

Dr. Christiane Jacqueline Gruber
Assistant Professor of Islamic Art
Department of Art History, Indiana University
1201 E. Seventh St., Office 129
Bloomington, IN 47405-7509
Office Telephone: (812) 855-6714
E-mail: chgruber@indiana.edu

Education

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (Sept. 1998-August 2005): Ph.D., Islamic Art History, Department of the History of Art. Dissertation: "The Prophet Muhammad's Ascension (*Mirraj*) in Islamic Art and Literature, 1300-1600." Advisor: Dr. Renata Holod.

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (Dec. 2001): M.A., Islamic Architecture, Department of Art History. M.A. thesis: "The *Missiri* of Fréjus as Healing Memorial: the French Military and its Islamic Architecture (1928-1964)."

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (Sept. 1994- May 1998): B.A. *magna cum laude*, Department of Art and Archaeology, minors in French and Italian Languages & Literatures.

Fellowships and Grants (selected)

New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities, \$27,430 grant to complete my third book, *In Praise of the Prophet*, AY 2010-11

College of Arts & Humanities Institute Grant, Islamic Book Arts Symposium, March 2009

New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities, \$50,000 grant for an exhibition and scholarly volume of Indiana University's Islamic works on paper, Spring 2009

Senior Fellow, "Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: In Search of the Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions," Kunsthistorisches Institut/Max-Planck Foundation, Florence, Spring 2008

AIrS (American Institute of Iranian Studies), Senior Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Fall 2007

ARIT (American Research Institute in Turkey), Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Summer 2006

ARIT, Dissertation Fellowship, Spring-Summer 2005

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, Council on Library and Information Resources, 2003-4

Princeton University Library Visiting Fellowship, Fall 2003

ARCE (American Research Center in Egypt), dissertation grant, Summer 2003

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Fellowship, 2002-3

Grant, Council for the Promotion of Persian Language and Literature in North America, 2002

AIrS, Travel and Study Fellowship to Tehran, Iran, Fall 2000

Council on US-Arab Relations, Malcom Kerr Scholar to Tunisia, Summer 1993

Awards, Honors, and Prizes (selected)

Arnheim Visiting Professorship, Humboldt University, Berlin, Spring 2012

Outstanding Junior Faculty Award, given to 5 faculty at Indiana University (\$14,500 prize), 2010

Margaret B. Sevckenko Prize for Best Article on Islamic Art, College Art Association, 2006

“Excellence in Teaching” Award, International Studies, Indiana University, Spring 2006

Nominated for the Student Choice Awards for Outstanding Faculty Members, IU Alumni Association, Spring 2006

Dean’s Scholar, University of Pennsylvania (Spring 2002): awarded to top ten graduate students

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa of New Jersey at Princeton University, 1998

Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University: High Honors, 1998

Publications

Books

The Ilkhanid Book of Ascension: A Persian-Sunni Devotional Tale (London: I.B. Tauris and British Institute for Persian Studies, 2010), 256 pp.; included in *Tauris Academic Studies*.

The Timurid Book of Ascension (Mi‘rajnama): A Study of Text and Image in a Pan-Asian Context (Valencia, Spain: Patrimonio Ediciones in collaboration with the Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2008), bilingual English-Spanish, 450 pp.

Exhibition Catalogue

Selections of Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman Calligraphy: an online catalogue of 355 calligraphic specimens in the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. (Summer 2006), 375 pp. URL: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/intldl/apochtml/apochome.html>

Edited Volumes

The Prophet’s Ascension: Cross-Cultural Encounters with the Islamic Mi‘raj Tales: a collection of sixteen articles on the *mi‘raj* in literary and artistic traditions edited by myself and Frederick Colby (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010). Supported by an ILEX grant (\$6,000) to cover the cost of including 32 color plates.

The Islamic Manuscript Tradition: Ten Centuries of Book Arts in Indiana University Collections (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2009): a volume of eight articles on Islamic manuscripts and paintings; funded by a New Frontiers grant (\$20,000) and published with over one hundred color illustrations.

Journal Articles

- “Between Logos (*Kalima*) and Light (*Nur*): Representations of the Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Painting,” *Muqarnas* 26 (2009), 1-34.
- “The Writing is on the Wall: Mural Arts in Post-Revolutionary Iran,” *Persica* 22 (2008), 15-46.
- “The Keir *Miʿraj*: Islamic Storytelling and the Picturing of Tales in the Fifteenth Century,” *Central Eurasian Studies Review* 4/1 (February 2005), 35-39. Also available online at: http://cess.fas.harvard.edu/cesr/pdf/CESR_04_1.pdf
- “The Prophet Muhammad’s Ascension (*Miʿraj*) in Islamic Painting and Literature: Evidence from Cairo Collections,” *Bulletin of the American Research Center in Egypt* 185 (Summer 2004), 24-31.
- “L’Ascension (*Miʿraj*) du Prophète Mohammad dans la peinture et la littérature islamiques,” *Luqman: Annales des Presses Universitaires d’Iran* 39/1 (Fall & Winter 2003-4): 55-79.
- “The Form, Meaning, and Versatility of Islamic Architecture: Hassan Fathy’s *Dar al-Islam* Mosque Complex in Abiquiu, New Mexico” *Faith and Form: Journal of the Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art, and Architecture* 35/3 (Sept. 2001).

Articles in Books or Conference Proceedings

- “Introduction” (with F. Colby), in Gruber & Colby (eds.), *The Prophet’s Ascension* (2009).
- “The Ilkhanid *Miʿrajnama* of ca. 1317-35 as an Illustrated Sunni Prayer Manual.” Awarded Margaret B. Sevcenko Prize for Best Article on Islamic Art at the Annual CAA Conference, Feb. 2006, and included in Gruber & Colby (eds.), *The Prophet’s Ascension* (2009).
- “Introduction: Islamic Book Arts in Indiana University Collections,” in eadem (ed.), *The Islamic Manuscript Tradition* (2009).
- “A Pious Cure-All: The Ottoman Illustrated Prayer Manual in the Lilly Library,” in eadem (ed.), *The Islamic Manuscript Tradition* (2009).
- “Realabsenz: Gottesbilder in der Islamischen Kunst zwischen 1300 und 1600,” in *Das Bild Gottes in Judentum, Christentum und Islam*, eds. Eckhard Leuschner and Mark Hesslinger (Petersberg: Michael Imhof Verlag, 2009), 153-179.
- “Il viaggio del Profeta: Il Libro dell’Ascensione di Maometto,” *Alumina: Pagine Miniature* 24 (2009), 6-17; republished in German as “Die timuridische Handschrift *Himmelfahrt des Propheten Muhammad (Miʿraj-Nameh)*,” in *Taswir. Islamische Bildwelten und Moderne*, eds. Almut Bruckstein and Hendrik Budde (Berlin: Nicolai Verlag, 2009), 197-202.
- “Media/ting Conflict: Iranian Posters from the Iran-Iraq War (1980-88),” in *Crossing Cultures: Conflict, Migration. Convergence, Proceedings of the 32nd Congress of the International Committee of the History of Art*, ed. Jaynie Anderson (Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 2009), 710-715.
- “Jerusalem in the Visual Propaganda of Post-Revolutionary Iran,” in *Jerusalem: Idea and Reality*, eds. Suleiman Mourad and Tamar Mayer (London: Routledge, 2008), 168-197.

“Ottoman Coins,” *Kalenderhane in Istanbul*, ed. Cecil Striker, vol. 2 (Mainz: Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 2007). Transcription and editing of Arabic inscriptions of the Ottoman coins found in the Kalenderhane excavations in Istanbul.

“Seven Centuries of Illustrating the Prophet’s *Miʿraj*,” Preface to Ali Boozari, *A Miʿraj Album: Paintings of the Prophet’s Ascension in Lithographed Books* (Tehran: Imam ʿAli Museum, 2008).

“The Gulbenkian *Baharistan*: ʿAbd al-Aziz & the Bihzadian Tradition in 16th-Century Bukhara,” *Conferences Collected Essays 1: Kamal al-Din Bihzad* (Tehran: Iranian Academy of Arts, 2005), 255-287 (published in Persian).

Encyclopedia Entries

“*Meʿraj* ii. Illustrations,” in *Encyclopedia Iranica*, ed. Ehsan Yarshater (New York: Columbia University, 2008). See <http://www.iranica.com> for online entry.

“Divination,” in *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Joseph Meri (New York and London: Routledge, 2006), vol. 1 (of 2), 209-211.

Book Reviews:

“Review of Frederick Colby, *Narrating Muhammad’s Night Journey: Tracing the Development of the Ibn ‘Abbas Ascension Discourse* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2008),” *Journal of Religion and Literature* 41/3 (Autumn 2009), 139-142.

“Review of Sheila Blair, *Islamic Calligraphy* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006),” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 41 (2009), 486-487.

“Review of Robert Hillenbrand (ed.), *Shahnama: The Visual Language of the Persian Book of Kings* (Aldershot, England; and Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2004),” *Al-Masaq: Islam and the Medieval Mediterranean* 19 (March 2007), 74-77.

“Review of Linda Komaroff and Stefano Carboni (eds.), *The Legacy of Genghis Khan: Courtly Art and Culture in Western Asia, 1256-1353* (New York and New Haven: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Yale University Press, 2002),” *Journal of Asian Studies* 65/4 (November 2006), 817-819.

Translations of Articles into English:

E. Kühnel, “Die ʿAbbasidischen Lüsterfayencen,” in *Early Islamic Art and Architecture*, ed. Jonathan Bloom (London: Variorum Publications, 2002), 87-100.

A. H. Saleh, “Les Bédouins d’Égypte aux premiers siècles de l’Hégire,” in *Production and the Exploitation of Resources*, ed. Michael Morony (London: Variorum Publications, 2002), 83-114.

Accepted For Publication

Journal Articles:

“Institutionalizing Memory: The Central Martyrs’ Museum in Tehran,” in *Unburied Memories: Martyrs’ Grave Photographs and Funerary Memorial Objects*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad, special volume of *Visual Anthropology* (2011).

Articles in Books or Conference Proceedings:

“Strategic Strikes: War and Disaster in Mural Arts from Iran to America,” in *A Photographer’s Journey: The Landscape of 9/11*, eds. Edward Linenthal, Jonathan Hyman, and Christiane Gruber (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2011 or 2012).

“The ‘Restored’ Shi‘i *Mushaf* as Divine Guide?: The Practice of *Fal-i Qur’an* in the Safavid Period,” in *People of the Prophet’s House: Art, Architecture and Shi‘ism in the Islamic World*, ed. Fahmida Suleyman (London: Institute of Ismaili Studies, 2011 or 2012).

“When *Nubuvvat* Encounters *Valayat*: Safavid Paintings of the Prophet Muhammad’s *Mirraj*, ca. 1500-1550,” in *The Art and Material Culture of Iranian Shi‘ism: Iconography and Religious Devotion in Shi‘i Islam*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad (London: I.B. Tauris, 2010).

“The *Missiri* of Fréjus as Healing Memorial: the French Military and its Islamic Architecture (1928-1964),” in *Encounters in World Architecture*, eds. Paula Lupkin and Parker Taylor (London: Ashgate, 2010).

Encyclopedia Entries:

“The Footprint of the Prophet Muhammad,” in *Encyclopedia of Sacred Sites and Religious Icons*, eds. Dennis Spillman and Cynthia Clark Northrup (New York: Facts on File, 2010).

“al-Buraq,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, 3rd edition (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming).

Edited Volumes:

A Photographer’s Journey: The Landscape of 9/11, a volume of eight articles on the visual culture of 9/11, edited by Edward Linenthal, Jonathan Hyman, and myself. Under contract with University of Texas Press; to be published in September 2011.

Work in Progress

Books

In Praise of the Prophet: The Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Texts and Images: a scholarly study of images of Muhammad in Islamic traditions, to be completed in 2012.

The Art of Martyrdom in Modern Iran: an ongoing study of various aspects of post-revolutionary Iranian visual culture linked to trauma and warfare.

Edited Volumes

Picturing Prophetic Knowledge: The Prophet Muhammad in Cross-Cultural Literary and Artistic Traditions: a collection of twenty-three articles edited by myself and Avinoam Shalem, to be submitted for publication in 2010.

Rhetoric of the Image: Visual Culture in Modern Muslim Contexts: a volume of fifteen articles on modern Islamic visual culture edited by myself and Sune Haugbolle, submitted to Indiana University Press in Fall 2010. Now undergoing external peer review.

Images of Children and Childhood in the Modern Middle East: a volume of articles on Islamic juvenalia edited by Pamela Karimi and myself (forthcoming).

Articles

“Prophetic Portraits: Muhammad in Modern Iranian Visual Culture,” in *Saint and Holy Portraits in Shia-Sunni Mausoleums and Saint Veneration*, ed. Pedram Khosronejad, special volume of *The Journal of Shia Islamic Studies* (forthcoming).

“Images of Muhammad *In and Out* of Modernity: The Curious Case of a 2008 Mural in Tehran,” in *Rhetoric of the Image*, eds. eadem & Sune Haugbolle (forthcoming).

“Of Beardless Youths, Stimulants, and Voyeurs: Modern Persian Erotica in the Kinsey Institute,” in *Images of Desire: On the Erotic and the Sensual in Islamic Art*, eds. Francesca Leoni and Mika Natif (London: Ashgate, 2012).

“A Singular *Safina*: The Qajar Illustrated ‘Book of Ascension’ in the Beinecke Library, Yale University,” *Festschrift in Honor of Charles Melville*, ed. Robert Hillenbrand (Leiden: Brill, 2011).

“A Prophet for Children: Iranian Illustrated Books on the Life of the Prophet Muhammad,” in *Images of Children and Childhood in the Modern Middle East*, eds. Pamela Karimi and myself (forthcoming).

Professional Experience

a. Teaching Experience

Associate Professor of Islamic Art, Department of Art History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (2011- onward).

Assistant Professor of Islamic Art, Department of Art History, Indiana University, Bloomington (2005-2011). Also Assistant Professor, International Studies; Adjunct Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures; and Adjunct Professor, Central Eurasian Studies.

Lecturer, College of General Studies, University of Pennsylvania, "Islamic Art through the Ages" (Spring 2002).

Docent Trainer, Islamic Galleries, Philadelphia Museum of Art (Fall 2001).

Teaching Assistant and WATU (Writing Across The University) Fellow for ARTH102: "European Art and Civilization after 1400," Dr. Christine Poggi, University of Pennsylvania (Spring 2001). Head T.A. for the same course, Spring 2002.

Lecturer, Philadelphia Museum of Art, "Introduction to Islamic Art" (March 2000).

President and trainer of the volunteer student guides at the Princeton Art Museum (1995-98).

b. Other Professional Activities

2010: Manuscript reviewer for *Medieval Encounters*.

2010: Committee Member, Margaret B. Sevcenko Prize for Best Article on Islamic Art, Historians of Islamic Art Association.

Spring 2008: Managing Director and Senior Fellow, "*Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: In Search of the Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions*," Kunsthistorisches Institut/Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Florence.

2008-9: Guest Curator, exhibition *From Pen to Printing Press: Ten Centuries of Islamic Books Arts*, IU Art Museum, Bloomington (March 6 to June 30, 2009); and faculty supervisor of the associated web exhibition: http://www.iub.edu/~iuam/online_modules/islamic_book_arts/.

2008-9: Member, ARIT Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowship Committee.

2008-2010: Museum Policy Committee, IU Art Museum, Bloomington, IN.

2008-9: Board member, SSRC-sponsored "Muslim Voices: Voices and Visions of Islam" program, Indiana University, Bloomington.

October 2007: Delegate, Soros Foundation & Academy of Sciences, Doshanbe, Tajikistan.

2007-2009: Elected ARIT Delegate-at-Large; consortial representative of Indiana University.

2007-2010: Elected Board Member, Historians of Islamic Art Association; and editor of its list serve, H-Islamart.

Spring 2007: Member, Mellon Doctoral Fellowship Selection Committee, Council on Library and Information Resources, Washington, D.C.

2004-5: Contractor, Library of Congress, Department of African and Middle Eastern Studies: responsible for measuring, organizing, researching, and identifying 355 Arabic-script calligraphic specimens; and author of the online catalogue.

1999-2002: Graduate Intern and Spotlight Lecturer, Philadelphia Museum of Art: responsible for the Islamic art collection and public spotlight tours.

1994-98: Assistant to the Publications Department, The Art Museum, Princeton University: tasks included label-making, check/ credit-card processing, data processing, press releases, temporary exhibition organization, editorial assistance, and help in arranging the Islamic art exhibit in the Medieval Art galleries.

Summer 1997: Undergraduate Intern at the Metropolitan Museum of Art: research assistant to Dr. Stefano Carboni, Curator, Department of Islamic Art. Worked on the *Kutubiyya Minbar* publication (research and translation), wrote labels for Fatimid objects in Gallery 2, and gave highlight tours and special topic tours (“Images of Paradise in Islamic Art”).

c. Assistant to Publications

Assistant to Stefano Carboni in researching and preparing his essay “The Historical and Artistic Significance of the Minbar from the Kutubiyya Mosque” *The Minbar from the Kutubiyya Mosque* (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1998).

The Art Museum, Princeton University, assistant for the exhibition and catalogue entitled *In Celebration: Works of Art from the Collections of Princeton Alumni and Friends of the Art Museum, Princeton University* (Princeton, 1997).

Courses Taught

A327/527- Introduction to Islamic Art and Architecture (undergraduate/graduate course)

A667- The History of Persian Painting (graduate seminar)

A667- From Pen to Paper: Islamic Codicology and Paleography (graduate seminar)

A667: The Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Texts and Images (graduate seminar)

A495: Modern Islamic Art and Visual Culture (graduate readings seminar)

A490- Ottoman Istanbul: From Imperial Capital to Modern Metropolis (undergraduate/graduate seminar; team-taught with H. Erdem Çıpa)

A499- Senior Honors Thesis, Honors Program, Department of the History of Art

I201- International Perspectives on Culture and the Arts (undergraduate course)

I400- International Studies Thesis Capstone Seminar (for senior undergraduate students)

E103- Sacred Places (humanities undergraduate course)

Theses Supervised

- Kate Burmon, Art History, IUB, " Plundering the Priceless: The Art Historical Consequences of Archaeological Looting in Iraq" Masters thesis, Fall 2009-present (second reader).
- Heather Coffey, Art History, IUB, "Joachim of Fiore and the Apocalyptic Impulse in Italy," Ph.D., dissertation, Fall 2005-present (second reader).
- Erin Devine, Art History, IUB, "From Translation to Transgression: The Feminism(s) of Shirin Neshat," Ph.D. dissertation, Fall 2009-present (second reader).
- Ashley Dimmig, Art History, IUB, "Storytelling and Silk: Safavid Figural Textiles and the Stories They Tell," Masters thesis, Fall 2008-present (first reader).
- Maria Domene-Danes, Art History, IUB, "Ghada Amer: Embroidering a Hybrid Word," Masters thesis, Summer 2010 (first reader).
- Yasemin Gencer, Art History, IUB, "Pushing Out Islam: Cartoons of the Reform Period in Turkey (1923-1930)," Ph.D. dissertation, Fall 2008-present (first reader).
- , Central Eurasian Studies, IUB, "Ibrahim Müteferrika and the Age of the Printed Manuscript," Masters thesis, Fall 2008 (second reader).
- , Art History, IUB, "The Cultural and Artistic History of Turkish Shadow Puppetry (*Karagöz*)," Senior Honors Thesis, Spring 2006 (first reader).
- Miki Morita, Central Eurasian Studies, IUB, "The Function of Ksitigarbha and the Ten Kings in the 11th-Century Xizhou Uighurs' Conversion to Buddhism," Masters thesis, Fall 2008 (second reader).
- Elizabeth Rauh, "The Art of Discontent: Iranian Street Artist A1One's Mural Arts and Digital Media," Art History, IUB, Masters thesis, Fall 2009-present (first reader).
- , Art History, IUB, "A1One: Street Art, Digital Media, and Protest in Contemporary Iran," Senior Honors Thesis, Fall 2008 (first reader).
- Sheida Riahi, Art History, IUB, "From Nursing Mother to Sufi Saint: The Holy Virgin in Mughal Painting," Masters thesis, Fall 2008-present (first reader).
- Jeannette Rooney, Art History, IUB, "Blurring the Distinction: 'Orientalism' and the Native American in Charles M. Russell's *Waiting and Mad*," Masters thesis, Spring 2007 (second reader).
- Christina Stigliani, Central Eurasian Studies, IUB, "Failed Martyrs on Screen: Veterans of the 'Sacred Defense' in Iranian Cinema," Masters thesis, Summer 2008 (second reader).

Conferences and Lectures (selected)

- “Prophetic Portraits: Muhammad in Modern Iranian Visual Culture,” workshop on *Saint and Holy Portraits in Shia-Sunni Mausoleums and Saint Veneration*, University of Saint Andrews, December 6, 2010.
- “Strategic Strikes: War and Disaster in Visual Culture from Iran to America,” Images Forum, Indiana University, Bloomington, November 5, 2010.
- “Real Absence: Picturing God in Islamic Art,” invited lecture, Museum of Islamic Art, Berlin, July 15, 2010.
- “Violence’s Vestiges: The Martyrs’ Museum in Tehran,” panel “Art and Violence,” chaired by Cary Levine and Philip Glahn, CAA conference, Chicago, February 10-13, 2010.
- “*Voir la Vie en Rose: Cosmic Florets and Sacred Visions in Islamic Art*,” at *Seeing the Past: Envisioning Islamic Art and Architecture*, conference in honor of Dr. Renata Holod, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, October 9-10, 2009.
- “Images of Muhammad *In and Out* of Modernity: The Curious Case of a 2008 Mural in Tehran,” Institute of Art History, University of Vienna, October 2, 2009.
- “The Rose of the Prophet: Interstitial Images of Muhammad in Islamic Art,” conference *Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: In Search of the Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions*, Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence, July 16-19, 2008.
- “The ‘Restored’ Shi‘i *Mushaf* as Divine Guide?: The Practice of *Fal-i Qur’an* in the Safavid Period,” international conference *People of the Prophet’s House: Art, Architecture and Shi‘ism in the Islamic World*, British Museum, London, March 27, 2009.
- “Real Absence: Picturing God in Islamic Art,” invited lecture, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, March 12, 2009.
- Two lectures on Islamic book arts delivered at the symposium *Islamic Book Arts: A One-Day Symposium*, Indiana University, Bloomington, March 7, 2009.
- “From Pen to Printing Press: Ten Centuries of Islamic Book Arts,” opening lecture for the exhibition (of the same name), IU Art Museum, Bloomington, March 6, 2009.
- “Of Beardless Youths, Stimulants, and Voyeurs: Modern Persian Erotica in the Kinsey Institute,” included on the panel *On the Sensuous and Erotic in Islamic Art*, chaired by Francesca Leoni (Rice University), CAA Conference, Los Angeles, February 25-28, 2009.
- “Modern Persian Erotica in the Kinsey Institute,” opening lecture for the show *Eros in Asia: Erotic Art from Iran to Japan*, the Kinsey Institute, Indiana University, February 20, 2009.
- “Real Absence: Picturing God in Islamic Art,” invited lecture, Denis Sinor Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies and Central Eurasian Studies Colloquium, Indiana University, Bloomington, February 4, 2009.
- “Real Absence: Picturing God in Islamic Art,” invited lecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, January 28, 2009.

- “Questioning the ‘Classical’ in Persian Painting: Models and Problems of Definition,” included on the panel *The Book Arts in Islam: Questioning Categories*, chaired by Emine Fetvaci (Boston University), MESA Conference, Washington D.C., November 22-25, 2008.
- “The Two Pens: Calligraphy and Marbling,” talk for a Turkish Calligraphy & Marbling Exhibit and Workshop (by Dr. Mehmet Refii Kileci), Mathers Museum, Indiana University, November 5, 2008.
- “Islamic Art and Calligraphy,” podcast for the SSRC-sponsored “Muslim Voices: Voices and Visions of Islam” program, Indiana University, Bloomington, October 27, 2008. See: <http://muslimvoices.org/muslim-islamic-art-calligraphy/>
- "The Power and Problem of the Image: Depictions of the Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Traditions," Colloquium “Religion and the Subversive,” Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Michigan, September 29, 2008.
- “Messianism as Municipal Matter in Post-Revolutionary Tehran,” included on the panel “Messianism, Kingship and Sacred Cities in the Islamic World,” chaired by Heather Ecker (Detroit Institute of Arts), *Historians of Islamic Art Biennial Symposium (I: Spaces & Visions)*, Philadelphia, October 16-18, 2008.
- “Return, Retribution, and Reward: Messianism as Municipal Matter in Post-Revolutionary Tehran,” CASAW Workshop, 'Studies of the City: Towards an Interdisciplinary and Trans-regional Approach', University of Manchester, September 5-6, 2008.
- “Ottoman Art and Architecture of the ‘Classical’ Period (ca. 1400-1600),” invited lecture, Princeton Institute of International and Transregional Studies, summer program in Istanbul, Koç University, Tuesday, July 29, 2008.
- “From Primordial Flux to the ‘Perfect Man’: The Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Texts and Images,” presented at *Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: The Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions. A Presentation of Work in Progress*, Kunsthistorisches Institut/ Max-Planck Foundation, Florence, May 22, 2008.
- “Logos, Light, and Veil: Depicting the Prophet Muhammad from 1300 to Today,” and “Confronting Other, Constructing Self: The Prophet Muhammad through European Eyes, 800-1900,” Detroit Institute of Arts, March 19 and March 20, 2008.
- “Memory, Identity, and Visual Culture: Mural Arts in Modern Iran,” research network "Memory, Trauma and Identity in Literary and Visual Representations in the Middle East," British *Society of Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES)*, Edinburgh, February 21, 2008.
- “Between Logos (*Kalima*) and Light (*Nur*): The Prophet Muhammad in Persian Textual and Visual Traditions,” invited lecture, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal, February 5, 2008.
- “Media/ting Conflict: Iranian Posters from the Iran-Iraq War (1980-88),” included on the panel “Art and War,” 32nd Congress of the International Committee of the History of Art (CIHA), Melbourne, Australia, January 13-18, 2008.
- "Notes from the Field: The Challenges of Conducting Research in Museums and Libraries in the Islamic World," Sponsors' Symposium, Council on Library and Information Resources, Washington, D.C., December 11, 2007.

- “Islamic Manuscripts and Digital Technology: New Methods and Possibilities,” Soros Foundation and Academy of Sciences, Doshanbe, Tajikistan, October 26, 2007.
- “Towards a History of Persian Painting: Models and Problems of Definition,” presented at conference *Persian Painting and Modern/Contemporary Iranian Painting: Continuity or Discontinuity?*, Imam ʿAli Museum, Tehran, Iran, 15-16 June 2007.
- “The Writing is on the Wall: Post-Revolutionary Murals in Tehran,” panel on the murals of Iran accompanying Fotini Christia’s exhibition *Walls of Martyrdom: Tehran’s Propaganda Murals*, Concourse Gallery, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard University, May 18, 2007 (exhibition: May 18-June 15, 2007).
- “Between Logos and Light: Depicting the Prophet Muhammad from 1300 to Today,” invited lecture, University of Wisconsin, Madison, May 8, 2007.
- “From Parchment to the Printing Press: Ten Centuries of the Islamic Manuscript Tradition in the Lilly Library,” Middle East Arts Festival, Indiana University, February 9, 2007.
- “A Sunni Prayer Manual of the Ilkhanid Period: The Anonymous *Miʿrajnama* dated 685/1286,” presented (in Persian) at the Research Center for The Written Tradition (Miras-e Maktub), Tehran, November 18, 2007. This talk and several personal interviews were broadcast on four television channels in Iran, December 20-30, 2006.
- “When *Nubuvvat* Encounters *Valayat*: Safavid Paintings of the Prophet Muhammad’s *Miʿraj*,” International Conference on Safavid Art, Iranian Academy of Arts, Tehran and Isfahan, December 10, 2006.
- “The Timurid *Miʿrajnama* at the Ottoman Court: The Role of Ekphrastic Commentary in the Transmission of Ascension Texts and Images,” included in the panel (organizer) “The Prophet Muhammad’s Ascension (*Miʿraj*) in Turkic Literary and Cultural Traditions,” MESA, Boston, November 19, 2006.
- “Images of Muhammad,” presented on the panel discussing the use of visual materials in the teaching of Islam, Middle East Medievalists roundtable, MESA, Boston, November 18, 2006 (delivered on my behalf by Suleiman Mourad)
- “The Passion of Ritual Theater: ʿAshura and Taʿziyeh Ceremonies in Modern Day Iran,” invited lecture, Smith College, Northampton, April 28, 2006.
- “Between Logos (*Kalima*) and Light (*Nur*): Depicting the Prophet Muhammad in Islamic Painting,” presented at the panel “Seeing Around the World: Visuality in Asia, Africa, Mesoamerica, and the Islamic World,” chaired by Tamara Sears and Deborah Stein, CAA Conference, Boston, February 23, 2006.
- “The Power of the Image: Depicting the Prophet Muhammad from ca. 1300 to Today,” Panel in response to the Muhammad Cartoon Controversy, Indiana University, February 21, 2006.
- “The Missiri of Fréjus as a Healing Memorial: the French Military and its Islamic Architecture (1928-56),” Middle East Arts Festival, Indiana University, February 8, 2006.
- “Teaching Prayers in Pictorial Form: the Case of the Ilkhanid *Miʿrajnama* of ca. 1317-35,” *Elective Affinities*, International Association for Word and Image Studies, Philadelphia, September 23, 2005.

- “Jerusalem in the Visual Propaganda of Modern Iran,” Conference on *The Idea of Jerusalem*, organized by Suleiman Mourad and Tamar Mayer, Middlebury College, April 2005.
- “The Ilkhanid *Miʿrajnama* (TSK H. 2154) as an Illustrated Prayer Book,” Conference in Honor of the Retirement of Filiz Çağman (Director, Topkapı Palace), Istanbul, February 7-10, 2005.
- “The Murals of Modern Tehran,” Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, March 16, 2004.
- “Texts and Images of the Prophet Muhammad’s Ascension in Iranian Collections,” Bilingual French/Persian lecture, Institut Français de Recherches en Iran, Tehran, January 28, 2004.
- “The Gulbenkian *Baharistan*: ʿAbd al-Aziz & the Bihzadian Tradition in 16th-Century Bukhara,” International Congress on Master Kamal al-Din Bihzad, Tehran, December 15-8, 2003.
- “The Keir *Miʿraj*: Islamic Storytelling and the Picturing of Tales in the Fifteenth Century,” presented at the panel “Seeing the Self, Seeing the Other” (discussant: Sheila Blair), Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) Conference, Harvard University, October 2-5, 2003. Paper received CESS conference’s Honorable Mention.
- “Les Textes et Manuscrits du *Miʿraj* du Prophète Mohammed,” invited lecture, Paris I/Sorbonne, January 29, 2003.
- “The ‘Missiri’ of Fréjus as Healing Memorial: the French Military and its Islamic Architecture (1928-1964),” presented at the panel “Modernity, Modernisms, and the Reception of African Art” (chair: Helen M. Shannon), CAA Conference, Philadelphia, February 22, 2002.

Conferences and Panels Organized or Chaired

- Discussant, panel “Images of Children and Childhood in the Modern Middle East,” organized by Pamela Karimi, MESA, San Diego, November 18-21, 2010.
- Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: In Search of the Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions*, convener of conference with papers by 30 distinguished scholars, Kunsthistorisches Institut/ Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Florence, July 16-19, 2008.
- Rhetoric of the Image: Visual Culture in Political Islam*: an international conference organized by myself and Sune Haugbolle, Copenhagen University, March 21-22, 2009.
- From Pen to Paper: Ten Centuries of the Islamic Manuscript Tradition*: organizer of a symposium on Islamic book arts, Indiana University Art Museum, March 7, 2009.
- Organized the conference *Crossing Boundaries, Creating Images: The Prophet Muhammad in Literary and Visual Traditions. A Presentation of Work in Progress*, Kunsthistorisches Institut/ Max-Planck Foundation, Florence, May 22, 2008.
- Chair, panel on Central Asian Art and Archaeology, 14th annual conference, Central Eurasian Students Association, Indiana University, Bloomington, March 31, 2007.
- Chair, discussant, and organizer of panel “New Approaches to Islamic Painting,” Midwest Art History Society, Indianapolis, March 28-31, 2007.
- Organizer, panel on Islamic Manuscripts in the Lilly Library, The Middle East Arts Festival, Indiana University, Bloomington, February 10, 2007.

Organizer, panel “The Prophet Muhammad’s Ascension (*Miʿraj*) in Turkic Literary and Cultural Traditions,” MESA, Boston, November 19, 2006.

Discussant at the panel co-organized with Frederick Colby: “Raising the Discourse to Another Level: Diverse Adaptations and Appropriations of the Prophet Muhammad’s Ascension,” American Academy of Religion, Washington D.C., November 18, 2006.

Organized a three-day workshop at the University of Pennsylvania on Arabic paleography and codicology with Dr. Adam Gacek, McGill University, Montréal, May 9-11, 2002.

Professional Affiliations

Member of: American Academy of Religion (AAR), American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIrS), Association for Modern and Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran, and Turkey (AMCA), American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), College Art Association (CAA), Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS), Comité International de l’Histoire de l’Art (CIHA), Historians of Islamic Art Association (HIAA), International Association for Word and Image Studies (IAWIS), Institut Français de Recherches en Iran (IFRI), research network "Memory, Trauma and Identity in Literary and Visual Representations in the Middle East," British Society of Middle Eastern Studies (BRISMES), Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA), Middle East Medievalists (MEM), Phi Beta Kappa, and The Islamic Manuscript Association (TIMA).