

Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography 2025-2027 Junior Fellows Biographical Information



TAYLOR HARE
Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of English, Baylor University

Taylor Hare is a Postdoctoral Fellow in English at Baylor University. He researches and teaches early modern Anglophone literature as well as the history of reading by touch, especially the nineteenth-century publication and circulation of tactile books designed for readers with visual disabilities. His first manuscript, *Tactile Renaissance*, brings these two interests together by describing how the work of early modern authors such as William Shakespeare and John Milton shaped tactile book culture. A second project, currently titled *Blindness and Bookmaking in the Nineteenth Century*, tells the stories of blind and low-vision bookmakers who worked in the first raised-letter presses.



JULIA HERNANDEZ
Curator
Beinecke Library, Yale University

Julia C. Hernández is an interdisciplinary scholar whose work bridges the fields of classics and Hispanic studies. With training in both areas, she specializes in the material history of ancient Greek—from its teaching to its translation to textual transmission—in the early modern Spanish-speaking world. Her research, curatorial work, and teaching explore the intersections of classics, early modernity, and U.S. Latinx identity through the lens of book history. She serves as associate editor of the international early modern Spanish theater journal *Bulletin of the Comediantes* and is a co-founder of the international scholarly society Hesperides: Classics in the Luso-Hispanic World.



JESSICA MODI
PhD Candidate
Department of English and African American Studies, Yale University

Jessica Marion Modi is a poet and a PhD candidate in English Literature and African American Studies at Yale University. She is writing a dissertation on Black poetry and print culture in the mid-20th century. Her work is published or forthcoming in *Trans Studies Quarterly* and *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*.



DOTNO POUNT

Lecturer

Department of East Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Dotno Pount received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 2023, where she wrote a dissertation on the medieval history of the Cult of Chinggis Khan under Prof. Chris Atwood's supervision. Her dissertation also includes a complete critical edition and translation into English of the *Altan Bichig*, which is the body of liturgies passed down in manuscripts by the Darkhad lineages of Ordos, the hereditary custodians of the Cult of Chinggis Khan. She is currently a Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Delaware, teaching courses about Mongolia, Inner Asia, and China.



CELIA RODRIGUEZ TEJUCA

PhD Candidate

Department of Art History, Johns Hopkins University

Celia Rodríguez Tejuca is a PhD candidate in the History of Art department at Johns Hopkins University, where she studies early modern Latin American art and material culture. Her dissertation, "From the Ground Up: Picturing Scientific Knowledge in the Late Eighteenth-Century Spanish Americas," reappraises scientific projects initiated by local communities in different colonial contexts of the Spanish Empire, evaluating how such productions engaged but also transformed the visual archive of Enlightenment science. Through her research, she aims to highlight the importance of non-European, and often marginalized, perspectives in bibliographic and cartographic history.



YEIDY ROSA

Lecturer

Department of Art History, Universidad de Puerto Rico

Yeidy Rosa is a Ph.D. candidate in History of Art and Architecture at Durham University, UK. Her research focuses on illustrated texts, critical methods, and the transpacific and transatlantic entanglements of art and the book. Her current scholarship applies social art historical methods to illustrated manuscripts and print books produced between 1500 and 1700 within transregional contexts and unequal power relations, namely Indigenous America, the Caribbean, and Asia. She holds an MA in Humanities and Social Thought from NYU and Columbia University, an MA in Social History of Art from the University of Leeds, and a BA in History of Art from Ohio State University.



HAMPTON SMITH
PhD Candidate
Department of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Hampton Smith is a Doctoral Candidate in the Department of History, Theory, and Criticism of Art and Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He works broadly on the art, material culture, and architecture in North America and the circum-Caribbean, particularly as they relate to histories of the environment, abolition, and the political economy in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. His dissertation—“Making against Slavery: Artisanry, Capitalism, and the Material History of Abolition”—combines humanistic and scientific research methods to chart how Black craftspeople’s artisanal knowledge was a means to collectively enact abolition inside and against racial capitalism.



LUCIEN SUN
PhD Candidate
Department of Art History, University of Chicago

Lucien Sun is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Art History at the University of Chicago. His dissertation investigates the dynamic relationship between regional space and the visual culture of southern Shanxi in north China under the Mongol rule in the thirteenth to fourteenth centuries. He is also interested in how text and image interact with particular book formats during the process of creating and reading, with a special focus on accordion-fold books in premodern China and comparative perspectives of this format from other cultures.



HUIQIAO YAO
Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of East Asian Religions, Trinity University

Huiqiao Yao is a postdoctoral teaching fellow at Trinity University. Her research examines how literature depicts religious figures across diverse genres amid the rise of print culture in late imperial China, and how these portrayals reshape understandings of the period’s cultural and religious landscapes. Her current book project, *The Sage and His Hagiographies: Writing Wang Yangming in Late Ming China*, explores the hagiographic reception of the renowned Confucian figure Wang Yangming (1472–1529) through multiple genres shaped by Ming book culture. She has taught courses on the intersections of book culture, literature, and religion, highlighting their broader intellectual and historical significance.



MINDI ZHANG
PhD Candidate
Department of History, University of California, Los Angeles

Mindi Zhang's doctoral research examines the transformation and continuity of Chinese book-collecting tradition in the early twentieth century, especially in the context of the institutionalization of Western-style libraries in China. He is interested in the process by which libraries incorporated late-imperial practices such as identifying book editions, cataloguing, and composing bibliographical annotations amidst the rapid intellectual, political, and technological changes of the period. With regard to the materiality of texts, Zhang explores how change in the technology of textual duplication from hand-copying to photography affected the ways texts were preserved and exchanged.