

**EDUCATION**

**Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation**, Winterthur, DE  
M.S./Certificate in Art Conservation, objects major – August 2003

**Rice University**, Houston, TX  
B.A. Art/Art History and Linguistics, cum laude – May 1997

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**EXPERIENCE****1/05 - Present: Freelance Conservator****Lara Kaplan Objects Conservation, LLC – Baltimore, MD**

Working as an independent conservator for institutions, galleries, and private individuals. Services include examination, treatment, surveying, art historical research, testing (microchemical spot testing and sampling for TL analysis), and consultation on storage, transportation, and exhibition of art and artifacts. See attached Addendum for a list of institutional clients.

**8/06 - Present: Adjunct Faculty****Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation – Winterthur, DE**

Supervising 2nd- and 3rd-year graduate students majoring in objects conservation.

**1/13 – 5/13: Adjunct Faculty****Corcoran College of Art and Design – Washington, DC**

Taught a semester-long class on the basics of conservation and art handling to students in the Corcoran's Master of Arts in Exhibition Design Program.

**1/08 - 12/09: Adjunct Professor in Museum Studies****Towson University – Towson MD**

Developed and taught a semester-long course on the care and handling of museum objects.

**9/03 - 12/04: Post-Graduate Mellon Fellow****National Museum of the American Indian, Cultural Resources Center (CRC) – Suitland, MD**

Performed conservation activities associated with the Museum's 2004 opening on the National Mall and a 2005 exhibit on Northwest Coast materials.

**9/02 - 8/03: 3rd-Year Conservation Graduate Intern****Arizona State Museum, University of AZ (ASM)/National Park Service Western Archeological and Conservation Center (WACC) – Tucson, AZ**

At ASM, conserved art and artifacts from the U.S. Southwest, Mexico, Brazil, and Africa. At WACC, rehoused repository collections in preparation for a move to a new storage facility and examined, analyzed, and documented a collection of unstable 19th c. archaeological iron and copper artifacts.

**6/02 - 8/02: 2nd-Year Conservation Graduate Summer Intern****The Sheldon Jackson Museum – Sitka, AK**

Conserved a late 19th c. Athabascan birch bark canoe.

**6/01 - 8/01: 1st-year Conservation Graduate Summer Intern****The Frick Collection – New York, NY**

Assisted with a condition survey of 16th -17th c. Limoges enamels. Also conserved fine and decorative arts objects from the permanent collection, including a 15th century German master clock and a life-size terracotta sculpture of Diana by Houdin.

**2/99 - 1/00, 1/00 - 2/01 Architectural Technician**

**National Park Service Washington Monument Restoration Project – Washington, DC**

Performed conservation treatments on the 193 historic commemorative stone tablets within the Monument.

**6/99 - 8/99: Conservation Contractor**

**National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution – Washington, DC**

Performed initial treatments on a series of four reinforced concrete screens by Nigerian folk artist Adebisi Akanji.

**8/98 - 1/99: Conservation Volunteer**

**The Walters Art Museum – Baltimore, MD**

Assisted with the de-installation and cleaning of a series of Egyptian granite reliefs as part of the Museum building's renovation; organized and reconstructed a collection of 10th c. Byzantine tiles; tested exhibit materials; and took part in an ongoing review and organization of the lab's extensive treatment records.

**6/97 - 9/97: Pre-Program Conservation Intern**

**Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute, Museum Support Center – Suitland, MD**

Participated in the ongoing conservation of an 18th c. English japanned clock. Attended master-level classes in paper, paintings, and furniture conservation; textile stain removal; varnish; woodworking; and adhesives.

**6/93 - 8/93; 12/94 - 1/95: Conservation Volunteer**

**Smithsonian Institution Library Book Conservation Lab – Washington, DC**

Gained experience in the examination, cleaning, repair, and rehousing/storage of books, archival materials, and works on paper.

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## **OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

### *Training Courses Attended*

- **Optimizing Your Conservation Practice** – AIC, May 29, 2013
- **National NAGPRA Basics Training** – NPS, Nov 27, 2012
- **Mastering Inpainting** – AIC/NPS, May 21-25, 2012
- **Digital Photography 101 for Conservators** – FAIC, Apr 28-May 26, 2011
- **Mitigating Risks: Contracts and Insurance for Conservation** – FAIC, July 8-Aug 6, 2008
- **Professional Responsibility for Conservation** – FAIC, Aug 2-29, 2007
- **Assessing the Skin: Characterizing the Animal Source, Processing Method, and Deterioration of Museum and Library Objects** – AIC/Winterthur, Jun 25-27, 2007
- **Metals Conservation Summer Institute** – IMLS/Worcester Polytechnic Inst., May 27-Jun 7, 2006
- **Establishing a Conservation Practice** – FAIC, Jan 26-Feb 21, 2006
- **Conservation of Hurricane-Damaged Vernacular Houses** – Heritage Conservation Network, Jan 23-27, 2006
- **Adhesives For Conservation Workshop**, Sept 19-23, 2005
- **Laboratory Safety Training for SI Conservators and Research Scientists** – Smithsonian MCI, Nov 13, 2003
- **Spot Testing For Materials Characterization Workshop** – FAIC/Campbell Center, Oct 14-18, 2003
- **Niton XRF Spectrum Analyzer Manufacturer's Training Course** – Dec 11, 2002
- **Anglo-American Research at Pompeii Project** – Hunter College, NY/U of Bradford, UK, Jul-Aug, 1996

### *Other Professional Activities*

- **AIC Objects Specialty (OSG) Chair**, June 2012-June 2015
- **Grant Review Panelist** – National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions, 2010; 2012

### ***Publications***

- **"Stabilizing a Vision: The Investigation and Treatment of Southwestern Pottery at the Barnes Foundation,"** poster presented at the 2010 AIC annual meeting.
- **"The Conservation of Southwest Pueblo Ceramics at the Barnes Foundation"** Barnes Foundation Newsletter, Summer 2009.
- **"The Fight to Save Civil War Graffiti: Plaster Consolidation Tests at the Lockwood House, Harpers Ferry, West, Virginia,"** paper delivered at the 2007 AIC annual meeting, co-authored with J. Jacob.
- **"New Ideas for the Testing, Documentation, and Storage of Objects Previously Treated With Pesticides,"** paper delivered at the 2003 AIC annual meeting, co-authored with N. Odegaard, et al. *Objects Specialty Group Postprints*, v. 10, 2003: AIC 2004, 33-42.
- **"S.S. White to the Rescue: Salvaging Fire-Damaged Baskets with the S.S. White/Pennwalt Airabrasion Unit,"** poster presented at the 2003 AIC annual meeting, co-authored with N. Odegaard, et al. *Objects Specialty Group Postprints*, v. 10, 2003: AIC 2004, 215-225.
- **"Conservation Through Investigation: Uncovering the Story of a Japanese Ceremonial Doll,"** paper delivered at the 2002 AIC annual meeting. *The Textile Specialty Group Postprints* v. 12: AIC Textile Specialty Group 2002, 105-118.

### ***Grants and Awards***

- **FAIC Individual Professional Development Scholarship** – awarded to attend the AIC training workshop, Adhesives for Conservation, Sept. 2005.
- **Smithsonian Institution Pride Award** – given by the National Museum of the American Indian in recognition of work performed for the Museum's opening on the National Mall, 2004.
- **FAIC George Stout Memorial Fund** – awarded to attend the 31st AIC annual meeting, June 2003.
- **Dr. Edward and Elizabeth Goodman Rosenberg Travel Award** – a grant awarded by the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art conservation for travel to the Winterthur Analytical Laboratory to perform technical analysis on archeological metals, May 2003.
- **Italy in America Association's Summer Scholarship** – a competitive scholarship awarded to undergraduate students having completed intermediate Italian classes to study in Italy, May 1996.

### ***Professional Organizations***

- **American Institute of Conservation for Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)**, Professional Associate
- **International Institute of Conservation (IIC)**, Member
- **Washington Conservation Guild (WCG)**, Member
- **American Association of Museums (AAM)**, Member

### ***Special Skills***

- Skilled user of current Microsoft software (Word, PowerPoint, Access, Excel, FileMaker, etc.) and Adobe imaging programs (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, and Bridge) on Macintosh and PC operating systems; experience with AutoCAD design and documentation software.
- Expertise with photography and image processing, using film and digital cameras.
- Reading proficiency in Italian and French. Studied German, Spanish, and Hebrew at beginning level.

## **ADDENDUM**

### *Institutional Clients*

- Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore National Aquarium (Baltimore, MD)
- Baltimore Orioles (Baltimore, MD)
- Barnes Foundation (Merion, PA/Philadelphia PA)
- Brandywine River Museum (Chadds Ford, PA)
- Ft. Jackson Basic Combat Training Museum (Columbia, SC)
- Johns Hopkins Archeological Museum (Baltimore, MD)
- Ladew Topiary Gardens (Monkton, MD)
- Maryland Historical Society (Baltimore, MD)
- Maryland Science Center (Baltimore, MD)
- Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology (Santa Fe, NM)
- National Park Service Buildings Conservation Branch (Washington, DC)
- National Park Service Harpers Ferry Center (Shepherdstown)
- National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center (Frederick, MD)
- Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture (Baltimore, MD)
- Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Cultural Resources Center (Suitland, MD)
- Towson University Asian Arts and Culture Center (Towson, MD)
- Winterthur Museum and Country Estate (Winterthur, DE)