

Victoria L. Rovine

Professor, Department of Art and Art History Director, African Studies Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Department of Art and Art History
Hanes Art Center, CB# 3405. Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3405

EDUCATION

1998 Ph.D., History of Art. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
1991 M.A., History of Art. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
1986 B.A., Art. Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-2024 Director, African Studies Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2021-2022 Co-Director, African Studies Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2017- Professor of Art History, Department of Art and Art History,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2017- Adjunct Faculty, Department of African, African American, and Diaspora Studies
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2014-2017 Associate Professor of Art History, Department of Art and Art History,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2009-2014 Associate Professor, School of Art and Art History, Center for African Studies
(joint appointment), University of Florida
2009-2010 Head, Art History Area, University of Florida
2005-2009 Assistant Professor, School of Art and Art History, Center for African Studies
(joint appointment) University of Florida
1995–2004 Curator, Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas
University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa
Other appointments at the University of Iowa
2003-2004 25% Adjunct Faculty Appointment, Anthropology Department
2002-2004 Director, African Studies Program
2003-2004 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Museum Studies and International Studies
1999–2002 Visiting Assistant Professor Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa (1 course per year)

SELECTED AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

2023 Global Partnership Expansion Grant, for development of linkage with Université Cheikh
Anta Diop (Dakar) on behalf of UNC African Studies Center, UNC Global
2021 Nominee: Faculty Award for Excellence in Doctoral Mentoring, The Graduate School,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2020 Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction, University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2020 Faculty Fellowship, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2017 Clark Fellowship, The Clark Art Institute, Williamstown, MA
Research semester in residence.
- 2017 Schwab Academic Excellence Award, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, UNC at Chapel Hill
- 2013 College of Fine Arts, Teacher of the Year, University of Florida
- 2013 Millard Meiss Publication Fund Award, College Art Association. Subsidy to support publication of *African Fashion Global Style* by Indiana University Press
- 2012 Fine Arts Scholarship Enhancement Grant (UF) for research in Senegal, France, and the United Kingdom

PUBLICATIONS

Books

In Progress *Cloth Clothing Colonialism: Cultures of Cotton in France and French West Africa*

- 2015 *African Fashion Global Style: Histories, Innovations, and Ideas You Can Wear*
Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
Honorable Mention, Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award, Arts Council of the African Studies Association, 2017.
- 2008 *Bogolan: Shaping Culture Through Cloth in Contemporary Mali*
Republished with new preface, Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- 2001 *Bogolan: Shaping Culture Through Cloth in Contemporary Mali*
Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.
Honorable Mention, Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award, Arts Council of the African Studies Association, 2004

Selected Edited Journals, Editorial Service

- 2019 Guest editor, *African Arts*. Special issue, "African Visual Cultures and Colonial Histories: An Expanding Field" 52 #4.
- 2009 Guest editor, *Fashion Theory*. Special issue on African fashion. 13 #2.
- 2015- Co-organizer and editorial board member for University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill node, *African Arts* publication consortium (one of four institutional consortium members jointly publishing the leading journal in the field of African art history)

Selected Journal Articles

- 2022 "Behind the Mask: African Art History in a Pandemic Era," *African Arts* 55 #4: 1-2, 4-5.
- 2022 "Pith and Power: Colonial Style in France and French West Africa," *Journal of Material Culture* 27 #3: 1-33.
- 2019 "A Wider Loom?: French Colonial Preoccupations with West African Weaving," *African Arts*. 52 #4: 66-83.
- 2019 "African Visual Cultures and Colonial Histories: An Expanding Field" *African Arts* 52 #4: 12-17. (Introduction to special issue on colonial-era visual culture)
- 2018 "Adornment, Dress, and African Arts of the Body." In *Oxford Bibliographies in Art History*. Ed. Thomas DaCosta Kaufmann. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2017 Co-authored with Lisa Homann and Carol Magee, "Future Thinking: Propositions and Possibilities for African Art History," *African Arts* 50 #4: 1-2, 5.

- 2016 “Style Migrations: South-South Networks of African Fashion,” *ARTL@S Bulletin* 5 #2: 33-42.
(Peer-reviewed, transdisciplinary journal published by the École normale supérieure and the Centre national pour la recherche scientifique.)
- 2016 “STEAMed Up (or, A Defense of the Humanities through African Art History)” *African Arts* 49 #4: 1, 4.
- 2014 Co-authored with doctoral advisee Carlee Forbes, “First Word: Kongo Atlantic Dialogues,” *African Arts* 47 #3: 1, 4-5.
- 2011 “Continuity, Innovation, Fashion: Three Genres of Malian Embroidery,” *African Arts*, 44 #3: 14-23.
- 2010 “Un Podium sur les Bords du Niger: Le FIMA et l’avenir de la mode africaine,” also published in English “Runways in the Desert: FIMA and the Future of African Fashion,” *Africultures*, published online, 2/27/10.
<http://www.africultures.com/php/index.php?nav=article&no=9278>
- 2010 “L’Afrique est à la Mode: Un concours-tremplin pour la mode africaine,” *Africultures*, published online, 2/27/10.
<http://www.africultures.com/php/index.php?nav=article&no=9279>
- 2009 “Colonialism’s Clothing: Africa, France, and the Deployment of Fashion,” *Design Issues*, 25 #3: 44-61.
- 2009 “Viewing Africa through Fashion,” Introduction to special issue, *Fashion Theory*, 13 #2: 133-140.

Selected Book and Catalogue Chapters

- Accepted “African Menswear Design: Fashion-scapes and Dress Innovations” in *Handbook of Male Fashion*. Edited by José Blanco, Andrew Reilly, Benjamin Barry. Bristol, UK: Intellect Books.
- 2023 “Preamble à un extrait: le bogolan vingt ans plus tard” et “Le bogolan” in *Pathé O: Un Créateur de mode depuis 1971*. Edited by Pathé O., Flurina Rothenburger Hammer, Catherine Morand (Zürich: Éditions Patrick Frey, 2022): 173-180. Also published in English edition as “Preamble to an excerpt: Twenty years beyond bogolan” and “The bogolan” 169-177. Revised excerpt from *Bogolan: Shaping Culture through Cloth in Contemporary Mali* (2008).
- 2022 “Afterword: African Fashion, Cities, and the Modernity of Tradition” in *Fashioning the Afropolis: Histories, Materialities and Aesthetic Practices*. Edited by Kerstin Pinther, Kristin Kastner, Basile Ndjio. New York: Bloomsbury Publishing: 208-215.
- 2022 “Crafting Colonial Power: Weaving and Empire in France and Afrique Occidentale Française,” in *Rhapsodic Objects: Art, Agency, and Materiality (1700-2000)*. Edited by Yaëlle Biro and Noémie Étienne. Berlin: De Gruyter: 171-194.
- 2022 “Colonies and Clothing: The Uses of Fashion at the Intersection of France and West Africa,” in *Fashion, Performance, and Performativity*. Edited by Andrea Kollnitz and Marco Pecorari. London: I.B. Tauris/Bloomsbury, 2021: 115-132.
- 2020 “Colonial Time,” in *Time in Fashion: Industrial, Antilinear, and Uchronic Temporalities*. Edited by Caroline Evans and Alessandra Vaccari. New York: Bloomsbury, 2020: 92-95. [Reprinted section from *African Fashion Global Style: Histories, Innovations, and Ideas You Can Wear* Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2015].
- 2020 “Woven Beliefs: Textiles and Religious Practice in Africa,” in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Religion and Materiality*. Edited by Vasudha Narayanan. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell, 2020: 316-328.
- 2019 “Arrayed in Splendor: The View from Africa,” in *Arrayed in Splendor: Art, Fashion, and Textiles in Medieval and Early Modern Europe*. Edited by Christoph Brachmann. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols Publishers: 219-223.

- 2019 "African Fashion Design and the Mobilization of Tradition," in *A Companion to Contemporary Design Since 1945*. Edited by Anne Massey. West Sussex, UK: Wiley Blackwell: 91-110.
- 2017 "Cloth, Clothing, and Colonial Power: France and West Africa at the Expositions," in *Visual Typologies from the Early Modern to the Contemporary: Local Contexts and Global Practices*. Edited by Tara Zanardi and Lynda Klich. Burlington, VT: Ashgate: 214-228.
- 2017 "Woven, Stitched, Dyed, and Unconventional: Newark's African Textile Collection," in *Arts of Global Africa: The Newark Museum Collection*. (Newark: The Newark Museum): 106-115.
- 2017 "Networks of Threads: Africa, Textiles, and Routes of Exchange," in *Global Africa: Into the Twenty-First Century*. Edited by Dorothy L. Hodgson and Judith Byfield. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2016: 170-182.
- 2017 "Afterword: Cloth, Dress, and Drama," in *African Print Fashion Now! A Story of Taste, Globalization, and Style*. Eds. Suzanne Gott, Kristyne S. Loughran, Betsy D. Quick, Leslie W. Rabine. Los Angeles: Fowler Museum at UCLA. pp. 275-279.
- 2016 "History, Art, and Plastic Bags: Viewing South Africa through Fashion," in *Modern Fashion Traditions*. Edited by Angela Jansen and Jennifer Craik. London: Bloomsbury Press. pp. 165-184.
- 2015 "Textiles et Croyances: les tissus africains et les pratiques religieux," in *La Culture et la Religion en Afrique: perspectives pluridisciplinaires*. Edited by Issiaka Latoundji Lalèyè. pp. 51-64. Dakar, Senegal: Conseil pour le développement de la recherche en sciences sociales en Afrique.
- 2014 "Africa = recycling: Continuities and Discontinuities in the Reception of Contemporary African Art," in *Double Desire: Transculturation and Indigenous Contemporary Art*. Edited by Ian McLean. pp. 245-262. Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- 2013 "Fashion, Youth, and Travel: Embroidered Representations of Modernity in Mali," in *African Dress: Fashion, Agency, Performance*. Edited by Karen Tranberg Hansen and D. Soyini Madison. pp. 124-137. London: Bloomsbury.
- 2013 "African Fashion from Dual Directions: Representing Self and Other," in *Fashion-Wise*. Edited by Maria Vacarella with Jacque Lynn Foltyn. pp. 259-266. Oxford, UK: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2013.
- 2012 "Handmade Textiles: Manufacturing African Authenticity," Republished in *Museum Objects*. Edited by Sandra Dudley. pp. 269-279. New York: Routledge.
- 2011 "De Poiret à Gaultier: Images de l'Afrique à travers la mode," in *Images Changeantes de l'Inde et de l'Afrique*. Edited by Geetha Ganapathy-Doré and Michel Olinga. pp. 21-31. Paris: Harmattan.
- 2010 "African Fashion: Design, Identity, and History," in *Contemporary African Fashion*. Edited by Suzanne Gott and Kristyne Loughran Bini. pp. 88-103. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press.
- 2010 "Africa in Iowa: The Stanley Collection at the University of Iowa Museum of Art," in *Representing Africa in American Museums*. Edited by Christa Clarke and Kathleen Bickford Berzock. pp. 336-362. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Reference Works and Other

- 2023 "Chris Seydou" *AOW* (Artists of the World). Berlin: De Gruyter.
- 2022, 2023 Curator, *Ancestral Root/Racine Ancestrale: Photographs by Rachel Malaika and Existing in the Shadow: An Online Exhibition by South African Artist Vanessa Tembane*, Part of the series "African Art Online: Emerging African Artists," African Studies Center

- 2021 “On Fish Pieta, Christopher Meyers” online essay for the *Close Looks* series, Ackland Museum of Art, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2014 “African Artists--Modern Movements” *Grove Art Online*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2010 “Fashion in African Dress” and “African Fashion Designers” *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion*. Editor in Chief Joanne B. Eicher. London: Berg Press. pp. 62-74.

SELECTED COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT

- What Is Art? (Triple I Course)
- Clothing and Textiles in Africa
- Art and Colonialism
- Arts of West Africa
- Art, Culture, and Power in Africa
- Survey of Non-Western Art
- Arts of Southern Africa
- The Contemporary Politics of “Traditional” Art
- Contemporary African Art
- African Visual Culture
- African Humanities
- Islam and African Art
- What Is the Good Life? (Interdisciplinary Humanities Course)
- Art and Fashion from Rome to Timbuktu (co-taught with Classics colleague)
- Art History Professional Development Seminar
- Creativity, Classification, Resistance: Art and Colonial Histories, seminar

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Conferences and Symposia Organized

- 2024 Southeast Regional Seminar in African Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2021, 2022 African Studies Center Graduate Student Symposium, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

International Refereed Papers

- 2022 “Fashion, Power, Subversion: The Pith Helmet as African Fashion Accessory” *Africa Fashion Conference*, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK.
- 2019 “Weaving an Image of the Colony: French Interventions into West African Textile Production,” French Colonial Historical Society, Montreal, Canada
- 2018 “The Art of Migration: Visual Cultures of Travel in West Africa,” European Association of Social Anthropologists, University of Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2018 “The French Identity of West-African Fabrics: The Soudan Français at the 1937 Exposition,” World Fairs and International Exhibitions: National self-profiling in an internationalist context, 1851-1940, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2017 Chair, two-part panel “Clothing Creativity: The Art of Attire in Africa,” Triennial Conference on African Art, sponsored by the Arts Council of the African Studies Association, Accra, Ghana
- 2016 “African Cities and Fashion Design: Networks of Expressive Culture,” Urban Economies: Cultural Perspectives on Grassroots Entrepreneurs and Neighborhood Economies, University of Munich, Munich, Germany
- 2015 “Style Migrations: Tracing South-South Networks through African Dress Practices,” South-South Axes of Global Art/Circulations artistiques Sud-Sud, École normale supérieure, Paris, France.

- 2014 “The Colonial Context: French Fashion Design and the Representation of Le Soudan Français,” *Fashion, Dress and Society in Europe during World War I*, Institut Français de la Mode, Paris, France
- 2012 “The City as Raw Material: Conceptual Fashion Design from Johannesburg,” *Fashioning the City: Exploring Fashion Cultures*, Royal College of Art, London, UK

International Invited Lectures

- 2023 « Habillement et pouvoir colonial : Le Casque Colonial en AOF » Centre de Recherche Ouest Africain, Dakar, Senegal
- 2022 “Categories, Colonies, Clothing: Dress in French Popular Media,” *Fashioning Theory Research Seminars*, Department for Culture and Aesthetics at Stockholm University
- 2022 “Paris to Timbuktu: Asserting and Subverting French Colonial Power through Dress” *Fashion, Cultures, and Histories*, Institut d’histoire du temps present at the Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris
- 2021 Presenter, Design Methods Research Festival, Bern University of the Arts, Switzerland (online) One of five presenters at a two-day series of workshops
- 2018 Keynote speaker, “Wearing the City: African Designers and Urban Iconography,” *Fashion & Styles in African Cities. Case Studies from Douala and Lagos*, Yaba College of Technology, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2017 “Africa, Fashion Design, and Colonial History: The Surprising Power of Clothing,” West African Research Center, Dakar, Senegal
- 2016 Keynote speaker, Conference “Non-Western Fashion Conference,” University of Antwerp, Faculty of Applied Economics, Culture, and Policy, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2016 Keynote speaker, Conference “Creating African Fashion Histories,” Brighton Museum and the University of Brighton, UK
- 2016 Keynote speaker, Visual Identities in Art and Design symposium “Intimate Identities/Autobiographical Acts,” University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2016 “Expanding the Field: ‘Traditional’ Dress as Fashion,” University of Johannesburg, South Africa

Refereed Papers in U.S.

- 2023 Panel organizer/presenter, Panel: “African Design Cultures: Artistry, Visibility, and Value through Dress” Paper: “Belted Boubous and Beaded Epaulets: Subverting Categories through Dress in Colonial Contexts” African Studies Association, ACASA-sponsored panel, San Francisco
- 2021 “Stripped Down: The Politics of Textile Artistry in Colonial West Africa,” Panel: Narrating public and private histories through artworks in (or involving) cloth. Triennial Conference on African Art, sponsored by the Arts Council of the African Studies Association, Virtual Conference
- 2021 Discussant for the panel “The Futures of African Dress and Fashion,” Triennial Symposium on African Art, sponsored by the Arts Council of the African Studies Association, Virtual Conference
- 2021 “The Mobility of the Pith Helmet: A Colonial Accessory in France and French West Africa” Southeast Regional Seminar in African Studies/Southeast Africanist Network, Virtual Conference
- 2020 Panel organizer/presenter, Panel: “African Visual Culture, Colonial Intersections” Paper: “Strips, Stripes, and Spinning Machines: French Colonial Policies and West African Weaving” College Art Association, Chicago
- 2018 “A Wider Loom: Textiles and Colonial Politics of Authenticity in the Soudan Français,” Panel: Art, Agency, and the Making of Identities at a Global Level College Art Association, Los Angeles, CA

- 2015 “Networks of Threads: Africa, Textiles, and Routes of Exchange,” Roundtable: “Global Africa” African Studies Association, San Diego, CA
- 2015 Double panel organizer and presenter, Panel: “At the Expositions: An Art History of National Displays of Culture, Technology, Design” Paper: “Creating West Africa in Paris: Bureaucrats, Artisans, and the 1937 Exposition Internationale”
College Art Association, New York City, NY

Invited Papers in U.S.

- 2022 “Curator Conversation—Peace, Power, and Prestige: Metal Arts in Africa” Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2019 Roundtable “Paris Fashion: The Global in Microcosm” Institute of French Studies, New York University, NY
- 2019 “Arrayed in Splendor: An Africanist’s Perspective” Department of Art and Art History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2019 “African Fashion: Innovation, Style, Tradition,” Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2018 “Transitions in African Cultures,” Carolina Humanities Seminar, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2017 “Fashion as Fine Art: African Expressions,” University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa
- 2017 “The Present Past: African Textiles, Traditions, and Fashion Trends,” Keynote speaker at exhibition opening, Fowler Museum at UCLA, Los Angeles
- 2017 Presenter, Symposium “Black Fashion Designers,” Museum at FIT, New York City
- 2016 Keynote speaker, Senior Symposium, Denison College, Granville, OH
- 2016 “African Textiles and Technology,” Triangle Weavers Guild, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2015 “Why It Matters: Studying Fashion Design in Africa,” Carolina Seminar, African Studies Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- 2015 “Fashion Design in South Africa: Reworking Histories through Clothing,”
Duke University, The Concilium on Southern Africa, Durham, North Carolina

GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Current Graduate advisees:

Michael Baird (PhD), Aisha Muhammad (PhD, co-chair), Sydney Herrick (MA),
Dylan Seal (MA)

PhDs completed, UNC Chapel Hill:

Carlee Forbes (Colonial-era art and Kongo innovations for new markets)

PhDs completed (University of Florida):

MacKenzie Moon Ryan (2013) *The Global Reach of a Fashionable Commodity:*

A Manufacturing and Design History of Kanga Textiles

Amy Schwartzott (2014) *Weapons and Refuse as Media: The Potent Politics of Recycling in Contemporary Mozambican Urban Arts*

Christopher L. Richards (2014) *We Have Always Been Fashionable: The Significance of Fashion in Accra, Ghana from 1953 – 2013*

Meghan Kirkwood (2016) *The Representation of Landscape in Contemporary South African Photography*

Dan Jakubowski (co-chair, 2016) *Concentric Modernities: A History of Contemporary Egyptian Video Art*

Member, Graduate Student Committees, UNC Chapel Hill (current and graduated):

PhD: Taylor Hunkins, Weixin Zhou, Alexandra Wellington (2020), Erin Grady (2019), Sarah George (English, 2019); Contia' Prince (Communication, 2024)

MA: Adriana Burkins (chair), Joshua Smith, Meredith Hale, Avery Close, Madison Folks, Brittany Forniotis, Alex Jones, Devon Murphy, Claire Payne, Colin Post, Weixin Zhou, Taylor Barrett

2024 External examiner, PhD committee, University of Helsinki, Finland

2023 External member, PhD examining committee, African Studies, University of Sussex, UK

2013 External member, Jury de Thèse (Doctoral Committee), Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne, Histoire de l'art et archéologie

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2022-24 Director, African Studies Center

2021-22 Co-Director, African Studies Center

2024-28 Advisory Board, Burch Fellowship, Honors Carolina

2023-24 University Distinguished Teaching Award Selection Committee

2022-23 Chair, Search Committee, Department Chair and Edna J. Koury Distinguished Professor, Department of Art and Art History

2018-2024 Fine Arts Division of the College of Arts and Sciences: Arts and Sciences Advisory Committee

2020 (Spring) Director of Graduate Studies, Art History, Dept of Art and Art History

2019 (Fall) Acting Chair, Department of Art and Art History

2018-19 Director of Graduate Studies, Art History, Dept of Art and Art History

2017-2018 Global Guarantee Task Force, subcommittee for the UNC Strategic Framework as part of the University Capital Campaign

2016-2017 Chair, Collaboration Subcommittee, NEH Next Generation Humanities PhD implementation grant planning committee

National/International

2021, 2024 Reviewer, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation)

2023 Reviewer, special issue *Fashion Theory*

2022 Manuscript reviewer—*Art Journal*, *African Arts*, Victoria and Albert Museum exhibition/publication

2020 Manuscript reviewer—*Image & Text* (South Africa)

2016 Reviewer, NEH Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organizations Implementation Grants, Washington DC, 4/5/16

2015- Core Editorial Board Member, African Arts consortium (Responsible for soliciting, evaluating, managing the review of content for one issue of the journal per year)

2015-2016 Melville J. Herskovits Award Committee, African Studies Association (For the most important scholarly work in African studies in English)

2015- Advisory Board, *Fashion: Visual and Material Interconnections* (Courtauld Institute of Art/Bloomsbury Press, London, UK)

EXHIBITION CONSULTATION

2019-2022 Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK. For exhibition *Africa Fashion*.

2010-12 Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada. Exhibition on African fashion.

2008 Newark Museum, reinstallation of African galleries

2005 Newark Museum *Power Dressing: Men's Fashion and Prestige in Africa* (Oct 10, 2005 – Jan 22, 2006)