

MARIA TAROUTINA

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Slavic Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI (July 2024–Present)

Associate Professor of Humanities (tenured) at Yale-NUS College, Singapore (July 2020–June 2024)

Assistant Professor of Humanities at Yale-NUS College, Singapore (July 2013–June 2020)

Head of Arts and Humanities Program at Yale-NUS College, Singapore (July 2019–December 2023)

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT (September 2002–May 2013)

Ph.D. History of Art (Awarded with Departmental and University Distinction) May, 2013
Dissertation: “From the Tessera to the Square: Russian Modernism and the Russo-Byzantine Revival”

Advisors: David Joselit and Timothy Barringer

Fields of Interest: Russian and East European art and architecture; Russian culture and politics; race, ethnicity, gender and postcolonial studies

M.Phil. History of Art; December, 2009

M.A. History of Art; May, 2008

B.A. Humanities Major; Summa Cum Laude; Phi Beta Kappa; May 2006

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Brown University Start-Up Research Grant, (July, 2024–Present)

The Mollie B. Mandeville Lectureship Fund for New Directions in Slavic Studies Interdisciplinary Lecture Series, Brown University, RI (2025–2026)

Humanities and Social Sciences Research Fellowship, National University of Singapore (January–June, 2023)

Yale-NUS College Bridging Grant (May, 2022–June, 2023)

Humanities and Social Sciences Seed Fund Grant, National University of Singapore (January, 2021–June, 2022)

Yale-NUS College Internal Research Grant (April 2020–March, 2021)

USC Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies, ASEES (September, 2019)

Yale-NUS College Conference and Workshop Grant ((January–December, 2019)

Yale-NUS College Small Research Grant (January 2017–May, 2019)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Publication Grant (November, 2017)

Yale-NUS College Publication Subvention Grant (October, 2017)

Georgette Chen Research Fellowship (July 2014–May, 2016)

Yale-NUS College Start-Up Grant (July, 2013–June, 2017)

Arthur S. Estey Dissertation Fellowship (January 2012)

Paul C. Gignilliat Dissertation Fellowship (September 2011)

Yale University Art Gallery Graduate Research Fellowship (July 2009)

Paul Mellon Center Research Travel Grant, London, U.K. (May 2009)

Beinecke Pre-Prospectus Dissertation Research Fellowship (May 2008)

PUBLICATIONS

Books (sole-authored)

Imperial Aesthetics: Art, Identity, and Representation in Russia in the Age of Empire. Book manuscript under contract with Yale University Press. Forthcoming in 2028.

Mikhail Vrubel: From the Academy to the Avant-Garde, 1856–1910. Reaktion Books. Forthcoming in October, 2026.

The Icon and the Square: Russian Modernism and the Russo-Byzantine Revival. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2018.

Awarded University of Southern California Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies by ASEEEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies) in 2019.

Reviews:

Per-Arne Bodin, *Russian Review*, Vol. 78, No. 3 (July 2019): 509-510.

Andrew Spira, *Burlington Magazine*, Vol. 162, No. 1404 (March 2020): 268-269

Katherine M. H Reischl, *Slavic Review*, Vol. 79, No. 2 (Summer 2020): 494-496

Sarah Warren, *Modernism/modernity*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (April 2021): 385-387

Kamila Kocialkowska, *H-Net Reviews*, February, 2023.

Podcast interview with Allison Leigh for the *New Books Network*, February 12, 2020.

Ikona i kvadrat. Russkii modernizm i russko-vizantiiskoe vozrozhdenie [Russian translation: *The Icon and the Square: Russian Modernism and the Russo-Byzantine Revival*]. Series: Contemporary Western Rusistika. Boston, St. Petersburg: Academic Studies Press/BiblioRossika, 2023.

Reviews:

Viktoria Petrakova, “Russkii avangard v krasnom uglu: O knige Marii Tarutinoi *Ikona i kvadrat*,” *Gor'kii Media*, 2023, <https://gorky.media/reviews/russkij-avangard-v-krasnom-uglu/>

Books (edited, co-edited)

Russian Orientalism in a Global Context: Hybridity, Encounter and Representation, 1740-1940, co-edited with Allison Leigh. Manchester University Press, 2023.

Reviews:

Rosalind P. Blakesley, *Russian Review*, Vol. 83, No. 3 (July 2024): 463–464.

Anna Aydinyan, *Slavic Review* Vol. 83, No. 3 (2024): 642–643.

Kamran Karimullah, *The Muslim World Book Review*, Vol. 45, No. 1 (2024): 31–35.

Shoshana Keller, *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 84, No. 2 (May 2025): 594–596.

Podcast interview with Morteza Hajizadeh for the *New Books Network*, August 17, 2024.

New Narratives of Russian and East European Art: Between Traditions and Revolutions, co-edited with Galina Mardilovich. New York: Routledge, 2020.

Reviews:

Giorgi Papashvili, *H-Net Reviews*, October, 2021.

Juliette Milbach, *Critique d'art*, Vol. 54 (Spring/Summer, 2020): 173-175.

Byzantium/Modernism: The Byzantine as Method in Modernity, co-edited with Roland Betancourt. Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, 2015.

Reviews:

Joseph Masheck and Edmund Ryder, *Art and Christianity*, No. 88 (December, 2016): 13-14

Ivan Moody, *Journal of the International Society for Orthodox Church Music*, Vol. 2 (2016): 107-109

Luisa Andriollo, *Medioevo Greco*, No. 17 (2017): 457-460.

Przemysław Marciniak, *Yillik: Annual of Istanbul Studies*, Vol. 2 (2020): 215-216

Guest-Edited Journal Issues

Abramtsevo and Its Legacies: Neo-National Art, Craft and Design. Experiment: A Journal of Russian Culture 25 (2019), guest issue co-edited with Louise Hardiman and Ludmila Piters-Hofmann. Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, 2019

Refereed Articles

“Eastern Encounters: Ilia Repin and Russian Orientalism at Home and Abroad,” *Art History*, vol. 46, no. 2 (June, 2023): 1–28. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8365.12717>

“Painting Ukraine: Authenticity, Identity and Anti-Imperial Aesthetics in the Art of Ilia Repin,” *Histoire de l'art*, no. 91 (June, 2023): 109–119.

“Negotiating Between East and West: The Case of Russian Orientalism,” *World Art*, vol. 13, no.1, *Challenging Orientalism: New Questions of Perception and Reception* (January, 2023): 7–28.

“Exotic Aesthetics: Representations of Blackness in Nineteenth-Century Russian Painting,” *Slavic Review*, vol. 80 (Summer, 2021): 267-279.

“The Poetics and Aesthetics of Otherness: Orientalism and Identity at Abramtsevo,” *Experiment: A Journal of Russian Culture* 25 (2019): 53-67.

“‘A Most Curious Place’: Vasilii Polenov and Ilia Repin’s Trip to London in 1875,” *The Tretyakov Gallery Magazine* 64 (2019): 45-57.

“Between East and West: Reconsidering Mikhail Vrubel’s ‘Nativist’ Aesthetics,” *Experiment: A Journal of Russian Culture* 23 (2017): 66–79.

“Iconic Encounters: Vasily Kandinsky’s and Pavel Florensky’s ‘Mystic Productivism,’” *Postmedieval: A Journal of Medieval Cultural Studies*, vol. 7, no. 1 (2016): 55–65.

Book Chapters

“Icons and Modern Art.” In *The Icon: A History, from Late Antiquity to the Present*, edited by Charles Barber and Maria Vassilaki. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2026.

“Ivan Aivazovsky’s Imperial Sublime: The Politics and Aesthetics of Romantic Landscape Painting in the Age of Empire.” In *The Routledge Companion to Art and Challenges to Empire*, edited by Emily C. Burns and Alice M. Rudy Price, 180–195. New York: Routledge, 2025.

“Before and Beyond the Avant-Garde: The Forgotten Art Histories of Nikolai Punin and Nikolai Tarabukin.” In *What is to Be Done? Art Practice, Theory and Criticism in Russia during the Long Nineteenth Century*, edited by Ludmila Piters-Hofmann, 57–72. Berlin: Logos Verlag, 2024.

“Bol’shoi poklonnik Vostoka’: Vostochnaia tematika v iskusstve Mikhaila Vrubelia [‘A big admirer of the East’: Orientalist themes in the art of Mikhail Vrubel].” In *S. I. Mamontov i Russkaia Khudozhestvennaia Kul’tura Vtoroi Poloviny XIX–Nachala XX Veka. K 180-letiiu so dnia rozhdeniia. Mikhail Vrubel’. Epokha i Lichnost’. Materialy Mezhdunarodnykh Nauchnykh Konferentsii*, edited by Eleonora Paston, 332–339. Moscow: Gosudarstvennaia Tret’iakovskaia Galereia, 2023.

“Orientalizm v izobrazitel’nom iskusstve i teatral’nykh postanovkakh Abramtsevskogo khudozhestvennogo kruzhka [Orientalism in the fine and performing arts of the Abramtsevo Artistic Circle].” In *S. I. Mamontov i Russkaia Khudozhestvennaia Kul’tura Vtoroi Poloviny XIX–Nachala XX Veka. K 180-letiiu so dnia rozhdeniia. Mikhail Vrubel’. Epokha i Lichnost’. Materialy Mezhdunarodnykh Nauchnykh Konferentsii*, edited by Eleonora Paston, 99–109. Moscow: Gosudarstvennaia Tret’iakovskaia Galereia, 2023.

“From Zen Buddhism to the ‘zero of form’: exoticism, mysticism, and the East in Kazimir Malevich’s early works.” In *Russian Orientalism in a Global Context: Hybridity, Encounter and Representation, 1740–1940*, edited by Allison Leigh and Maria Taroutina, 188–206. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2023.

“To the Caucasus’: Depictions of Empire in the Visual and Performing Arts at Abramtsevo.” In *Picturing Russian Empire*, edited by Valerie Kivelson, Joan Neuberger, and Sergei Kozlov, 222–231. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023.

“Leo Tolstoy and the Visual Arts.” In *Tolstoy in Context*, edited by Anna Berman, 194–204. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023.

“From First Rome to Third Rome: Nikodim Kondakov and Late Antique Studies.” In *The New Late Antiquity: Intellectual Portraits*, edited by Clifford Ando and Marco Formisano, 595–608. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, 2021.

“Blurring Boundaries: Mikhail Vrubel’s Decorative Turn and the Rise of Russian Modernism.” In *New Narratives of Russian and East European Art: Between Traditions and Revolutions*, 79–94. New York: Routledge, 2020.

“From Angels to Demons: Mikhail Vrubel and the Search for a Modernist Idiom.” In *Modernism and the Spiritual in Russian Art: New Perspectives*, edited by Louise Hardiman and Nicola Kozicharow, 37–67. Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2017.

“Second Rome or Seat of Savagery: The Case of Byzantium in Nineteenth-Century European Imaginaries.” In *Civilization and Nineteenth-Century Art: A European Concept in a Global Context*, edited by David O’Brien, 150–177. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2016.

“From Church to Harem: Nineteenth-Century Orientalism and the Neo-Byzantine Revival.” In *Orientalism/Occidentalism: The Languages of Culture vs. the Languages of Description*, edited by Evgeny Steiner, 76–86. Moscow: Natalis Publishing House, 2012.

Exhibition Catalogs

Contributing author to *Eye on a Century: Modern and Contemporary Art from the Collection of Charles B. Benenson at the Yale University Art Gallery*, edited by Cathleen Chaffee, 32-43, 50-57, 62-65, 78-85, 98-99, 112-117, 128-135, 144-147. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2012.

Translations

Savva Mamontov et al. “The Chronicle of the Abramtsevo Estate, 1880-1893,” *Experiment: A Journal of Russian Culture* 25 (2019): 1-18.

Book Reviews

Review of Reischl, Katherine M. H. *Photographic Literacy: Cameras in the Hands of Russian Authors*, H-SHERA, H-Net Reviews, July, 2020.

Other Academic Writing

“Representations of Race in Russian Art of the ‘Long’ Nineteenth Century,” *All the Russias’ Blog*, the New York University Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, published on February 16, 2021: <https://jordanrussiacycenter.org/news/representations-of-race-in-russian-art-of-the-long-nineteenth-century/#.YEopgOYRWgR>

WORK IN PROGRESS

Visual History of the Conquest of Turkestan by the Russian Empire, 1860-1900: Testimonies, Representations, Commemoration, Decolonisation, co-edited with Svetlana Gorshenina and Sergei Abashin. Book manuscript in preparation.

Artists on the Move: Transnational and Transcultural Perspectives on Migration From the (Former) Russian Empire, 1880–1939, co-edited with Mira Kozhanova. Book manuscript in preparation.

“Representing Blackness in Nineteenth-Century Russia,” in *Oxford Handbook of the History of Race in Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia*, edited by Eugene M. Avrutin and Nana Osei-Opare. Oxford University Press.

“Objects of Empire: Fragility, Spectacle and Orientalist Ceramics in Catherine II’s Russia,” in *Fragile Matters: The Russian Empire and Material Culture*, edited by Molly Brunson, Emily Cox and John Webley. Bloomsbury Academic.

“Conquering by Design: Catherine II and the Architectural Imagination of Empire,” in *Off-Center: Architectures of Russian and Soviet Imperialism*, edited by Markus Lähteenmäki and Da Hyung Jeong. Leuven University Press.

“Reinventing the Byzantine Icon: Avant-Garde Art and New Theories of Modernism in Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Russia,” in *Byzantium and Modernist Aesthetics*, edited by Anthony Paraskeva and Konstantinos T. Raptis. Bloomsbury Academic

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, ROUNDTABLES AND EVENTS ORGANIZED

International Conferences and Symposia

Artists on the Move: Transnational and Transcultural Perspectives on Migration From the (Former) Russian Empire, 1880–1939. Three-day international online conference co-organized with Mira Kozhanova. Co-sponsored by Yale-NUS College and the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Program at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, March 7–8, 2024.

Encounter, Race, and Representation: Painting Empire in the ‘Long’ Nineteenth Century. One-day workshop organized for the First World Congress of the Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies on *Comparative Empire, Conflict, Competition, and Cooperation, 1750-1914*, Singapore, June 20, 2023.

Byzantium/Modernism: Art, Cultural Heritage, and the Avant-Gardes. Three-day international conference co-organized with Roland Betancourt at the Department of the History of Art, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 20-22, 2012.

Art in Russia, 1770-1920: A Symposium at Yale University. An international two-day symposium co-organized with Molly Brunson at the Department of Slavonic Languages and Literatures, Yale University, New Haven, CT, March 24- 25, 2011.

Lecture Series

New Directions in Slavic Studies: An Interdisciplinary Lecture Series. Co-organized with Fabrizio Fenghi. Co-Sponsored by Slavic Studies and the Mollie B. Mandeville Lectureship Fund, Brown University, Providence, RI (2025–2026)

European Imperialism Revisited: Perspectives from the History of Capitalism. Co-organized with Mate Rigo. Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2019-2020)

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Russian Art Lecture Series. Co-organized with Molly Brunson. Co-Sponsored by the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund and the Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the History of Art, Yale University, New Haven, CT (2013)

Roundtables and Panels

Decolonizing the Museum. Roundtable at the *ASEEES 55th Annual Convention: Decolonization*, Philadelphia, PA, December 3, 2023.

Deconstructing Russian Imperialist Aesthetics: Repression, Resistance, and Representation in the Long Nineteenth Century. Conference panel co-organized and co-chaired with Louise Hardiman at the *Annual*

Conference of the Association of Art History, University College London, London, UK, April 12, 2023.

Resistance Aesthetics in the Age of Empire: Past and Present. Conference panel at the *CAA 111th Annual Conference*, New York, NY, February 16th, 2023.

Rethinking the Canon: What is to be Done about “The Great Russian Culture”? Roundtable at the *ASEEES 54th Annual Convention: Precarity*, Chicago, IL, November 11, 2022.

Decolonizing the Russian and Soviet Art History Survey. Roundtable at the *ASEEES 53rd Annual Convention: Diversity, Intersectionality, Interdisciplinarity*, New Orleans, LA, December 3, 2021

Unorthodoxy: Art, Religion, and Universalism at the fin de siècle. Conference panel co-organized with Louise Hardiman at the *ASEEES 51st Annual Convention: Belief*, San Francisco, CA, November 26, 2019

Looking East: Russian Orientalism in a Global Context. Conference panel co-organized and co-chaired with Allison Leigh at the *CAA 107th Annual Conference*, New York, NY, February 16th, 2019.

Trials of Self-Definition: Russian Art between Periphery and Perception. Conference panel co-organized with Galina Mardilovich at the *ASEEES 49th Annual Convention: Transgressions*, Chicago, IL, November 11, 2017

Reconsidering Art and Politics: Towards New Narratives of Russian and Eastern European Art. Conference panel co-organized and co-chaired with Galina Mardilovich at the *CAA 103rd Annual Conference*, New York, NY, February 14th, 2015.

Art at a Crossroads: A Reconsideration of the 1890s in Russian Visual Culture. Conference panel co-organized with Galina Mardilovich at the *ASEEES 45th Annual Convention: Revolution*, Boston, MA, November 22, 2013

INVITED LECTURES

“Moods, Modes, Afterlives: Early Russian Art in Modern Perspective,” Yale University, New Haven, CT, September 22, 2026.

“Ivan Aivazovsky’s Imperial Sublime: The Politics and Aesthetics of Romantic Landscape Painting in the Age of Empire,” University of Padua, Padua, Italy, October 18, 2023.

“Between Imperialism and Revolution: The Romantic Imaginary of Alexander Orlovski,” University of California, Berkeley, CA, November 4, 2022.

“‘Большой поклонник Востока’: Восточная тематика в искусстве Михаила Врубеля,” (“A big admirer of the East’: Orientalist themes in the art of Mikhail Vrubel), *The State Tretyakov Gallery*, Moscow, Russia, March 3, 2022.

“Ориентализм в изобразительном искусстве и театральных постановках Абрамцевского художественного кружка (Orientalism in the fine and performing arts of the Abramtsevo Artistic Circle),” *The State Tretyakov Gallery*, Moscow, Russia, November 15, 2021.

“‘The Russian Cézanne’: Mikhail Vrubel and the Invention of Russian Modernism at the Fin de Siècle,” Oxford University, Oxford, UK, June 28, 2021.

“The Icon and European Modernism,” Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 20, 2021.

- “An Icon of the Times’: Kazimir Malevich’s *Black Square* and the Politics of Originality,” University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, November 20, 2020.
- “From Sacrilegious Monstrosities to Modernist Masterpieces: The Changing Reception of Mikhail Vrubel’s Religious Murals at the Fin de Siècle,” The Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna, Austria, October 15, 2020 (online lecture).
- “Exoticism Abroad: Vasilii Polenov and Ilia Repin’s Visual Experimentations with Ethnic and Racial Difference in Paris,” Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, New York University, New York, NY, September 9, 2020 (online lecture).
- “Looking East: Russian Orientalism in a Global Context,” Humanities and Social Sciences Collaborative Workshop with NUS Office of Deputy President Research and Technology (ODPRT) and Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Yale-NUS College, September 24, 2019.
- “Eastern Encounters in Paris and London: Ilia Repin and Russian Orientalism Abroad and at Home,” The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK, June 14, 2019.
- “Before and Beyond the Avant-Garde: The Forgotten Art Histories of Nikolai Punin and Nikolai Tarabukin,” *Russian Art on the Rise*, Annual Workshop of the Russian Art and Culture Group, Kunsthistorisches Institut, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, September 22, 2017.
- “Vrubel and Lermontov: A Case Study in Russian Imperial Aesthetics,” Conference on *The Russian Century: The Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts, 1801–1917*. Yale University, New Haven, CT, October 1, 2016.
- “The Birth of Abstraction,” Singapore Art Museum, Singapore, October 18, 2016.
- “Mikhail Vrubel’s “Eastern Tale”: A Case Study in Russian Orientalism,” The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK, July 7, 2016
- “The Rise of Modernist Painting,” Singapore Art Museum, Singapore, October 9, 2014.
- “From Angels to Demons: Mikhail Vrubel and the Search for a Modernist Idiom,” Whitney Humanities Center Working Group on Interdisciplinarity in Slavic Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 25, 2013.
- “The Iconic Subconscious: Re-inscribing the Russo-Byzantine Artistic Tradition into Kandinsky’s Abstraction,” *Archaeology of and in the Contemporary World Conference*, Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG), University of California, Berkeley, CA, May 8, 2011

INVITED ROUNDTABLES, RESEARCH WORKSHOPS AND COLLOQUIA

Invited participant and specialist consultant in a closed advisory research session for the upcoming international exhibition *Byzantium after Byzantium* organized by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, January 16, 2026.

Invited participant and specialist consultant in a closed research workshop on the Thomas P. Whitney Collection of Russian Art co-organized by the Amherst Center for Russian Culture and the Mead Art Museum, Amherst, MA, January 8–10, 2026.

Invited participant on a roundtable on decolonization sponsored by the Society of Historians of East European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture (SHERA), online, June 19, 2025.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The Picturesque Caucasus: Romanticism, Rebellion and Representation,” *11th World Congress of ICCEES: Disruption*, University College London, London, UK, July 21, 2025.
- “The Politics and Aesthetics of Romantic Landscape Painting in the Age of Empire: The Case of Ivan Aivazovsky,” *Annual Conference of the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association: Fusions of Culture, Space and Time*, New Orleans, LA, March 29, 2025.
- “Reinventing the Byzantine Icon: Avant-Garde Art and New Theories of Modernism in Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Russia,” *Modernism’s Gilded Mirror: Byzantium and Modern Aesthetics*, Thessaloniki, Greece, September 9, 2024
- “Race, Rebellion and Representation in the Art of Alexander Orłowski,” *ASEEES 55th Annual Convention: Decolonization*, Philadelphia, PA, December 1, 2023.
- “Between Imperialism and Revolution: The Romantic Imaginary of Alexander Orłowski,” *Visual History of the Conquest of Turkestan by the Russian Empire, 1860-1900: Testimonies, Representations, Commemoration, Decolonisation*, Institut d’Études Savves, Sorbonne Université, Paris, France, 10 October, 2022.
- “From Constantinople to Moscow and St. Petersburg: Byzantium and New Theories of Russian Modernism in the 1910s,” *24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies*, Venice, Italy, August 25, 2022.
- “Exotic Aesthetics: Depictions of Blackness in Nineteenth-Century Russian Painting,” *ASEEES 53rd Annual Convention: Diversity, Intersectionality, Interdisciplinarity*, New Orleans, LA, December 1, 2021
- “Exoticism Abroad: Vasilii Polenov and Ilia Repin’s Representations of African Women in Paris,” *10th World Congress of ICCEES: Bridging National and Global Perspectives*, Montreal, Canada, August 4, 2021.
- “From Abyssinia to Samarkand: Russian Representations of Race in the Age of Empire,” *ASEEES 53rd Annual Convention: Diversity, Intersectionality, Interdisciplinarity*, New Orleans, LA, December 1, 2021.
- “From the Caves of Hindustan to the Avant-Garde: Exoticism, Mysticism and the ‘East’ in the works of Mikhail Vrubel and their legacy for twentieth-century art,” *ASEEES 51st Annual Convention: Belief*, San Francisco, CA, November 26, 2019
- “Looking East: Orientalism in Nineteenth-Century Russian Painting,” *ASEEES 49th Annual Convention: Transgressions*, Chicago, IL, November 11, 2017
- “Between East and West: Reconsidering Mikhail Vrubel’s ‘Nativist’ Aesthetics,” Conference on the *Forgotten Geographies in the Fin de Siècle, 1880-1920*, Birkbeck, University of London, London, UK, July 9, 2016.
- “Blurring Boundaries: Mikhail Vrubel’s Decorative Turn and the Rise of Russian Modernism,” *CAA 104th Annual Conference*, Washington, D.C., February 5th, 2016.
- “Imagined Encounter: Vasily Kandinsky and Pavel Florensky,” *49th International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 9th, 2014.

- “The Iconic Subconscious: Vasily Kandinsky’s Abstraction and the Search for the Spiritual in Art,” *CAA 102nd Annual Conference*, Chicago, IL, February 13th, 2014.
- “Revolutionary Objects: Vrubel’s Decorative Art and the Search for Modernism,” *ASEEES 45th Annual Convention: Revolution*, Boston, MA, November 22, 2013.
- “Going Global: Mikhail Vrubel’s Reception Abroad,” *ASEEES 44th Annual Convention: Boundary, Barrier and Border Crossing*, New Orleans, LA, November 17, 2012.
- “Angels and Demons: Mikhail Vrubel’s Modernist Rewriting of the Iconic Tradition,” Cambridge Courtauld Russian Art Centre Conference *On the Spiritual in Russian Art*, Pembroke College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, September 7, 2012.
- “Second Rome or Seat of Savagery? The Case of Byzantium in Nineteenth-Century European Imaginaries,” *CAA 101st Annual Conference*, Los Angeles, CA, February 23, 2012
- “The Case of Mikhail Vrubel and Russian Nineteenth-Century Art,” International Conference on *Our 19th Century: The Phenomenon of Culture and Historic Concepts*, Deutsches Historisches Institut (DHI), Moscow, Russia, May 19, 2011
- “Triangulating Modernism: Icons, Vrubel and Soviet Constructivism,” *Art in Russia, 1770-1920*, Yale University, New Haven, CT, March 25, 2011
- “From Church to Harem: Nineteenth-Century Orientalism and the Neo-Byzantine Revival,” International Conference on *Orientalism/Occidentalism: Languages of Cultures versus Languages of Description*, Russian Institute for Cultural Research, Moscow, Russia, September 24, 2010.
- “Flight to Byzantium: Re-inscribing the Past and the Periphery into the Rise of Russian Modernism,” *BASEES Conference*, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, March 29, 2010.

Discussant/Chair

- Chair for *Transindigenous Feminist Futures in Siberia*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 56th Annual Convention: Memory*, Washington, D.C., November 23, 2025.
- Discussant for *Shades of Russian Orientalism: Comparing Imperial Russian Entanglements with Islamic and Buddhist East*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 56th Annual Convention: Memory*, Washington, D.C., November 20, 2025.
- Chair for *Fragile Earth: Rethinking Landscape Art Histories for a Planet in Peril*. Roundtable at the *11th World Congress of ICCEES: Disruption*, University College London, London, UK, July 22, 2025.
- Respondent to Fiona Bell’s lecture “‘White Slavery’ and the Marriage Plot: Ivan Turgenev’s Fathers and Children in the Global Emancipation Era,” *19v: A Working Group on 19th-Century Russian Culture Seminar Series*, December 11, 2024.
- Discussant for *Art Exhibitions and Their Audiences, 1860–1930*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 55th Annual Convention: Liberation*, Boston, MA, November 23, 2024.
- Discussant for *The Radical Utopianism of the Soviet Twenties*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 55th Annual Convention: Liberation*, Boston, MA, November 24, 2024.

Chair for *Precarity, Recovery, and the Soviet Spatial Imaginary: From the Revolution to the First Five-Year Plan*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 54th Annual Convention: Precarity*, Chicago, IL, November 12, 2022.

Chair for *Operations of Disbelief*. Conference panel at the *ASEEES 51st Annual Convention: Belief*, San Francisco, CA, November 24, 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brown University, Providence, RI (July 2024–Present)

RUSS 1460: Totalitarian Art and Its Opponents

RUSS 1530: The Rise and Fall of the Russian and Soviet Avant-Garde

RUSS 1530: Russian Orientalism in the Visual, Literary and Performing Arts, 1760-1940

RUSS 2020: The Eighteenth Century and its Legacies

RUSS/HIAA 1240: Russian and Soviet Art, 1757-Present

RUSS/HIAA 1060: Russian Culture: From Peter the Great to Putin

Yale-NUS College, Singapore (July 2013–June, 2024)

YCC 1112: Literature and Humanities II

YHU 1201: Art and Politics in Modernity and Postmodernity

YHU 2219: Totalitarian Art and Its Opponents

YHU 2203: Masterpieces of Western Art from the Renaissance to the Present

YHU 3239: Kazimir Malevich and the *Black Square*

YHU 3274: Painting the “Orient”: Orientalist Representations in Nineteenth-Century Visual Culture

YHU 3281: Empire and Its Discontents in Russian Visual and Literary Culture

YHU 3392: Russian and Soviet Art, 1757-Present

YHU IRR: Independent Study: The Wanderers: A Case Study in Russian Realist Painting

YHU IRR: Independent Study: Russian Visual and Literary Culture in the Modern Age

YHU 4207: Critical Approaches: The Theories and Methodologies of Art History

YHU 4104: Senior Capstone Seminar in the Arts and Humanities

Week Seven: Art, Identity and the Meaning of Things, co-taught with Jessica Hanser

Yale University, New Haven, CT (May 2012–May 2013)

HSAR 221: Russian and Soviet Art, 1757-Present, co-taught with Molly Brunson

HSAR 454: Art and Politics from Napoleon to Hitler

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Dissertation Advising

Primary Dissertation Advisor, Yelena Aydinyan, “The Left as the Center: Artistic and Literary Debates in Periodicals of the First Five-Year Plan in Moscow and Yerevan,” Brown University, Providence, RI, 2024–present.

Primary Dissertation Advisor, Laurel Thorne, Title TBD, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2025–present.

Dissertation Committee Member, Marisa Dodd, Title TBD, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2025–present.

Dissertation Committee Member, Samuel Driver, “Rethinking the Lie: Photography and Truth in the USSR,” Brown University, Providence, RI, 2024.

Dissertation Committee Member, Alexander Protopappas, “‘Creativity Will Save the World’: Identity as a Diachronic Question in Russian and Soviet Art, Architecture and Culture,” ETH Zürich, Switzerland, 2022–2025.

Graduate Examination Committees

External Examiner, PhD Viva, Xuanning Zhao, “From Volga to Golgotha: An Analysis of the Representation of Suffering in the Works of Ilya Repin,” Department of History of Art, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom, 2026.

Committee Member, PhD Qualifying Examination, Marisa Dodd, Department of Slavic Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2025.

Committee Member, PhD Qualifying Examination, Yelena Aydinyan, Department of Slavic Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2024

Teaching Assistant Supervision and Training

Yelena Aydinyan, Teaching Assistant for RUSS/HIAA 1240: Russian and Soviet Art, 1757-Present and RUSS/HIAA 1060: Russian Culture: From Peter the Great to Putin

Senior Capstone Advising

Primary Advisor, Paulina Gasiorowska, Title TBD, History of Art and Architecture, Brown University, Providence, RI, (2026)

Primary Advisor, Alexis Moses, Title TBD, History of Art and Architecture, Brown University, Providence, RI, (2026)

Second Reader, Keelin Gaughan, “Sex, Voyeurism, and The Adolescent Muse: Ernst Ludwig Kirchner’s Portraits of Marzella” Brown University, History of Art and Architecture, Brown University, Providence, RI (2025)

Primary Advisor, Suvali Dhanak, “Oontz Oontz Aesthetics: Surveying Seoul’s 21st Century Rave Posters as Postdigital Emblems” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2024)

Primary Advisor, Alexis Chen, “Bathing in Equatorial Sunshine: Anxieties and Bodies in Nanyang Tropical Landscapes,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2022)

Second Reader, Edwin Chen, “Sublimations: Reflections on Masculinity, Spirituality and Queerness,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2022)

Primary Advisor, Katerina-Maria Krasteva, “This is All for You: Female Agency and Empowerment in K-Pop Fandom Culture,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2021)

Primary Advisor, Winnie Tan, ““The Aesthetics of Less: Fashion and the Environmental Imaginary,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2021)

Primary Advisor, Kathy Poh, “Still-Life for a Changing Climate,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2020). Winner of the annual Yale-NUS Outstanding Capstone Award in the Arts and Humanities Program

Primary Advisor, Hunter Cuming Shaw, “The Shaw-Shaw Photographic Archive,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2018)

Primary Advisor, Keziah Quek, “Reframing Modernisms: A Conflation of the Politics of Singapore’s Nationalistic Agenda and Post-Colonial Discourse” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2017)

Second Reader, Mariel Chee, “Between Devotion and Desire: Theatricality, Faith, and Sexuality in Contemporary Art,” Yale-NUS College, Singapore (2017)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), 2008–Present

Society of Historians of East European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture (SHERA) 2006–Present

College Art Association (CAA), 2006–Present

Member of the Association of Historians of Nineteenth-Century Art (AHNCA), 2008–Present

Member of the Russian Art and Culture Group (RACG), 2017–Present

SERVICE TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Member of *Art Bulletin* Editorial Board, July 2022–June 2026

Chair of Selection Committee for The University of Southern California Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies awarded annually by the the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2025

Member of Selection Committee for The University of Southern California Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies awarded annually by the the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2023–2024

President of the Society of Historians of East European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture (SHERA) 2021–2023

Member of the Council of Readers for the College Art Association Annual Conference Selection, 2019–2021

MANUSCRIPT AND FELLOWSHIP REVIEW

Book manuscript referee for Yale University Press, University of Chicago Press, Manchester University Press and Bloomsbury Academic Publishing.

Article manuscript referee for *Art Bulletin*, *Art History*, *Slavic Review*, *Comparative Literature*, *Modernism/Modernity*, *Art Journal*, *Nineteenth-Century Art Worldwide*, *Journal of Icon Studies*, *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, *Vizliofika: E-Journal of Eighteenth-Century Russian Studies*, *Religion and the Arts*

Fellowship application referee for Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2025)

Fellowship application referee for National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina (2024–2026)

Fellowship application referee for The Wallace Fellowship at the Villa i Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies (2020)

Fellowship application referee for Narodowe Centrum Nauki (National Science Centre), Kraków, Poland (2019)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE POSITIONS

Study Abroad Advisor, Department of Slavic Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI, 2025–Present

Chair of the Humanities Division Evaluation Committee for Tenure and Promotion, Yale-NUS College, 2023-2024

Head of the Arts and Humanities Program, Yale-NUS College, 2019-2023

Member of Search Committee in the Visual Arts, Yale-NUS College, 2021-2022

Member of the Humanities Division Evaluation Committee for Tenure and Promotion, 2021-2022

Chair of Search Committee in Theater and Creative Writing, Yale-NUS College, 2020-2021

Chair of Selection Committee for Chen Chong Swee Scholarship Yale-NUS College, 2019-2021

Chair of Search Committee in Theater, Yale-NUS College, 2019-2020

Member of Committee on Creative, Arts, and Technical Spaces, Yale-NUS College, 2019-2021

Member of Search Committee in Creative Writing, Yale-NUS College, 2019-2020

Member of Committee on Faculty Affairs, Yale-NUS College, 2016-2017

Advisory Member of Search Committee in Art History, Yale-NUS College, 2014-2015

Member of Non-Academic Disciplinary Committee, Yale-NUS College, May, 2014-December, 2014

Member of Search Committee in Art History and the Visual Arts, Yale-NUS College, 2013-2014

Member of the Humanities Divisional Discretionary Fund Committee, Yale-NUS College, 2013-2014

Member of the Library and Educational Resources Committee, Yale-NUS College, 2013-2014

LANGUAGES

Russian (native)

English (fluent)

French (fluent)

Old Church Slavonic (reading competency)

German (reading competency)