *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Vo. 44, no. 3 (2011); reviewed by Jonathan Sheenan, *Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 83, no. 4 (December 2011); reviewed by Anthony Grafton, “A Jewel of a Thousand Facets,” *New York Review of Books*, June 24, 2010.

“Art,” *Key Themes for the Study of Islam*, ed. Jamal Elias, (Oxford: One World Press), 2010. “Sites of Pilgrimage and Objects of Devotion,” chapter on the great shrines at Ardabil, Qum and Mashhad, for *Shah ‘Abbas: The Remaking of Iran*, ed. Sheila Canby, (London: British Museum Press), publication accompanying exhibition at the British Museum, 2009.

Reviewed by Marianna Shreve Simpson in *caa.reviews*, August, 2009.

“Modern Architecture and the Middle East: The burdens of representation,” introductory chapter in *Modernism and the Middle East: Architecture and politics in the twentieth century*, eds. S. Isenstadt and K. Rizvi (University of Washington Press), 2008.

“Art History and the Nation: Arthur Upham Pope and the discourses on „Persian Art“ in the early 20th century,” in proceedings of the symposium *Historiography and Ideology: Writing the history of the Ottoman architectural heritage*, guest editors, Sibel Bozdoğan and Gulru Necipoglu, *Muqarnas: Journal of Islamic Art and Architecture*, vol. 24, (2007).

“On Writing: Situating the discourse on calligraphy in contemporary Pakistan,” in *Renaissance: New Voices in Islamic Calligraphy*, eds. A. Gulgee and S. Hussain (Karachi: Oxford University Press), 2006.

“Religious Icon and National Symbol: The Tomb of Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran,” *Muqarnas: Journal of Islamic Art and Architecture*, vol. 20, (2003).

“The Imperial Setting: Shah ‘Abbas I at the shrine of Shaykh Safi al-din Ishaq,” *Safavid Art and Architecture*, ed. S. Canby, (British Museum Press: London), 2002.

“Gendered Patronage: Women and Benevolence in Safavid Architecture,” *Women, Patronage, and Self-Representation in Islamic Societies*, ed. D. F. Ruggles, (SUNY: New York), 2000.

“Its mortar mixed with the sweetness of life’: Ritual and Architecture of the shrine of Shaykh Safi in Ardabil,” *The Muslim World* (special issue on Saint and Shrine Formation in Medieval Islam), Fall 2000.

D. OPINION / PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

“City as Community in Zohran Mamdani’s New York,” *PLATFORM*, Jan. 5, 2026.

“The Significance of Iran’s Cultural, Historical Sites,” *Here and Now*, WBUR. Aired, January 7, 2020.
<https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2020/01/07/iran-cultural-historic-sites-trump>

“What Trump’s tweets threatening Iran’s cultural sites could mean for Shiite Muslims,” *The Conversation*, January 9, 2020.
<https://theconversation.com/what-trumps-tweet-threatening-irans-cultural-sites-could-mean-for-shiite-muslims-129498>

“The Other Side of Paradise, or an “Islamic” Architecture of Containment,” *Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes*, (June, 2019). <https://www.platformspace.net/home/the-other-side-of-paradise-or-islamic-architectures-of-containment-and-erasure>

“Destruction of Mosul Desecrates History,” *CNN Opinion*, June 24, 2017.
<http://www.cnn.com/2017/06/24/opinions/destruction-mosul-mosque-opinion-rizvi/index.html>

“Iran and Global Exchange in the Early Modern Period,” *The Academic Minute*, March 14, 2017.
<https://academicminute.org/2017/03/kishwar-rizvi-yale-university-iran-and-global-exchange-in-the-early-modern-period/>

“What’s Missing in the Teaching of Islam?” *The Conversation*, January 10, 2017.
<https://theconversation.com/whats-missing-in-the-teaching-of-islam-70975>

“It’s Harder Than Ever To Teach Islamic Art – But Never More Important,” *The Washington Post*, January 6, 2017.
https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2017/01/06/its-harder-than-ever-to-teach-islamic-art-but-never-more-important/?utm_term=.036eda1348d3

E. PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND INTERVIEWS

Interview for Slate.com *Audio Book Club* (Amy Waldman, *The Submission*), 2011.
<http://www.slate.com/id/2304637/>

Interview for French Interdisciplinary Mission in Sindh, *Newsletter*, 2010.
<http://sindh.hypotheses.org/104>

Interview for PBS Channel Thirteen’s Series *Art through Time: A Global View* (Cosmology and Belief), 2009. <http://www.learner.org/courses/globalart/theme/5/experts.html>

Interview and accoustiguide for British Museum show *Shah ‘Abbas: The Remaking of Iran*, 2009.
“Modern Architecture and the Middle East,” conversation with Dr. Glenn Lowry and Prof. Oleg Grabar at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, April 2007.

F. ENCYCLOPAEDIA ENTRIES

“Ardabil,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, Brill, (2007).

Entries for the *Encyclopedia of Asia* (Berkshire Reference Works; Scribners), 2002: Architecture in Pakistan: “Rohtas Fort,” “Sehwan,” “Thatta/Makli Hill,” “Bhit.” Modern Pakistani Artists: “Collin David,” “Gulgee,” “Jamil Naqsh,” “Sadequain.”

G. CATALOGUE ESSAYS ON CONTEMPORARY ART

“Amin Gulgee: The Universal and the Particular,” Catalog for solo show at Galerie Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, (2008).

“On Writing: Situating the discourse on calligraphy in contemporary Pakistan,” eds. A. Gulgee and S.Hussain, Renaissance: New Voices in Islamic Calligraphy, (Karachi: Oxford University Press), 2006.

H. BOOK REVIEWS

Sussan Babaie, *Isfahan and its Palaces: Statecraft, Shi'ism and the Architecture of Conviviality in Early Modern Iran* (Edinburgh Studies in Islamic Art) (Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2008) in *CAARReviews* (October, 2010).

Sibel Bozdogan, *Modernism and Nation Building: Turkish Architectural Culture in the Early Republic*, (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2001) in *CAARReviews* (January, 2004).

David Roxburgh, *Prefacing the Image: The Writing of Art History in Sixteenth-Century Iran*, (Leiden: Brill, 2001) in *Art Bulletin* v. 85, no. 4 (December, 2003).

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS ADD VISITING APPOINTMENTS

Aga Khan Fellowship in Islamic Art and Architecture, Harvard University, 2021-22.

Principal Investigator, Title VI National Resource Center Grant for the Council on Middle East Studies, Yale University, from the United States Department of Education, 2018-2022.

Public Voices Fellowship, Op-Ed Project and the Women's Faculty Forum, Yale University, 2016-2017.

Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund, MacMillan Center, award for organizing an international symposium, *Writing/Curating the Middle East*; 2016 (to be held, March 2017).

Whitney Humanities Center Humanities/Humanity Fund for the seminar, *Early Modern Techne: Towards a Framework for Cross-Cultural Conversation* (Spring 2017), co-organized with T. Liu and A. Ramachandran, 2016.

Faculty Research Award for "The Mosque and the Museum: Nation-building on the global stage in Qatar and the UAE," MacMillan Center, Yale University, Spring 2016.

Whitney Humanities Center Inaugural Humanities/Humanity Fund for the seminar, *South Asian Photography Across the Disciplines: The Uses of Visual Evidence* (Spring 2015), co-organized with L. Wexler, I. Grewal, and T. Sears, 2015.

Hilles Fund Award, Yale University; publication subvention for *The Transnational Mosque: Historical memory and the contemporary Middle East*, Islamic Civilization and Muslim Networks Series (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2015) 2014.

Mellon Foundation Grant for the graduate seminar, "Museum and Nation," to travel to the United Arab Emirates and Qatar to study contemporary museums.

Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund, MacMillan Center, award for organizing an international symposium, *Emotion and Subjectivity in the Art and Architecture of early modern Muslim empires*; 2013 (held in May 2014).

Griswold Grant, Yale University, 2011-2012; 2013-2014.

Faculty Travel Grant, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, 2011-2012.

Carnegie Foundation Scholars Award for "Ideology and Architecture: Transnational Mosques in the Middle East," 2009-2011.

MacMillan Center Director's Award, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, 2009-2011.

2007-2009 Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowship for the project, "Representing Kingship in Early Safavid Iran: 'Abbas I and the 1605 *Shahnama* of Firdawsi," hosted by the Museum for Islamic Art, Berlin.

Hilles Fund Award, Yale University; publication subvention for *The Safavid Dynastic Shrine: Architecture, religion and power in early modern Iran* (London: British Institute for Persian Studies, I. B. Tauris, 2011), 2009.

2009-2010 Whitney Humanities Center Fellowship, Yale University.

Stanford Humanities Center grant for collaborative book project, "The Assemblies of Lovers (*Majalis al-ushhaq*): Art, Poetry, and Religion in Persianate Islam," with Shahzad Bashir, Religious Studies (Stanford University) and Jamal Elias, Religious Studies, (University of Pennsylvania), 2008-2009.

MacMillan Center Directors Award, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, 2007-2009.

Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Grant #06027; publication subvention for *Modernism and the Middle East: Architecture and Politics in the twentieth century*, Seattle: Washington University Press, 2008), 2006.

Macmillan Center, Yale University; publication subvention for *Modernism and the Middle East: Architecture and Politics in the twentieth century*, (Seattle: Washington University Press, 2008), 2006.

Hilles Fund Award, Yale University; publication subvention for *Modernism and the Middle East: Architecture and Politics in the twentieth century*, (Seattle: Washington University Press, 2008), 2005.

Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund (YCIAS) award for organizing an international symposium, "Local Sites of Global Practice: Modernism in the Middle East," (held at Yale University, April 4-5, 2003) 2002.

Association for Middle Eastern Women's Studies Annual Award for excellence for "Gendered Patronage: Women and Benevolence in Safavid Architecture," *Women, Patronage, and Self-Representation in Islamic Art and Society*, ed. D. F. Ruggles, (SUNY: New York, 2000), 2000.

Historians of Islamic Art. Graduate Student Travel Grant, 1998.

Department of Fine Arts, Harvard University Travel Grant, for research at the Russian National Library, St. Petersburg and the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, 1997.

Barakat Foundation Scholarship for Dissertation Research and Documentation in Ardabil, Iran, 1996. North American Historians of Islamic Art Graduate Student Award, 1995.

YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

Modern Art and the Middle East, co-curator of the loan exhibition of works from the Barjeel Foundation Collection, Sharjah (February-July, 2017).

Consultant, Mimi Gates Study Gallery of Islamic Art (2012 - 2017).

LECTURES, CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

"Architectural Dialogue in early modern Iran and India," *The Mughals: Their past, our present*, Annual Conference of the Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan, May, 2026.

"Self/Reflection, or how to talk back in Safavid art and history," *Historians of Islamic Art Association Biennial Symposium*, Boston College, April 2025.

"Digital Humanities as Reparative Practice," (Virtual) Annual Nawruzgan Conference, Tehran, Iran, February, 2025.

"Learning from the Archive: Imagining new futures for Islamic architecture," *Reinventing Islamic Architecture Symposium*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 2024.

"Self/Reflections: Ghiyath/Sherley, or Seeing the Early Modern World through Safavid Figural Textiles," *Work in Progress Series*, History of Art Department, Yale University, April 2024.

"Paradise on Earth," *Edensong Roundtable*, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, February 2023.

"Selfhood, Empire, and the Entanglements of Early Modernity: Jarun/Ormuz between Iran and Portugal," Jill and John Avery Lecture in the History of Art, University of Pennsylvania, October 2022.

"Artists, Monarchs, and Mercenaries: On connecting histories of art," DOT 2022, Freie Universität, Berlin, September 2022.

"Challenges and Opportunities for the Study of Islamic Art and Architecture," Historians of Islamic Art panel, *College Art Association*, February 16, 2023

"Observation as Practice in Early Modern Iran," Annual Whitney Stoddard Lecture, Williams College, April 2022.

"Documentary Lives: Sketch as chronicle in Shah 'Abbas' Iran," AKPIA Lecture Series, Harvard University, April 2022.

Introduction to Yasmeen Lari's *Lewis Mumford Lecture*, Spitzer School of Architecture, CCNY, April 2022.

Keynote conversation with Shahzia Sikander, at *Region and Enmity: A RaceB4Race Symposium*, Rutgers University, October 2021.

"Jarun/Ormuz and the Oceanic Imaginary in Safavid Iran," in *Port Cities and the Persianate*, American Association of Persianate Studies, September 2021.

Respondent to Kathryn Babayan's *The City as Anthology: Eroticism and urbanity in early modern Isfahan*, Persianate Studies Workshop at the University of Michigan, May, 2021.

"Imagining a World: Selfhood and Empire in Safavid Iran," AKPIA Lecture Series, Harvard University, April 2021.

Organizer, *The Global Museum Symposium*, Yale University, April 2020.

"Freehold not Freedom: Ex-urban existence in the UAE," in the workshop, *Architecture against Democracy: Aesthetics, Nationalism, and Power*, at the Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture, Columbia University. March 2020.

"Authorship in Persian Painting, a book discussion," UCLA Program in Central Asia, Los Angeles, October 2019.

"Shah 'Abbas' Iran and Global Early Modernity," Warnock Seminar and Lecture, Northwestern University, May 2019.

"The National Mosque and the Franchise Museum: Architecture in the United Arab Emirates," invited lecture at Ithaca College and Cornell University, April 2019.

"Architecture and Soft Power in the United Arab Emirates," Department of Near East Studies, Princeton University, March 2019.

"Chronophilia and the Canon: Islamic architecture and the entanglements of history," *Canonicity in Art History Symposium*, Wesleyan University, March 2019.

Discussant on the panel, "Migration and Colonial Modernities," *College Art Association*, February 2019.

Organizer, *Historians of Islamic Art Association Biennial Symposium*, Yale University, October 24-27, 2018.

"Mosque/Museum: Religion and Soft Power in the United Arab Emirates," Bettman Lecture Series, Department of the History of Art and Archaeology, Columbia University, April 2018.

"Branding Iran: Persian Art and Culture in the Age of Global Early Modernity," *Comparative Persianate Aesthetics Symposium*, Boston University, September 2017.

Organizer, *Writing/Curating the Middle East Symposium*, Yale University Art Gallery and the History of Art Department, Yale University, March 2017.

Co-organizer, *Early Modern Techne: Towards a Framework for Cross-Cultural Conversation*, Whitney Humanities Center Humanities/Humanity Workshop Series, Yale University, Spring 2017.

"The Transnational Mosque: Architecture and Historical Memory in the Middle East,"
---, Near Eastern Languages and Culture and Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, April 2016.
---, Department of Asian Studies, University of Texas, Austin, April 2016.
---, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto, March 2016.

---, Sharjah Art Foundation, December, 2015.

---, Pakistan Institute of Architecture, Karachi Chapter, December 2015.

---, Yale Architectural Forum, April 2015.

“Love and the Body: Figuration and materiality in Safavid painting,” *New Studies in Islamic Painting*, A Symposium at Northwestern University, April 2016.

“Image of Man, Vision of the Divine: Illustrated Assembly of Lovers manuscripts in 16th-century Iran,” in the panel, *New Approaches to Early-Modern Islamic Book Arts*, at the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Boston, MA. April 2016.

“The Materiality of Love in the 16th-c *Majalis al-Ushhaq* (Assembly of Lovers)” lecture in the 5th Lovis Corinth Colloquium, on the topic ‘*Ut pictura amor: The Reflexive Imagery of Love in Artistic Theory and Practice, 1400-1700*’, Emory University, October 2015.

“Historicism and Post-modernity: Transnational Mosques in the Contemporary Middle East,” lecture at the Aga Khan Symposium *Politics of Time, Material Heritage and Islamic Religiosity*, Brown University, April 2015.

“The Transnational Mosque: Architecture and Historical Memory in the Middle East,” Yale Architectural Forum, April 2015.

“Sindh in the Early Modern World: Writing the Architectural History of Pakistan,” lecture to the *American Institute of Pakistan Studies Conference*, University of Michigan, April 2015.

Co-organizer, Whitney Humanities Center Inaugural Humanities/Humanity Workshop, *South Asian Photography Across the Disciplines: The Uses of Visual Evidence*, Spring 2015.

“Transformations in Early Safavid Art,” lecture in the series ‘*Islamic Art*’: *Disrupting Unity and Discerning Ruptures*, History of Art and Archeology Department, Columbia University, November 2014.

Organizer, *Topographies of Culture: Art, Heritage and Urbanism in the Gulf*, graduate student conference sponsored by the Mellon Foundation, History of Art Department, the Council of Middle East Studies, WGSS, Dean’s Fund, Graduate Student Senate, Yale University, September 2014.

Organizer, *Emotion and Subjectivity in the Art and Architecture of early modern Muslim empires*, international symposium sponsored by the History of Art Department, the Council of Middle East Studies, and the MacMillan Center, Yale University, May 2014.

“Black Shi‘ism? Representations of Safavid political and religious ideology in early modern Iran,” invited lecture at the conference commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Institute of Islamic Studies at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, May 2014.

“The Work of Art as *Tafsīr* and Testimonial in Safavid Iran,” *Sawyer Seminar Series in Visual Exegesis*, Emory University, Atlanta, February 2014.

“A History of One’s Own: Islamic architecture in the service of nation building,” invited lecture at the symposium, *Encounters with Islamic Art: Reception, Revival, and Response*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, February 2014.

“The Charismatic Body in early Safavid Iran” Aga Khan Program for Islamic Art and Architecture, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 2013.

“Iconography and Ideology: Shi‘i art and architecture in early Safavid Iran,” at the conference, *The House of the Prophet: Architecture, Ritual, and the Transmission of Knowledge in the Shrines of Ahl al-Bayt*, New York University – Abu Dhabi Institute, UAE, May 2012.

Transnational Islam, or the Reification of History through Contemporary Architecture,” at the 2011 Clark

Conference, *In the Wake of the Global Turn: Propositions for an 'Exploded' Art History without Borders*,” Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA. November 2011.

“Making the Invisible Visible: Commemorating the cult of Shi'i imams in Safavid Iran,” in the Dumbarton Oaks Spring Symposium *Saints and Sacred Matter: The cult of relics in Byzantium and beyond*, Washington, DC. April 2011.

“Dubai: Transnationalism and architecture,” in the lecture series *Worlds of Dubai: Cultural Perspectives on a New Metropolis*,” Abbasi Program for Islamic Studies, Stanford University. February 2011.

Discussant, *Middle Ground/ Middle East: Religious Sites in Urban Contexts*, School of Architecture, Yale University, New Haven, CT. January 2011.

“Modernism's Utopic Present: Architecture in Contemporary Dubai,” at the Twelfth Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), *The Utopia of Tradition*, Beirut, Lebanon. December 2010.

“Art, History, and Poetry in early Safavid Iran: The 1605 Berlin *Shahnama*,” *Works in Progress Lecture Series*, Department of the History of Art, Yale University. September 2010.

“Image of Man, Vision of the Divine: Illustrated *Assembly of Lovers* manuscripts in 16th-century Iran,” at the workshop, *Troubling Images: Some Cross-cultural reflections*, Religious Studies Department, Yale University. May 2010.

Discussant on the panel, “Gender Borderlands,” in the 9th Annual Critical Islamic Reflections Conference, *The (Muslim) Woman Question: Competing Representations, Contested Futures*; Yale University, New Haven, CT. April 2010.

“Transnationalism and Architectural Culture in the UAE,” at the international workshop, *Abu Dhabi: A city in construction*, Louvre Museum, Paris, France. December 2009.

Discussant on the panel, “Between Public Memory and National Narrative: The visual document and history in the Middle East,” *Middle East Studies Associations* annual meeting, Boston. November 2009.

“Architecture and the Representation of Kingship during the reign of Abbas I,” at the symposium, *Shah Abbas and his World*, British Museum, London. May 2009.

“Dubai, Anyplace,” speaker at the panel, “How to Study Contemporary Islamic Art and Architecture,” *Inaugural Historians of Islamic Art Association Biennial Symposium*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. October 2008.
“The Ardabil Carpets,” Colloquium at the Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles. March 2008.

Chair and organizer, “Teaching the History of Islamic art in the 21st/14th century,” workshop for the Historians of Islamic Art Association Majlis, *College Art Association Annual Meeting*, Dallas. February 2008.

“Persian Pictures: Artifice and authenticity in the representations of Islam in Bernard Picart's *Ceremonies et Coutumes Religieuses de tous les Peuples du Monde*,” at the conference *At the Interface of Religion and Cosmopolitanism: Bernard Picart and the European Enlightenment*,” Getty Research Institute and the UCLA William Andrews Clark Memorial Library. December 2007.

“Safavid Religious Identities and the Architectural Patronage of Shrines in Iran,” *Middle East Studies Associations Annual Meeting*, Montreal. November 2007.

Respondent, “The Language of the Ineffable,” at the conference *Constructing the Ineffable: Contemporary Sacred Architecture*, Yale School of Architecture. October 2007.

“Imperial and Spiritual Authority in the reign of Shah Abbas I: The 1605 *Shahnama* of Firdawsi at the Berlin State Library,” lectures presented at the Pergamon Museum, Berlin; Iranian Studies Seminar, Bamberg University; and

the History of Art Department, Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich. July 2007.

“Notions of Islam in 18th-century Visual Culture,” guest lecturer at the seminar on Bernard Picart, organized by Professors Lynn Hunt and Margaret Roberts (UCLA), Getty Museum and Research Center, Los Angeles. April 2007.

“Between Assimilation and Affiliation: Tarkhan funerary architecture in 16th and 17th-century Makli, Sindh,” South Asia Forum Conference, *The Built Environment: Ornament, Function, and Historical Transition*, University of Pennsylvania. March 2007.

“Locating Architecture, Gender and Ritual at the Shrine of Lal Shahbaz in Sehwan Sharif, Pakistan,” on the panel “Boundaries of Sacred Space: How “Public” and “Private” Come into Being,” at *The American Council for Southern Asian Art Biannual Conference*, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. March 2007.

“Modernism and the Middle East: Historical and theoretical considerations,” School of Architecture, Zayed University, Dubai, UAE. December 2006.

“Sufi and Shi’i: Religious identity and the architectural patronage of shrines in Safavid Iran,” conference of *The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi’ism*, Oxford University, UK. July 2006.

“Arthur Upham Pope and the *Survey of Persian Art*: Exploring the discourses on Iranian art and architecture in the early 20th century,” at the symposium, *Historiography and Ideology: Writing the history of the Ottoman architectural heritage*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. May 2006.

“The Map,” panelist for *Arts of the Islamic World*, International Asian Art Fair, New York. April 2006.

“Rediscovering Islamic Art: Calligraphy and the miniature tradition in contemporary Pakistan,” *Brown Bag Lecture Series*, Middle East Institute, Columbia University. March 2006.

“Writing Gender and Architecture: Women at the shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar at Sehwan, Pakistan,” University Seminar on South Asia, Columbia University; South Asian Women’s Creative Collective, New York City. March 2005.

“Ruins of Empire: William Hodges and the architectural landscape of Mughal India,” gallery talk, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, CT. March 2005.

“Kingship and Authority in early Safavid Painting: Lessons from the 1605 *Shahnama* of Firdawsi,” Workshop on *Majalis al-Ushhaq: Poetry, Painting and Biography*, Amherst College, Amherst, MA. Oct 2004.

“Representing Kingship in early Safavid Iran: ‘Abbas I and the 1605 *Shahnama* of Firdawsi,” *Fifth Biennial Conference of Iranian Studies*, Bethesda, Maryland. May 2004.

“Capture and Catharsis: Women at the shrine of Lal Shahbaz in Sehwan, Pakistan,” at the symposium *Sexualized Spaces: Harems in History and Imagination*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. May 2004.

Organizer, *Local Sites of Global Practice: Modernism in the Middle East*, symposium sponsored by the Yale

Center for International and Area Studies and the School of Architecture, Yale University, New Haven, CT. April 2003.

“Inspiration and Effect in the *Hamzanama* Manuscript,” guest speaker at the docents’ workshop for the exhibition, *The Adventures of Hamza*, Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York. October 2002.

“Mughal-Modern: A visual language of migration,” guest speaker at the exhibition *Painting over the Lines: Five Contemporary Artists from Pakistan*, IndoCenter for Art and Culture, New York. June 2002.

Chair, “Authorship in Architecture: Uncovering the Art and Craft of Building in Islamic Societies,” paper presentation, “Defining the Architect in early Safavid Iran: The case of Mirza Shah Husayn in Isfahan,” *College Art Association Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia. February 2002.

“Sites of Prayer and Poetry: Shrines in sixteenth-century Iran and India,” at the panel discussion, *Beyond 1001 Nights and September 11: Arab-Islamic Art and Culture*, Department for Near Languages and Cultures. October 2001.

“Translating Islamic Architecture: The legacy of the Aga Khan Program,” *International Conference of the American Collegiate Schools of Architecture*, Istanbul, Turkey. June 2001.

“The Historical Imagination: The place of mimesis in the study of Islamic architecture,” Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. March 2001.

“From Sufi Shrine to Imperial Icon: Safavid interventions at the mausoleum of Shaykh Safi al-din Ardabili in Iran,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. January 2001.

“The Sufi and the Shah: ‘Abbas I at the shrine of Shaykh Safi al-din Ardabili in Iran,” Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. November 2000.

“Its mortar mixed with the sweetness of life: Piety and sovereignty at the Safavid shrine of Shaykh Safi,” *Middle East Studies Associations Annual Meeting*, Chicago. December 1998.

“The Imperial Setting: Shah ‘Abbas I at the shrine of Shaykh Safi in Ardabil,” *Second Biennial Conference of Iranian Studies*, Bethesda, Maryland. May 1998.

“Transformations in early Safavid architecture at the Shrine of Shaykh Safi al-din Ishaq in Ardabil,” at the conference, *Art and Architecture of Safavid Iran*, British Museum, London. March 1998.

“Aspects of National Identity in the Art and Architecture of Post-Revolutionary Iran,” Committee on Iranian Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. April 1996.

“The Tomb of Ayatollah Khomeini: Religious Symbol and Political Icon,” *College Art Association Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, Texas. January 1995.

“The Miraj-i Muhammad and the Topography of the Heavens,” *North American Historians of Islamic Art Majlis* with the *College Art Association Annual Meeting*, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. February 1994.

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Chair, Council for Middle East Studies, Yale University (2017 - 2019).

Acting Chair, Council for Middle East Studies, Yale University (Spring 2012, Fall 2015).

A. YALE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Humanities Tenure and Promotion Committee (2023-2025) Yale

College Admissions Committee, 2022-)

Executive Committee, Graduate School of Arts and Science, (2020-2021)

Chair, Standard on Teaching and Learning, for the reaccreditation review by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) (2018 - 2019)

Chair, Committee on Teaching and Learning (2016 - 2018)

Committee on Art in Public Spaces (2016 - 2020)

320 York Planning Committee for the establishment of the Humanities Cluster (2015- 16)

Committee for the Redevelopment of the Hall of Graduate Studies (2014-15)

Search Committee for Timothy Dwight Master (2014-15)

Course of Study Committee (2011-12; F2012; 2013-14; 2014-15)

Arabic Program Review Committee (2012)

MacMillan Center: Grants Committee, Libby Rouse and Ganzfried Summer Grants (2007; 2012)

Council of Middle East Studies, Title VI Grant Proposal team (2010)

Tanner Lecture/Whitney Humanities Center Fellowship Committee (2008)

B. HISTORY OF ART

Chair, South Asian Art Search Committee (2023-2024)

Chair, Admissions Review Committee (2020-21)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, (2016 - 17)

Search Committee and Diversity Officer, South Asian Art History (2007, 2016-17)

Search Committee and Diversity Officer, Renaissance Art History (2010)

Search Committee, Chinese Art History (2012)

Search Committee, Modern Architecture (2013)

Graduate Admissions Committee (2007, 2008, 2020, 2023 - Diversity Recruitment Officer, 2026; 2012, 2015)

Promotions Committee (2014-15; 2015, 2018, 2021)

Graduate Fellowships Committee (2011-2012).

C. SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Search Committee, Balmori Chair in Landscape Architecture (2019-2020)

Graduate Admissions Committee (2025 ongoing)

Undergraduate Curriculum Planning

D. OTHER DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Search Committee, Associate Curator of Prints and Drawings, Yale Center for British Art (2021).

IranColloquium: Organizing and Steering Committee

History Department: Search Committee, Early Modern Islamic World (2008).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Platform: A digital forum for conversations about buildings, spaces, and landscapes.

Acquisitions and Publications (rotating) Editor, (2020 - present)

Iranian Studies Journal.

Associate Editor, (2021-2024)

International Journal of Middle East
Studies Editorial board member, 2014-2017.

International Society for Iranian Studies.

Board member, 2013-16.

Middle East Studies Association

Program committee, 2012.

MEMBERSHIP

College Art Association.

Historians of Islamic Art Association

Association for the Studies of Persianate Societies.

Society of Architectural Historians.

Renaissance Society of America,

American Council on Southern Asian Art.

French Interdisciplinary Group on Sindh (MIFS), CNRS, Paris.

AFFILIATIONS

Yale University

Board Member, Council on Middle East Studies.

Research Fellow, MacMillan Center.

Executive Committee, Council on South Asian Studies.

Fellow, Timothy Dwight College.

REVIEWER

Art Bulletin

Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visuals Culture of the Islamic World

Journal of Arabian Studies

The Sixteenth Century Journal

Social Identities Journal

Getty Foundation (Book Grants)

Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development (Artists' grants)

Social Science Research Council (Pre-doctoral grants)

Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK).