

Amara Solari
Departments of Art History and Anthropology
Pennsylvania State University
240 Borland Hall
University Park, PA 16801
als66@psu.edu
814.865.4883

Professional Positions

- 2010-present Associate Professor, Pennsylvania State University, Departments of Art History and Anthropology
- 2008-2010 Assistant Professor (tenure track), Oregon State University, Art Department
- 2007-2008 Assistant Professor (tenure track), State University of New York (SUNY), Binghamton, Department of Art History

Education

- PhD June 2007 University of California, Santa Barbara
Department of the History of Art and Architecture
Dissertation Title: "Maya Spatial Biographies in Communal Memory and Cosmic Time: The Franciscan Evangelical Campaign of Itzmal, Yucatán"
- MA March 2003 University of California, Santa Barbara (with honors and distinction)
Department of the History of Art and Architecture
Thesis Title: "'Lords of All Created Things: Aztec Political Ideology in the Collections of Motecuhzoma II'"
- BA May 2000 University of California, Berkeley (with honors)
Department of Anthropology and Department of Art History
Thesis Title: "The Tulum Murals of the Post-Classic: A study of Maya subjectivity as represented in the visual arts"

Publications: Books

- N/D Idolizing Mary: Maya-Catholic Icons in Yucatán, Mexico, 1550-1700 (under contract with Penn State Press)
- N/D The Maya: A Very Short Introduction, coauthored with Matthew Restall (under contract with Oxford University Press)

- N/D The Friar and the Maya: Bishop Diego de Landa and his *Relación de las cosas de Yucatán*, coauthored with Matthew Restall, John F. Chuchiak IV, and Traci Ardren (under contract with the University Press of Colorado)
- 2013 Maya Ideologies of the Sacred: The Transfiguration of Space in colonial Yucatan. Austin, TX: The University of Texas Press.
- 2011 2012 and the End of the World: The Western Roots of the Maya Apocalypse. Coauthored with Matthew Restall. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.

Publications: Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- 2016 “The ‘Contagious Stench’ of Idolatry: The Rhetoric of Epidemic Disease and Sacreligious Acts in Colonial New Spain.” *The Hispanic America Historical Review* 96:3 (August 2016): 481–515.
- 2014 “Plaza, Atrium, and Maya Social Memory in Sixteenth-Century Itzmal.” In Mesoamerican Plazas: Arenas of Community and Power. Edited by Kenichiro Tsukamoto and Takeshi Inomata. Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 193–209.
- 2010 “Circles of Creation: The ‘invention’ of Maya cartography in early colonial Yucatan,” *The Art Bulletin* XCII: 3 (September 2010): 154-168.
- 2010 “Reinterpreting Sacrality Among the Classic Maya: Recent works on the deified nature of geography, rulership and death,” *Ethnohistory* 57:3, (July 2010): 467-470.
- 2009 “The *Relación Geográfica* Map of Tabasco: Hybrid cartography and integrative knowledge systems in sixteenth-century New Spain,” *Terrae Incognitae* 41 (Spring, 2009): 62-89.
- 2007 “Lords of All Created Things: Aztec political ideology in the collections of Motecuhzoma II.” In Orientes–Occidentales. El arte y la mirada del otro. Mexico: Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma, 239-260.

Publications: Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries

- 2016 Barbara Mundy, The Death of Tenochtitlan and the Birth of Mexico City. Austin: The University of Texas Press, 2015. In *The Art Bulletin*. Forthcoming.
- 2016 “Bishop Diego de Landa and the *Relación de las cosas de Yucatán*,” coauthored with Matthew Restall. In The Encyclopedia of the Ancient Maya. Edited by Walter R. T. Witschey. Palo Alto, CA: AltaMira Press.

- 2015 Miguel Bretos. La Catedral de Mérida. México: Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, 2013. In *The Americas* 72:4. 664–665
- 2013 Joanne Pillsbury, Miriam Doutriaux, Reiko Ishihara-Brito, and Alexandre Tokovinine, Eds. Ancient Maya Art at Dumbarton Oaks. Washington D.C: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection and Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2012. In *Ethnohistory*, 61:1. 212-213.
- 2013 Megan E. O’Neil. Engaging Ancient Maya Sculpture at Piedras Negras, Guatemala. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2013. In *Ethnohistory* 60:4. 784-786.
- 2012 Elizabeth Graham. Maya Christians and Their Churches in Sixteenth-Century Belize. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2011. In *Colonial Latin American Review* 22:1. 148-149.
- 2011 Susan Toby Evans, Ed., Ancient Mexican Art at Dumbarton Oaks: Central Highlands, Southwestern Highlands, Gulf Lowlands. Washington D.C and Cambridge: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection and Harvard University Press, 2010. In *Ethnohistory* 59:1. 201-202.
- 2011 Eduardo de J. Douglas, In the Palace of Nezahualcoyotl: Painting Manuscripts, Writing the Pre-Hispanic Past in Early-Colonial-Period Tetzaco, Mexico, Austin: University of Texas Press, 2010. In *American Anthropologist* 113:1. 668-669.

Work in Progress

Seeing Malinche: Visuality and the Production of Historical Memory in Mexico, 1519-2019, book length project

Fellowships and Awards

- 2015 Penn State Department of Art History award from the George Dewey and Mary J. Krumine Endowment
- 2014 Penn State Institute for Arts and Humanities Residential Fellowship for Fall 2015
- 2014 Library of Congress Long Term Kislak Fellowship at the Kluge Center, Washington, DC (declined)
- 2013 National Endowment for the Humanities Long Term Fellowship at the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island

- 2013 Penn State Department of Art History award from the George Dewey and Mary J. Krumine Endowment
- 2013 Penn State Institute for Arts and Humanities Residential Fellowship for Spring 2014 (declined)
- 2013 Penn State College of Arts and Architecture Faculty Research Grant
- 2011 Penn State Department of Art History award from the George Dewey and Mary J. Krumine Endowment
- 2009 Oregon State University Research Office, Faculty Release Time
- 2008 Oregon State University Library Research Travel Grant
- 2005 UC MEXUS Dissertation Research Grant
- 2005 University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Division Humanities Research Assistant Dissertation Grant
- 2004 University of California, Santa Barbara Department of the History of Art and Architecture Dissertation Research Grant
- 2003 University of California, Santa Barbara Department of the History of Art and Architectural History Summer Research Grant
- 2003 University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Division Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant
- 2003 Margaret Mallory Award at the University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2000 Kroeber Prize at University of California, Berkeley

Conference Papers and Organized Panels

- 2015 "Mapping Indigenous Landscapes in North and South America," panel organized for the American Society for Ethnohistory annual meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, October
- 2015 "Broken Boundaries of Barbarity: The 1648 Yellow Fever epidemic and reconceptions of colonial space in Yucatán, New Spain," paper presented at the College Art Association annual meeting, New York, February

- 2013 Panel organized for the American Society for Ethnohistory annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, September
- 2013 “Landa’s *Relación* and his multivocal reading of Maya sacred space,” paper presented at the American Society for Ethnohistory annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, September
- 2013 “The Renegotiation of Maya Sacrality: The 1648 Yellow Fever Epidemic and the Virgin of Tabí,” paper presented at the Renaissance Society of America’s annual conference, San Diego, California, April
- 2013 “A Moveable Fiesta: Theorizing locative sacrality in seventeenth-century Yucatan,” paper presented at the Yucatan in Pennsylvania Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, March
- 2013 “What is Yucatecan about Yucatecan Art History?” panel organized for the College Art Association annual conference, New York, February
- 2013 “Maya Maps as a Colonial Cosmology: The Emergence of Cartographic Discourse in Early Colonial Yucatán,” paper presented at the American Historical Association’s annual conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, January
- 2012 “The Maya Apocalypse: 1562 or 2012?,” panel organized for the American Society for Ethnohistory annual conference, Springfield, Missouri, October
- 2012 “Diego de Landa as friar/architect,” presented at the International Congress of the Americas, July, panel organizer and speaker, July
- 2012 “The Virgin of Itzmal and the making of a peripatetic Marian icon,” presented at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April
- 2011 “Colonial Maya Urban Design as a Space of ‘Difference,’” presented to the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies annual conference, Santa Fe, April
- 2011 “2012 and the End of the World,” presented to the Yucatan in Pennsylvania Conference, The Pennsylvania State University, February; Invited Speaker
- 2008 “The Yucatec *Relaciones Geográficas* as Visual Interculture: Melchor Alfaro de Santa Cruz’s production of the ‘Mapa de Tabasco,’” presented at the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies annual conference, Dallas, April
- 2008 “From Chak Chan to Gaspar Antonio Xiu: Literary Forms and Secret Knowledge in Maya courtly communities” (with Gerardo Aldana), presented at the Society for American Archaeology annual conference, Vancouver, March

- 2006 “Mapping Myth: Colonial Cartography and the Yucatec Maya,” presented at the Graduate Student Symposium, University of California, Santa Barbara, May
- 2006 “Mapping Memory: Maya Cartography in Early Colonial Yucatan,” presented at UC MEXUS Symposium, University of California, Riverside, October
- 2003 “Lords of All Created Things:” Aztec political ideology in the collections of Motecuhzoma II,” presented at the Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma annual conference, *Orientes - Occidentales. El arte y la mirada del otro*, Vera Cruz (Mexico), November

Invited Lectures

- 2017 “Where the Streets Have no Name: Racialized Urbanism in Mérida, Yucatán,” presented at the Inaugural Penn State Latin American Studies Symposium and TePaske Seminar, *Early Urban Transatlanticism*, State College, Pennsylvania (April)
- 2017 “Andean Ceramics in the Palmer Museum of Art,” gallery talk at Penn State’s Palmer Museum of Art, State College, Pennsylvania (April)
- 2017 “Nineteenth-Century Bird’s Eye Views of Pennsylvanian Coal Towns,” gallery talk given at Penn State’s Earth and Mineral Science Museum with Jonathan Mathews, State College, Pennsylvania (April)
- 2016 “Cacao and the Maya: the Real Story,” paper to be presented at the Frontiers in Science and Technology for Cacao Quality, Productivity, and Sustainability, State College, Pennsylvania, June
- 2015 “Visual Rhetorics of Idolatry in Sixteenth-Century New Spain,” paper presented at Penn State’s Institute for Arts and Humanities, October
- 2014 “The Victorious Virgin: Diseased Divinity in 17th-Century Yucatán,” presented at Yale University, New Haven, CT, October
- 2014 “Our Moveable Mary of Mercy: Disease and Divinity in Seventeenth-Century Yucatán,” presented at the John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, Providence, RI, May
- 2013 “Myths and Misconceptions of the Ancient Maya,” presented at the University Club, State College PA, April
- 2012 “Maya Apocalypse: 2012 or 1562?” presented at The University of California, Santa Barbara, November

- 2011 “The Maya Apocalypse” presented to the anthropology, history and art history departments of Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburg, PA, November
- 2011 “Spicy Enough?: The History of Maya Chocolate, 1500-1800,” presented to Conference for Chocolate History and Health, The Pennsylvania State University, April
- 2010 “Maya Mapping as a Form of Colonial Cosmology,” presented to the Department of Art History, The Pennsylvania State University, March
- 2009 “The Interculturalization of Mexican Biombos,” presented to the Department of History and Religious Studies, The Pennsylvania State University, November
- 2008 “Circles of Creation: the invention of cartography in sixteenth-century Yucatan,” presented to the Department of Art, Oregon State University, April
- 2007 “The Mani Land Treaty Map: Recreating the cosmos by mapping spatial experience,” presented to the Department of Art History, Binghamton, February

Teaching

Undergraduate Courses (2007-17):

- Introduction to Western Art History
- Introduction to Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture
- Art and Empire: Aztec, Inca, Spanish
- Native American Art
- Art and Visuality in Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica
- Art of Colonial Latin America
- Art Historical Theory and Method
- Maya Art and Artists
- The History of Collecting Practices
- Anthropology and Art/ifacts
- Andean Ceramics in the Palmer Museum of Art

Graduate Seminars (2008-16):

- Spaces of Sacrality in the Ancient Americas
- Alternative Geographies: Cartography in the Early Modern World
- Idolatrous Worlds: Analyzing Materialized Sacrality in the Early Modern Atlantic Context

Graduate Student Committees

Committees of Currently Enrolled Students:

- Laurin Goad, PhD, Art History
- Janet Purdy, PhD, Art History
- Elissa Fergussen, PhD, Art History
- Laura Almeida, PhD, Art History
- Scott Cave, ABD/PhD, History
- Megan McDonie, PhD, History
- Samantha Billings, PhD, History
- Christopher Valasey, PhD, History
- Kate Godfrey, PhD, History
- Scott Doebler, PhD, History

Committees of Graduated Students:

- Leisa Rothlisberger, Comparative Literature, PhD, “NAFTA Culture: Trade Policy and Cultural Exchange in the Global Era,” May 2012
- Aisling McIntyre, MA, History, May 2013
- Timothy Betz, MA, Art History, “The Artist and the Friar: Botticelli, Savonarola, and the Business of Art,” May 2013
- Spencer Delbridge, PhD, History, “Mexican Genesis: Religion, Race, and the Politics of Origins in Nineteenth-Century Yucatán,” August 2013
- Lorena Cuya, *Chasing Peruvian Migration, Towards an Aesthetic*, Spanish, August 2013
- Gretta S. Tritz, PhD, Art History, “Exchanges of the Midwest: Re-inscribing Eclecticism in the Nineteenth-Century City and Region,” May 2015
- Felicity Good, MA, Art History, “The Eyckian Origin of Quentin Metsys' The Moneylender and His Wife: Issues of Reception and Meaning,” May 2015
- Rebekah Martin, ABD/PhD, History, “Ritual Medicine in a Colonial Society: Inquisitional Encounters in Yucatán, 1620-1820,” April 2016 (served as co-adviser)
- Catherine Popovici, MA, Art History (served as adviser)
- Angélica María Sánchez Barona, MA, Art History (served as co-adviser)

Languages

- Spanish (contemporary spoken well & read, sixteenth-century paleography, read well)
- Yucatec Mayan (colonial alphabetic read well)
- French (spoken & read moderately well)

Service to the Profession

- Article reviews for “Ancient Mesoamerica,” “The Art Bulletin,” “Ethnohistory,” “American Anthropologist,” “Terrae Incognitae,” “Konsthistorisk tidskrift,” “Imago Mundi” (2008-present)
- Book Manuscript blind reviews for Pennsylvania State University Press (2015) The University of Colorado Press (2014), Ashgate (2014), John Wiley and Sons (2011), McGraw Hill (2007)
- Advisory Member of the Center for the Study of Material and Visual Cultures of Religion at Yale University
- Contributing author/editor to *The Mapas Project*, an international project to digitize and study colonial Mesoamerican pictorial manuscripts, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the University of Oregon’s Center for the Study of Women in Society (2008-present)

University Service (College and Department)

- Interim Director of the Committee for Early Modern Studies, The Colleges of Liberal Arts and Art and Architecture, PSU (2015-2016)
- Member of the Pennsylvania State University Press Editorial Board (2015-2018)
- Committee Member, College of Arts and Architecture Promotion and Tenure Committee, PSU (2015-2017)
- Chair Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Art History, PSU (2015-present)
- Latin America Studies Steering Committee, The College of the Liberal Arts, PSU (2014-present)
- Latin American Studies Website Design Committee, The College of the Liberal Arts, PSU (2014-present)
- Committee for Faculty Development, Department of Art History, PSU (2014-present)
- Committee on Research and Creativity, The College of Arts and Architecture, PSU (2014-2014)
- Undergraduate Academic Advising, Department of Art History, PSU (2010-present)
- Faculty honors adviser for the Schreyer Honors College, PSU (2012-present)
- Committee for Graduate Programs, Department of Art History, PSU (2014-2015)
- Committee for Early Modern Studies Steering Committee, The Colleges of Liberal Arts and Art and Architecture, PSU (2014-2015)
- Faculty adviser to the Undergraduate Art History Club, PSU (2012-2013)
- Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Art History, PSU (2011-2013)
- Faculty adviser to the Graduate Student Association for Visual Culture, PSU (2012-2013)

- Committee on Scholarships and Awards, The College of Arts and Architecture, PSU (2011-2013)
- Research Council, The College of Arts and Architecture, PSU (2010-2011)
- Visiting Artists and Scholars Committee, Department of Art, OSU (2008-10)
- Scholarship Committee, Department of Art, OSU (2008-09)

Professional Memberships

- College Art Association, 2003-present
- American Society for Ethnohistory, 2008-present
- Association of Latin American Art, 2009-present
- Renaissance Society of America, 2011-present
- American Historical Association, 2012-present

April 2017