

Aleca Le Blanc, Ph.D.

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aleca.leblanc@ucr.edu**Education**

- Ph.D. 2011 Dept. of Art History, University of Southern California
Advisor: Nancy J. Troy
Tropical Modernisms: Art and Architecture in Rio de Janeiro in the 1950s
- M.A. 1996 Dept. of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University
- B.A. 1994 History of Art and Architecture Dept., UC Santa Barbara

Professional experience

- 2014—present Assistant Professor of Latin American Art, UC Riverside
- 2012—2014 Managing Editor *Getty Research Journal*
Research Specialist, Getty Research Institute
- 1999—2004 Curatorial Assistant, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- 1997—1999 Curatorial Assistant, Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, New York

Fellowships and awards

- 2022 University of California Regents Faculty Fellowship
- 2019 Fulbright Scholar, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2018 Hellman Foundation Fellow
- 2018 Academic Senate Omnibus Grant (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)
- 2015 Kress Foundation, Yale University Art Gallery and Conservation Center, Scholar-in-residence
- 2011 Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship for Contemporary and Modern Art, MoMA (declined)
- 2010 Jewel Gala, Friends of Fine Arts Fellowship, University of Southern California
- 2009 Outstanding Teaching Award, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, University of Southern California
- 2009 Greenleaf Visiting Scholar Award, Latin American Studies Institute, University of New Mexico
- 2009 Jewel Gala Scholarship, University of Southern California
- 2008 International Summer Field Research Award, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, University of Southern California
- 2008 Amy McClelland Fellowship, Field research in Rio de Janeiro, University of Southern California
- 2007 J. Paul Getty Memorial Scholarship, University of Southern California
- 2006 Foreign Language Area Studies Scholarship (Brazil), Florida International University
- 2005 Alma Mae Cook Scholarship, University of Southern California
- 2004 Amy McClelland Memorial Scholarship, University of Southern California

Selected Publications

Book chapters

"The Asterisk: Tomás Maldonado and Design at the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro," in *boa forma/gute form; brazilian design under the stimuli of concretism and the hfg-ulm school*. São Paulo, 2021

"A History of the Field," in *Purity Is a Myth: The Materiality of Concrete Art from Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay*. (Los Angeles: Getty Publications, 2021) pp. 263-277.

"Redesenhando a educação e reinventando a pesquisa: os artistas concretos e a segunda revolução industrial no Brasil" in *Encontros fundamentais – IAC 20 anos*. ed. Jacopo Vicente Crivelli. (São Paulo: ITAU publications, 2020) pp. 171-209.

"The Agency of Artists at the Salão Prêto e Branco," in *Arte concreta e vertentes construtivas: teoria, crítica e história da arte técnica*. (Belo Horizonte: Fino Traço Editora Ltda. 2020) pp 12-30.

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

"The Material of Form: How artists responded to the Second Industrial Revolution," in *Making Art Concrete: Abstract Art from Argentina and Brazil in the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. (Los Angeles: Getty Publications, 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)

"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 Sofía, 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

Journal articles

"The Reality of (Photographs of) Abstraction." Editorial comment, *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture*, 2020, Vol. 1, Number 4, 3-11.

"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). March 2017.

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

"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

Catalogues

"Lina Bo Bardi and Sesc Pompia: São Paulo, Brazil (1977)," in *World Architecture and Society: From Angkor Wat to One World Trade*. Ed Peter Bonfitto. World Architecture and Society. Santa Barbara, Calif.:ABC/CLIO, 2021

“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

“Lygia Clark, *Casulo*,” in *Geometry of Hope: Latin American Abstract Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. Exhibition catalogue. (UT, Austin, 2007) 151-153

“Hélio Oiticica, *Relevo neoconcreto*,” in *Geometry of Hope: Latin American Abstract Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. Exhibition catalogue. (UT, Austin, 2007) 164-165

“Jesús Rafael Soto, *Doble transparencia*,” in *Geometry of Hope: Latin American Abstract Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. Exhibition catalogue. (UT, Austin, 2007) 181-183

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

Book Reviews

Forming Abstraction: Art and Institutions in Postwar Brazil, by Adele Nelson; *Constructing Latin America: Architecture, Politics, and Race at the Museum of Modern Art*, by Patricio del Real; *Modernity for the Masses: Antonio Bonet’s Dreams for Buenos Aires*, by Ana María León; *Spatial Orders, Social Forms: Art and the City in Modern Brazil*, by Adrian Anagnost, *The Art Bulletin*, Volume 105, issue 3, 2023 (forthcoming)

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

Art criticism

Lygia Clark: The Abandonment of Art. The Museum of Modern art. *Caareviews.com*. November 2016 http://www.caareviews.org/reviews/2335#.WXkBFMaZO_B

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)

Encyclopedia entries

Grove Dictionary of Art entries. Oxford University Press, 2016-2021;
Lygia Pape, Rosângela Rennó, Renata Lucas, Hercules Barsotti, Raimundo Colares

Curatorial publications

Co-editor of *Making Art Concrete: Abstract Art from Argentina and Brazil in the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. (Los Angeles: Getty Publications, 2017). Exhibition catalogue.

Editorial assistant, *Beyond Geometry; Experiments in Form, 1940s-70s*. (New Haven and Los Angeles; MIT Press and LACMA, 2004)

Editorial

Book reviews editor, *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture*, UC Press
Vol. 1, issue 1 (2019) – Vol. 3, issue 3 (2021)

Managing editor, *Getty Research Journal*, Getty Publications
Issue 6, February 2014; Issue 7, February 2015

In progress

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

Selected public events

Conference talks

- 2018 College Art Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles.
Session: Reconsidering Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA
- 2017 University of California, Berkeley. Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present
Session: New Directions in Latin/o American Art: Projects from PST: LA/LA
- 2016 University of Pittsburgh, Art History and Latin American Studies Symposium
Living Histories of Contemporary Art; New Media Latin America & New York
- 2016 Brazilian Studies Association Annual Meeting, Providence Rhode Island
Session: Reconstructing Complexity: Art in Brazil after World War II
- 2015 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Juan
Session: Negotiating Identity: The Art Museum in Latin America
- 2014 Getty Foundation and Getty Research Institute
Curatorial presentation: Pacific Standard Time: Los Angeles/Latin America Convening
- 2013 Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid
Encuentros Transatlánticos: discursos vanguardistas en España y Latinoamérica
- 2012 Camille Graeser Lectures, Universität Zürich
Transcultural Constructivism: International Contexts of Swiss Konkrete Kunst
- 2012 Universidade Federal de São Paulo and University of Zurich, São Paulo
Historiographies of Art in Latin America: National Constructions, Reception, & Institutions
- 2012 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco
Session: From Picture to City: Practices, Discourses, and Institutions of Brazilian Art, 1950s
- 2011 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York
Session: Emerging Scholars Panel sponsored by the Association of Latin American Art
- 2007 Latin American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal
Contemporary Brazilian Art and Architecture: Aesthetics & Politics of Official Circuits
- 2007 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York
Session: Visionary Leadership: Art, Politicians, and the Image of a Nation"

Guest Lectures

- 2021 Institute for Studies on Latin American Art (ISLAA), Dialogues in Experimental Design
- 2021 Center for Ideas and Society, UCR, Discipline in Dialogue
Experiments in Utopia: Brasília 1960
- 2021 Kendall College of Art and Design, Ferris State University
Invited lecture: "When things look the same"
- 2018 University of Texas, Austin. Permanent Seminar in Latin American Art
Invited Seminarian.

- 2018 Museum of Modern Art, New York. Museum Research Consortium
Latin American Abstraction, Visiting scholar
- 2017 University of Chicago, Latin American Studies Center
Invited lecture: “The Material of Form: Concrete Art during the 2nd Industrial Revolution”
- 2016 University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Department of Art and Art History
Invited Lecture: “Art and Industry on Display in Rio de Janeiro”
- 2016 Public conversation with Mexican artist Pedro Friedeberg, Riverside Art Museum
- 2015 Public conversation with Brazilian artist Clarissa Tossin, Museum of Latin American Art
- 2014 UC Santa Barbara, Undergraduate Awards Department of Art History, Invited Alumni

Conferences and events organized

- 2017 The Birth of the Museum in Latin America, Getty Research Institute, Co-organizer with Thomas W. Gaehtgens, Kim Richter
- 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 Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA Inaugural Public Symposium, Getty Foundation, Los Angeles
- 2013 College Art Association Annual Meeting, New York, Co-chair Session: Questioning Feminism in Latin America’s Art Histories
- 2010 College Art Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Co-chair Session: Representations of Brazil and Shifting Identities

Curatorial experience

- 2014-2017 Co-curator *Making Art Concrete: Abstract Art from Argentina and Brazil in the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection*. Getty Museum, Los Angeles
- 2000-2004 Curatorial Assistant, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, *Beyond Geometry; Experiments in Form, 1940s-70s*.

Teaching

Courses developed

- Arts of Latin America, Lower Division Lecture, 2015
- Latin American Utopias, Upper Division Lecture, 2014
- The Art of Protest, Conceptual strategies in Latin America, Upper Division Lecture, 2017
- Topics in Brazilian Art and Architecture, Upper Division Lecture, 2018
- History of Collecting and Display of Latin American Art; Graduate Seminar, 2016
- Research, Critical Analysis and Research; Graduate Seminar, 2019

Advising

Primary advisor:

UC Riverside; 2 PhD candidates; 7 MA candidates; 2 Mellon-Mays fellows

External advisor:

Southern Methodist University; 1 PhD candidate, Art History

Universidade Federal do Minas Gerais; 2 PhD candidates, Preservation of Cultural Patrimony

UC Santa Barbara; 1 PhD candidate, Art History

Universitat Politècnica de València; 1 PhD candidate, Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Foreign Languages

Advanced speaking, reading, and writing proficiency, Spanish and Portuguese

Beginning speaking, reading, and writing proficiency, Italian