

Eiren L. Shea

A3258 Alumni Recitation Hall, 1226 Park St
 Grinnell, IA 50112
 (641) 269-4841
 sheaeire@grinnell.edu

POSITIONS HELD

2023- Associate Professor of Art History, Grinnell College.
 2016-23 Assistant Professor of Art History, Grinnell College.
 2022- Chair of East Asian Studies.

2011-13 Teaching Fellow, University of Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION

2016 Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations
 (Chinese Art History), Philadelphia, PA.
 Dissertation: "Fashioning Mongol Identity in China (c. 1200-1350)" (Committee: Nancy
 Steinhardt, Victor Mair, Renata Holod, Paul Cobb).

2011 M.A. University of Pennsylvania, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations.

2010 M.A. Sotheby's Institute of Art, East Asian Art History, London, U.K.
 Thesis: "A Franco-Chinese Painter in Context, Zhao Wuji and Theory, Poetry, and the
 Chinese Diaspora (1950-2009)."

2006 B.A. Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY.

Language Study

Inter University Program, Intensive Japanese Language Program, Yokohama, Japan
 (Summer 2012).

National Taiwan Normal University Mandarin Training Center, Taipei, Taiwan, three
 intensive summer sessions (2000, 2002, 20011) and a year of intensive study (2006-
 2007).

Technical Training

2014 Centre International d'Études des Textiles Anciens (CIETA), Textile Analysis Intensive
 Course (Part 1), Lyon, France, March 31-April 11, 2014.

2015 Centre International d'Études des Textiles Anciens (CIETA), Textile Analysis Intensive
 Course (Part 2), Lyon, France, March 23-April 3, 2015.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2023 With Patricia Blessing and Elizabeth Dospěl Williams. *Medieval Textiles
 across Eurasia, c. 300-1500*. Series: Elements in The Global Middle Ages, edited by
 Geraldine Heng and Susan J. Noakes. Cambridge University Press, 2023.

2020 *Mongol Court Dress, Identity Formation, and Global Exchange*. Series: Routledge Research in Art History, 2020. (Paperback: December 2021).

Reviews:

Kate Lingley, *CAA Reviews*, May 28, 2021:

<http://www.caareviews.org/reviews/3820#.YLZv4DZKhAc>

Lydia Caston, *Journal of Dress History*, Vol. 5, Issue 4, Early Autumn 2021: 126-129.

<https://dresshistorians.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Early-Autumn-2021-issue.pdf>

Nikolaos Vryzidis, *BYZANTIKA*, Vol. 36, 2020-2021: 445-448.

Refereed Articles in Journals and Edited Volumes

2021 “Intentional Identities: Liao Women’s Dress and Cultural and Political Power,” *Acta Via Serica*, Vol. 6, No. 2 December 2021: 37-60.

Winner of the Silk Road Prize 2021.

2021 “The Spread of Gold Thread in the Mongol Period,” *Journal of Song Yuan Studies* 50, 2021: 381-415.

2021 “Chinese Textiles in Mamluk Tombs: Maritime Trade and Cultural Exchange in the Fourteenth Century,” *The Seas and the Mobility of Islamic Art*. Edited by Radha Dalal, Sean Roberts, and Jochen Sokoly, 102-117. Yale University Press, 2021.

2018 “Textile as Traveler: The Transmission of Inscribed Robes across Asia in the Twelfth through Fourteenth Centuries.” *Arts Asiatiques*, Vol. 73, 2018: 97-112.

2018 “Painted Silks: Form and Production of Women’s Court Dress in the Mongol Empire.” *The Textile Museum Journal*, Vol. 45, 2018: 36-55.

2018 “The Mongol Cultural Legacy in East and Central Asia: The Early Ming and Timurid Courts.” *Ming Studies* [Asian Visual Culture], no. 78, September 2018: 32-56.

<https://tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0147037X.2018.1510151>.

Forthcoming:

“Yuan Court Dress and the Formation of a Global Mongol Aesthetic,” *Proceedings of The Mongols and Global History, Florence, Villa I Tatti, 10-11 December 2018*. Edited by Anne Dunlop. Harvard University Press.

Articles in Special Issues

2012 “The Chinese Elements of Zao Wou-ki’s Abstraction.” in *Modern Art Asia: Selected Papers, Issues 1-8*, Cambridge, 2012.

2012 “Representations of Tocharians in Buddhist Paintings,” in *Sino-Platonic Papers*, no. 228, 2012. *The Silk Roads in Time and Space: Migration, Motifs, and Material*. Edited by Victor Mair, http://www.sino-platonic.org/complete/spp228_silk_roads.pdf

Reference Articles

2022 “The Silk Roads,” in *SmartHistory*, August 19, 2022 <https://smarthistory.org/reframing-art-history/the-silk-roads/>

2022 “Portrait of Chabi (Yuan Dynasty, Mongol Empire)” in *SmartHistory*, June 8, 2022 <https://smarthistory.org/portrait-of-chabi/>

Forthcoming:

“The Mongol Empire and the Westward Spread of Luxury Silk Weaving,” in *Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of World Textiles Vol. 6: Trade and Industry*. Series editors: Janis Jefferies and Vivienne Richmond. Bloomsbury Press.

“Women’s Clothing in the Liao, Jin, and Yuan dynasties,” in *Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of World Textiles Vol. 8: Politics and Power*. Series editors: Janis Jefferies and Vivienne Richmond. Bloomsbury Press.

“Ceremonial Dress in the Mongol Empire,” in *Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of World Textiles Vol. 9: Sacred and Ceremonial*. Series editors: Janis Jefferies and Vivienne Richmond. Bloomsbury Press.

Book Reviews

- 2022 Review of Amanda Phillips, *Sea Change: Ottoman Textiles between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean*. *English Historical Review*, September 8, 2022; <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehr/ceac183>
- 2020 Review of BuYun Chen, *Empire of Style: Silk and Fashion in Tang China*. *NAN NÜ: Men, Women and Gender in China*, Vol. 22 (June 2020).
- 2018 Review of Luk Yu-Ping, *The Empress and the Heavenly Masters: A Study of the Ordination Scroll of Empress Zhang (1493)*. *Journal of Chinese Religions*, Vol. 46: 1 (2018), 86-88, DOI: 10.1080/0737769X.2018.1442690.
- 2016 “Mongol Art in Chinese Land.” [Review of Shane McCausland, *The Mongol Century*] *Books & Ideas*, 29 September 2016. <http://www.booksandideas.net/Mongol-Art-in-Chinese-Land.html>
- 2013 “The Weather Factor: Another Perspective on the Yuan and Ming Dynasties.” *Books & Ideas*, 17 January 2013 <http://www.booksandideas.net/The-Weather-Factor.html>

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

External:

- 2020 The Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies, research grant for the project “Textile Exchange between East Asia and the Mediterranean World in the Fourteenth Century.”
- 2019 The Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges (AALAC) funding, Faculty Workshop, “Creating the Global: Islamic and Asian Art History at Liberal Arts Colleges.”
- 2014-16 Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA), Ittleson Fellow, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 Marilyn A. Papp Graduate Scholarship Trust.
- 2013-14 Marilyn A. Papp Graduate Scholarship Trust.

2012-13 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Academic Year Fellowship (Japanese).

2012 FLAS Summer Fellowship (Japanese).

2011-12 FLAS Academic Year Fellowship (Mandarin Chinese).

Internal:

2023 Competitive Grant for Faculty Research, Grinnell College.

2021 Mellon Humanities in Action Grant for the redesign of the Introduction to Art History Course, Grinnell College.

2019 Competitive Grant for Faculty Research, Grinnell College.

2017 Small Grants for Domestic and International Collaboration, Center for the Humanities, Grinnell College.

2016 Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Research Spring 2016 Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2014 Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Research Summer 2014 Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2014 School of Arts and Sciences Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2013 W. Allyn Ricket Prize for Best Graduate Paper in Chinese Studies (East Asian Languages and Civilizations Department, University of Pennsylvania).

2013 School of Arts and Sciences Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2010-14 Benjamin Franklin Fellow, University of Pennsylvania.

2008 Sotheby's Institute of Art Open Scholarship.

RESEARCH RESIDENCIES/AFFILIATIONS

2015-18 Smithsonian Research Associate with the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Washington, D.C.

2015 China National Silk Museum, Textile Conservation Lab, Hangzhou, China.

2014 Abegg-Stiftung, Riggisberg, Switzerland.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY AND WORKSHOPS

2023 Great Chinggisid Crisis: History, Context, Aftermath, University of Bonn (Germany)
May 11-12, 2023.
Paper: "The Cloud Collar Abroad: Local Iterations of a Pan-Mongol Symbol of Power during and after the Mongol Period."

- 2023 Association for Art History, University College London, April 12, 2023
Paper: Gold, Jade, and Silk: Dress and Adornment of Local Elites in Northwest China during the Mongol Period
- 2023 Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Boston 16-19 March 2023
Paper: "Identity, Dress, and Mortuary Practices in Mongol China: The Wang Shixian Family Cemetery."
- 2023 Medieval Academy of America, Washington, D.C. 23-26 February 2023
Panel organizer: "New Approaches to Hunting Imagery and Objects in Medieval Central and East Asia."
Paper: Women and the Hunt during the Khitan and Mongol Periods.
- 2022 Rethinking the Wearable in the Middle Ages, Bard Graduate Center, New York 28-29 April 2022.
Paper: "Clothing the Khatun: Mongol Women's Dress and Political Power."
- 2022 Institute for Middle East Studies (IMES) Annual Conference - Interlaced: Power, Space, and the Textile Trade, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 8 April 2022.
Paper: "Women's Dress and Identity in the Mongol Empire."
- 2022 Korean Association for Mongolian Studies Conference, Seoul, South Korea, 25-26 March 2022.
Paper: "From *Nasīj* to *Panni Tartarici*: The Spread of Gold Textile Production during the Mongol Period."
- 2021 NYU China Project-Silsila Workshop on Islamicate materials from China, New York University, 19 November 2021.
Paper: "Quanzhou to Fustat: The Movement of Satin Damask in the Fourteenth Century."
- 2021 Medieval Academy of America, Indiana University Bloomington, 15-18 April 2021.
Paper: "Dressing the Part: Constructing Tatar/Mongol Identity at the Yuan Court."
- 2020 College Art Association (CAA), Chicago, 12-15 February 2020.
Paper: "Going Global: The Spread of Gold Thread Production in the Mongol Period (13th-14th centuries)."
- 2019 8th Biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Symposium on Islamic Art, *The Seas and the Mobility of Islamic Art*, Doha, Qatar, 7-9 November 2019.
Paper: "Chinese Textiles in Mamluk Tombs: Maritime Trade and Cultural Exchange in the Fourteenth Century."
- 2019 Association of Asian Studies (AAS), Denver, 21-24 March 2019.
Paper: "*Panni Tartarici* ("Tartar Cloths") and the Image of the Mongol Empire in Renaissance Italy."
- 2018 The Mongols and Global History, Villa I Tatti Center for Renaissance Studies, Florence, 10-11 December 2018.
Paper: "Yuan Court Dress and the Formation of a Global Mongol Aesthetic."

- 2017 Second Conference on Middle Period Chinese Humanities, University of Leiden, 14-17 September 2017.
Paper: “The Mongol Cultural Legacy in Early Ming China: Zhu Yuanzhang, Timur, and Material Exchange.”
- 2017 International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 3, 2017.
Panel co-organizer of “Other Materials: The Role of Art and Architecture in Identity Formation in North-East Asia, 5th-13th Centuries.”
Paper: “Imperial Hunting Garb and the Formation of Political Identity in Liao, Jin, and Yuan China.”
- 2016 Italy and China, Europe and East Asia: Centuries of Dialogue, University of Toronto, April 8, 2016.
Paper: “Weaving a Path from Beijing to Venice in the Footsteps of Marco Polo: Chinese Textiles and the Italian Renaissance.”
- 2016 Association of Asian Studies (AAS), Seattle, April 3, 2016.
Panel organizer: “Fashioning Status: Making meaning through Dress and Adornment across Asia.”
Paper: “Golden Geese and Silver Stags: Liao and Jin Hunting Robes.”
- 2016 Yale InterAsia Connections Conference, New Haven, February 26, 2016.
Paper: “Beyond Tirāz: The Transmission of Inscribed Textiles in East and West Asia (12th-14th centuries).”
- 2014 Mellon Chinese Object Study Workshop Conference, Freer and Sackler Galleries, November 20-21.
Paper: “The Cultural Contributions and Calligraphy of Yelü Chucai (1189-1244).”
- 2014 Mobility and Transformations: New Directions in the Study of the Mongol Empire, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, June 29-July 4, 2014.
Paper: “Khitān and Uighur Sources of Yuan Court Dress.”
- 2014 Middle Period China Conference, Harvard University, June 5-7, 2014.
Paper: “Depictions of Mongols and the Medieval Italian Imaginary (c. 1250-1348).”
- 2014 College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago, February 15, 2014.
Paper: “Hybrid Expressions: The Role of Dress in the Formation of a Mongol Aesthetic (1250-1350)” on panel Medieval Global Art History: China and Cross-Cultural Exchange, 500-1500.
- 2013 Chinese Object Study Workshop: Writing and Chinese Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, August 26-30, 2013.
- 2013 Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference, Harvard University, February 22-24, 2013.
Paper: “The Role of Textiles in Expressions of Political Power in the Yuan Dynasty (c. 1271-1368).”

- 2013 Columbia Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, Columbia University, February 15-17, 2013.
Paper: "Cultural Expressions of Power in the Liao Dynasty (c. 907-1125)."
- 2012 Mid-Atlantic Region Association of Asian Studies (MAR/AAS), West Chester University, November 2-4, 2013.
Panel organizer and chair of panel "Hybrid Space: Architecture Across Media"
Paper: "The Mosque of the Companions (Shengyousi/Masjid al-Ashab) in Quanzhou: Stylistic Origins and Context."
- 2011 Mid-Atlantic Region Association of Asian Studies (MAR/AAS), Princeton University, October 22, 2011.
Paper: "Representations of Mongol Textiles in Italian Paintings of the Trecento," on the panel "Cultural Exchange and Development in Chinese Art."

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

- 2021 "Authenticity and Imitation: The Spread of Gold Thread Making Techniques in the Mongol Period," Mongol Zoominar, Hebrew University, May 28, 2021.
- 2021 "Gold on the Move: The Mongol Impact on 13th and 14th Century Asian and Mediterranean Textile Production," Yale University History of Art Department Medieval/Renaissance Forum, April 2, 2021.
- 2021 "Hammered, Gilt, and Spun: Innovations in Gold Thread Technology during the Yuan dynasty," Hilary Term Late Medieval Seminar, Oxford University, January 26, 2021.
- 2019 "Mongol Textiles and the Italian Renaissance," Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute, Suitland, MD, September 4, 2019.
- 2018 "Pomp, Dress, and Circumstance: Robing at Khubilai's Court (1260-1294)," Mongol Studies Workshop, University of Washington, Seattle, April 6, 2018.
- 2016 "The Woven 14th Century: Methods and Approaches for the Study of Ilkhanid Textiles and Dress," Research in Progress Talks, Freer Gallery of Art and Sackler Gallery, Washington, D.C., May 18, 2016.
- 2016 "Textiles and Courtly Splendor in Yuan China (c. 1260-1368)," Center for the Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA), National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., January 14, 2016.
- 2016 "Fashioning Court Culture in Mongol Eurasia (13th-14th centuries)," the Textile Museum, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., January 9, 2016.
- 2015 "A Brief Overview of Mongol Dress and its Uighur, Khitan, and Jürchen Antecedents," China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou March 13, 2015.
- 2014 "10,000 Golden Robes: Fashion, Identity, and Power in Mongol Eurasia (c. 1206-1350)," Department of Fine Arts at the University of Hong Kong, November 4, 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Grinnell College, Assistant Professor (2016- present) :
 First-Year Tutorial: The Silk Road(s)
 First-Year Tutorial: Arts of the Silk Roads
 Introduction to Art History
 Arts and Visual Cultures of China
 The Global Mongol Century: In the Footsteps of Marco Polo
 Collecting the “Orient”
 Gender and Sexuality in East Asian Art
 Seminar in Art History
 Edo to Istanbul
 Exhibition Seminar

Mandarin Language Teacher, STARTALK, University of Pennsylvania, Summer 2013.

University of Pennsylvania, Teaching Fellow (2011-2013):
 Introduction to Classical Chinese Thought
 Gender and Sexuality in East Asia
 Introduction to Japanese Civilization
 Chinese Painting

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011-13 Slought Foundation, Translator for the Fairytale Project by Ai Weiwei, Philadelphia.

2007 National Palace Museum, Docent, Taipei, Taiwan.

SERVICE

External

Peer review referee:

Ars Orientalis

Journal of Chinese History

Journal of Song Yuan Studies

Mediterranean Historical Review

West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture

Internal

2022-23 Faculty Organizing Committee, Chair-elect, Grinnell College

2022- Chair, East Asian Studies Concentration, Grinnell College

2022- Rosenfield Program Committee, Grinnell College

2018, 2020-21 Faculty Organizing Committee Humanities Division Rep, Grinnell College

2018, 2020-21 Cultural Films Committee, Grinnell College

2016- Member of East Asian Studies Concentration, Grinnell College

2017-18 Faulconer Gallery Advisory Committee, Grinnell College

2017-18 Interim Art History Chair, Grinnell College

2017-18 Early Career Faculty and Staff (ECFS) Co-Organizer, Grinnell College

2011-13 East Asian Languages and Civilizations Graduate Colloquium organizer, University of Pennsylvania

LANGUAGES

French (Near native)
Mandarin Chinese (Fluent)
Classical Chinese (Advanced)
Japanese (Intermediate)
Spanish (Intermediate)
German (Intermediate Reading)
Italian (Intermediate Reading)
Persian (Basic)

AFFILIATIONS

Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
College Art Association (CAA)
Centre International d'Études des Textiles Anciens (CIETA)
Medieval Academy of America (MAA)
Society for Song, Yuan, and Conquest Dynasty Studies
Textile Society of America (TSA)