

**Aleca Le Blanc, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor of Latin American Art  
 Art History Department  
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**Education**

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Ph.D.	2011	Dept. of Art History, University of Southern California Visual Studies Graduate Certificate, University of Southern California
	Dissertation:	Tropical Modernisms: Art and Architecture in Rio de Janeiro in the 1950s
	Major Field:	Modern Art and Architecture of Brazil; Director, Dr. Nancy J. Troy
	Minor Field:	Colonial Latin American Art and Architecture, Dr. Megan O'Neil
M.A.	1996	Dept. of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University
B.A.	1994	History of Art and Architecture Dept., UC Santa Barbara

**Publications forthcoming, under review, or in preparation**

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*Concrete and Steel: Artists in Industrial Brazil*. Monographic study of post-war Brazilian visual culture. In preparation.

Commissioned book review of six exhibition catalogs. *Art Journal*. In preparation

- Lygia Clark : the Abandonment of Art, 1948-1988; Mira Schendel, Lygia Pape: Magnetized Space; Cold America: Geometric Abstraction in Latin America, 1934-1973; Concrete invention: Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, reflections on geometric abstraction from Latin America and its legacy; Hélio Oiticica: To Organize Delirium

*Making Art Concrete: Abstract Art from Argentina and Brazil in the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. (Los Angeles: Getty Publications, 2017). In press.

"Incendiary objects: An episodic history of the Museum de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro," in *Art Museums of Latin America: Structuring Representation*, eds Michele Greet and Gina Tarver. (Routledge Press, 2018).

**Publications**

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"Serpa, Portinari, Palatnik and Pedrosa; The Drama of an "Artistic Moment" in 1951 Rio de Janeiro." *Diálogo* (Contemporary Latino and Latin American Art Thematic Issue) Peer-reviewed journal. March 2017.

"The Disorder and Progress of Brazilian Visual Culture in 1959" in *Breathless Days, 1959-1960*, eds. Serge Guilbaut and John O'Brian, (Duke University Press, 2017). 2017

Exhibition review, *Lygia Clark: The Abandonment of Art*. The Museum of Modern art. Caareviews.com. November 2016

Encyclopedia entries, Grove Dictionary of Art. Oxford University Press, 2017.

- Rosângela Rennó. Online edition. Forthcoming
- Renata Lucas. Online edition. Forthcoming
- Hercules Barsotti. Print edition. Forthcoming

- Raimundo Colares. Print edition. Forthcoming

“Under Construction: Rio de Janeiro in 1959” in *Transatlantic Encounters: Avant-Garde Discourses in Spain and Latin America 1920–1970*, ed. Paula Barreiro López (Madrid: Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, 2015).

Managing editor, *Getty Research Journal*, Peer-reviewed scholarly journal

- Issue 6, February 2014
- Issue 7, February 2015

“Traveling through Time and Space: Calder in Brazil” in *Calder and Abstraction: From Avant-garde to Iconic*, ed. Stephanie Barron. (Los Angeles and New York: Los Angeles County Museum of Art and Prestel Publishing, 2013): 120-135

“Ciudad Universitaria de Caracas,” in *Art & Place; Site-specific Art of the Americas* (London: Phaidon, 2013); 286-287

“Church of Saint Francis of Assisi,” in *Art & Place; Site-specific Art of the Americas* (London: Phaidon, 2013): 300-301

“A Democratic Education for the Masses’: Ivan Serpa at the Museu de Arte Moderna,” in *Ivan Serpa: Pioneering Abstraction in Brazil* Exhibition catalogue. (New York: Dickinson, 2012): 9-21

“Palmeiras and Pilotis: Promoting Brazil with Modern Architecture.” *Third Text: Brazil special issue* (February 2012): 103-116.

“Building the Tropical World of Tomorrow: The Construction of Brasilidade at the 1939 New York World’s Fair.” *Hemisphere: Visual Cultures of the Americas 2* (Summer 2009): 26-45. Peer reviewed.

Book review of *The Infinite Line: Remaking Art after Modernism*, by Briony Fer, Published on *caa.reviews*, May 2006. <http://www.caareviews.org/reviews/841>

Reviews for *Art Nexus: Journal of Contemporary Latin American Art* on Carlos Garaicoa, Waltercio Caldas, Jesus Rafael Soto, Jaime Ruiz Otis, Alessandro Balteo Yazbeck and others (2005-2009)

“Lygia Clark, *Casulo*,” “Hélio Oiticica, *Relevo neoconcreto*,” “Jesús Rafael Soto, *Doble transparencia*,” in *Geometry of Hope: Latin American Abstract Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. Exhibition catalogue. (University of Texas, Austin, 2007) 151-153, 164-165, 181-183

“Chronology,” in *Beyond Geometry; Experiments in Form, 1940s-70s*. Exhibition catalogue. (New Haven and Los Angeles; MIT Press and LACMA, 2004)

### **Conferences, lectures and workshops**

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2017 University of Chicago, Latin American Studies Center  
Invited lecture: “The Material of Form: Concrete Art during the Second Industrial Revolution”

2017 Works-in-progress, Department lecture series. UCR History of Art

- 2016 Emerging Scholars Invited Lecture, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
“Art and Industry on Display in Rio de Janeiro”
- 2016 University of Pittsburgh, Symposium  
Living Histories of Contemporary Art; New Media between Latin American and New York  
in the 1960s-70s  
Public conversation with Lynn Zelevansky, Director of the Carnegie Museum of Art
- 2016 Brazilian Studies Association Annual Meeting, Providence Rhode Island  
Session: Reconstructing Complexity: Art in Brazil after World War II  
Paper: “The Agency of Artists at the *Salão Prêto e Branco*”
- 2016 Public conversation with Mexican artist Pedro Friedeberg, Riverside Art Museum
- 2015 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Juan  
Session: Negotiating Identity: The Art Museum in Latin America  
Paper: “Incendiary Objects: MAM-Rio and the Brazilian Government”
- 2015 Art Chat; Clarissa Tossin and Aleca Le Blanc, Museum of Latin American Art, Long Beach
- 2014 Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA Convening, Getty Foundation and Getty Research Institute  
Co-curator of The Material of Form: Industrialism and the Latin American Avant-garde
- 2014 UC Santa Barbara, Invited Alumni, Undergraduate Awards Department of Art History
- 2013 Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid  
Encuentros Transatlánticos: discursos vanguardistas en España y Latinoamérica  
Paper: “Under Construction: Calder at Rio de Janeiro’s Museu de Arte Moderna in 1959.”
- 2013 Getty Research Institute, Getty Conservation Institute and J.Paul Getty Museum  
Jackson Pollock, *Mural*, 1943  
Participant in private workshop on the conservation and history of Pollock’s 1943 painting
- 2012 Camille Graeser Lectures, Universität Zürich  
Transcultural Constructivism: International Contexts of Swiss *Konkrete Kunst*  
Paper: “Constructivist Forms + Industrial Materials; Brazilian Concrete art in the 1950s”
- 2012 Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles  
Writing the Art Histories of Brazil Workshop  
Paper: “Brazilian art and visual culture (1946-1964)”
- 2012 Universidade Federal de São Paulo and University of Zurich, São Paulo  
Historiographies of Art in Latin America: National Constructions, Reception, & Institutions  
Paper: “Alexander Calder’s *Asas Brasileiras*”
- 2012 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco  
Session: From Picture to City: Practices, Discourses and Institutions of Brazilian Art, 1950s  
Paper: “Designing the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro, 1950s”
- 2011 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York  
Session: Emerging Scholars Panel sponsored by the Association of Latin American Art  
Paper: “Concrete and Steel: Grupo Frente's exhibit of Concrete art at the Brazilian  
National Steelworks Company, 1956”

- 2010 Association of Latin American Art Triennial Conference, Los Angeles  
Paper: "'The Desire for a Progressive, Sensible and Modern Pattern of Living' at the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro, 1950s"  
Respondent: Constance Cortez, PhD.
- 2009 Hemispheres Annual Graduate Student Symposium, University of New Mexico  
Paper: "Building the Tropical World of Tomorrow: The Construction of *Brasilidade* at the 1939 New York World's Fair"
- 2007 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal  
Session: Contemporary Brazilian Art and Architecture: Aesthetics and Politics of Official Circuits and Alternative Venues  
Paper: "Art Education at the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro: Ivan Serpa's role in the evolution of the visual arts"
- 2007 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York  
Session: Visionary Leadership: Art, Politicians and the Image of a Nation"  
Paper: "Building the Tropical World of Tomorrow: The Construction of *Brasilidade* at the 1939 New York World's Fair"
- 2006 USC Art History Department, Los Angeles  
Paper: "Building the Tropical World of Tomorrow: The Construction of *Brasilidade* at the 1939 New York World's Fair"  
Respondent: Dr. Jonathan Reynolds
- 2005 Art Historians of Southern California Annual Meeting, Los Angeles  
Paper: "From the Coatroom to the Galleries: *Latin American Artists of the Twentieth Century* at the Museum of Modern Art"

### **Conferences and academic events organized**

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- 2017 The Birth of the Museum in Latin America, Getty Research Institute  
Co-organizer with Thomas W. Gaehtgens, Kim Richter, Elena Shtromberg
- 2016 Guest speaker, Dr. Amy Buono, The Global Nineteenth Century research group, Center for Ideas and Society
- 2016 Guest speaker, Dr. Isabel Plante, Art History and Latin American Studies at UCR
- 2014 Getty Research Institute, Getty Conservation Institute and J.Paul Getty Museum  
Jackson Pollock, *Mural*: Transition, Context, Afterlife  
Organizer and moderator of public symposium and study-day
- 2013 Getty Research Institute and Getty Foundation, Los Angeles  
Organizer: Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA Inaugural Public Symposium  
Session moderator: Trajectories in Academic Discourse of Latin American and Latino Art
- 2013 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York  
Session: Questioning Feminism in Latin America's Art Histories  
Co-chair with Dr. Harper Montgomery; Association of Latin American Art sponsored panel
- 2010 College Art Association Annual Meeting, Chicago  
Session: Representations of Brazil and Shifting Identities  
Co-chair with Dr. Elena Shtromberg

- 2006 USC Art History Department's 10th Annual Graduate Student Symposium  
Space Exploration Within and Beyond the Image  
Co-organizer with Dr. Rachel Middleman and Dr. Jason Hill
- 2002 Los Angeles County Museum of Art and City Gallery, Prague  
Co-chair *Beyond Geometry; Experiments in Form, 1940s-70s*

### **External Fellowships and Awards**

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- 2011 Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship for Contemporary and Modern Art Perspectives, Museum of Modern Art, New York (declined)
- 2010-2011 Jewel Gala, Friends of Fine Arts Fellowship, USC
- 2009 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2009 Richard E. Greenleaf Visiting Library Scholar Award, Latin American Studies Institute, University of New Mexico
- 2009-2010 Jewel Gala Scholarship, USC
- 2009 McClelland Memorial Scholarship, USC
- 2009 Visual Studies Graduate Program Travel Fellowship (New York), USC
- 2008 International Summer Field Research Award, Rio de Janeiro, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2008 Amy McClelland Fellowship, Field research in Rio de Janeiro, USC
- 2007 J. Paul Getty Memorial Scholarship, USC
- 2007 Visual Studies Graduate Program Travel Fellowship (New York), USC
- 2007 Art Historians of Southern California Travel Fellowship (New York)
- 2006 Fellow, International Museum Institute (Mexico City), USC
- 2006 Foreign Language Area Studies Scholarship (Brazil), Florida International University
- 2005-2006 Alma Mae Cook Scholarship, USC
- 2005 J. Paul Getty Memorial Scholarship (Brazil), USC
- 2004-2005 Amy McClelland Memorial Scholarship, USC

### **Teaching**

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#### **UC Riverside**

- Arts of Latin America, Lower Division Lecture
- Latin American Utopias, Upper Division Lecture
- The Art of Protest, Conceptual strategies in Latin America, Upper Division Lecture
- Topics in Brazilian Art and Architecture, Upper Division Lecture
- History of Collecting and Display of Latin American Art; Graduate Seminar

### **Curatorial experience**

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- 2017 Co-curator, Getty Museum  
*Making Art Concrete: Abstract Art from Argentina and Brazil in the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection.*
- 2012 Assistant Curator of Modern Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
*Alexander Calder and Abstraction*
- 1999 – 2004 Curatorial Assistant, Modern & Contemporary Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
*Beyond Geometry: Experiments in Form, 1940s-1970s*
- 1997 – 1999 Curatorial Assistant and Registrar, Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, New York

### Service

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- 2016 Consulting Editor, Grove Encyclopedia of Latin American Art and Architecture
- 2014 Review committee, Getty Research Institute Scholars Program
- 2013 Review committee, Getty Research Institute Scholars Program
- 2013 Review committee, Getty Research Institute Library Research Grants
- 2013 *RIHA Journal*, Getty Research Institute Local Editor
- 2013 Peer reviewer, *Journal of Surrealism and the Americas*, Latin America Issue
- 2010 Peer reviewer, *Rutgers's Art Review*, Vol. 27
- 2010 Peer reviewer, *Hemisphere: Visual Cultures of the Americas* 3
- 2004 – 2006 Program Coordinator, US National Committee for the History of Art in affiliation with the Comité International de l'Histoire d'Art, Los Angeles

### Professional Affiliations

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College Art Association; Association for Latin American Art; Latin American Studies Association; Brazilian Studies Association; Art Historians of Southern California