

Saturday, April 23, 2005 Copeland Lecture Hall

Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library Winterthur, Delaware

## Introduction

THIS annual symposium is a graduate student effort to provide emerging scholars with a venue for promoting interdisciplinary dialogues about material culture. By freeing scholars of chronological and topical restraints, we seek to encourage conversation across perceived boundaries of discipline, medium and methodology.

Created and organized by University of Delaware graduate students, the Material Culture Symposium is the only such totally interdisciplinary event at the graduate student level. As a forum for emerging scholars to present and discuss their object-based work, it is intended to bring together new and established scholars to foster interdisciplinary camaraderie and exchange.

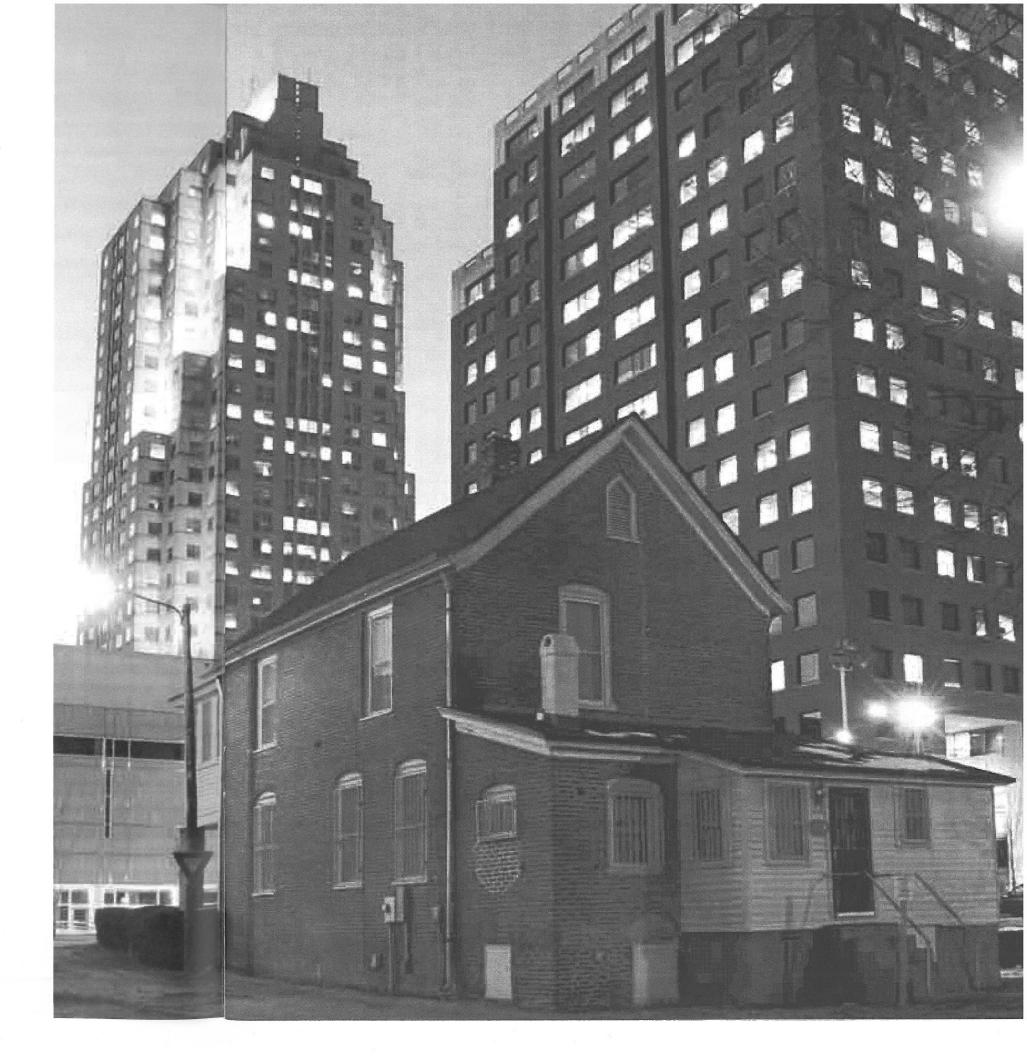
This year, nine students from eight institutions—including the departments of Religious History, French History, American Studies, History, Art History, Museum Studies, History of American Civilization, and the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture—will present papers. We are honored to present audience discussion periods led by distinguished commentators Paul Reber, Amalia Amaki, and Kathy Peiss, and a summary address by David Shields.

The Symposium is free and open to the public. We invite anyone interested to attend and converse with graduate students and scholars working in American Studies, Archaeology, Anthropology, Art and Design History, Architecture, English, History, and other related fields.

Material Culture Studies



DELAWARE **Humanities** FORUM Connecting people, cultures and ideas.



# Acknowledgements

The Material Culture Symposium for Emerging Scholars (MCSES) celebrates its third year thanks to the generosity and vision of many organizations and individuals.

The symposium is co-sponsored by the Center for Material Culture Studies, an umbrella entity composed of allied programs at the University of Delaware, including Black American Studies, Center for Historic Architecture and Design, History of American Civilization, Museum Studies Program, Visual Communications Group, Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, University Museums, and representatives from the departments of Anthropology, Art History, Art Conservation, Consumer Studies, English, History, and Sociology, and the Office of Academic Programs, Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The organizers acknowledge generous support from University of Delaware Departments of History and Art History, and the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture.

The MCSES planning committee consisted of the following University of Delaware graduate students: Heather Boyd, Daniel Claro, Elise Ciregna, Laura Johnson, Lori Miller, Megan Jones, Abby Gordon, Frances Davey, Lyndsey Rago, and Janneken Smucker.

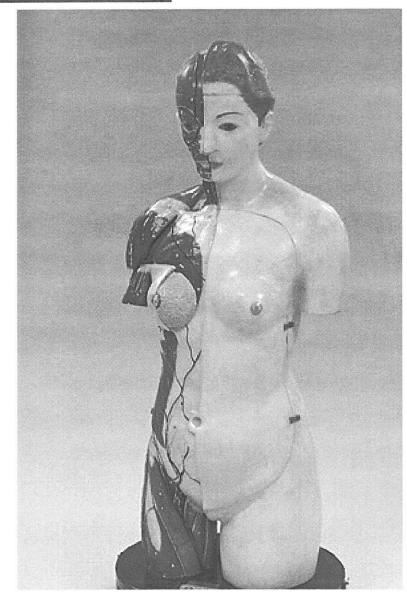
Dr. J. Ritchie Garrison and Dr. Bernard Herman served as faculty advisors. Alison Brayfield provided administrative support. The planning committee owes a special thank you to Ray Nichols, Professor of Art at the University of Delaware, and also Jill Cypher, for inviting us into the Raven Press to produce a letterpress poster. Ray is also responsible for the design and maintenance of the MCSES website. Daniel Claro designed and assembled the promotional pamphlet and symposium brochure.

The committee also extends a special thanks to Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library for hosting us at Copeland Lecture Hall for a third year. We would like to recognize in particular the assistance of Pat Elliott, Kay Collins, Pauline Eversmann, Bert Denker, Bobbie Blaine and the Restaurant Associates, and of course, Leslie Green Bowman.



We owe a special debt to members of the Center for Material Culture Studies including Martin Brückner, Janis Tomlinson, and David Ames. We also appreciate those responsible for organizing and executing the special tours, including the Winterthur Library Staff, especially Cate Cooney and Emily Guthrie, and Jeanne Solensky of the Downs Collection; the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture fellows and guiding staff; The Library Company of Philadelphia, especially Cathy Matson, Wendy Woloson and Sarah Weatherwax; Michele Anstein and the Staff of the Read House in New Castle; and Bruce Daleo, Director of the New Castle Historical Society.

For their work in planning these special tours we thank Lori Miller, Abby Gordon and Zara Anishanslin-Bernhardt. The committee especially recognizes our distinguished commentators: Paul Reber, Amalia Amaki, Kathy Peiss and David Shields.



## Commentators

#### **Amalia Amaki**

Curator, The Paul Jones Collection, University Gallery Visiting Assistant Professor, Black American Studies University of Delaware

Amalia Amaki teaches courses on African American art, Women's art, American culture and film, and art, media, and criticism. A past art critic for *Art Papers and Creative Loafing*, she was also art reviewer for *Atlanta Homes* magazine and guest art critic for the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*. Her catalog essays include "Art and Everyday Life: The Paul Jones Collection," "To Make a Picture: Photographs of Prentice H. Polk," "Architecture As Identity: The Art of Beverly Buchanan," "Trace of the Hand, Track of the Spirit: African American Folk Art In Kentucky," "African-American Art: A Historical Overview," and "Joy of the Journey: Visual Accounts of Ten Women Artists in Georgia." As a practicing artist, she was a 1995 National Endowment for the Arts fellow in photography, and received numerous southern regional grants and awards, including Georgia Woman in the Arts in 1997. She received commissions from the Miller Brewing Company, Seagram's Gin, Inc., the Coca Cola Company, Coca Cola Enterprises, Hartsfield International Airport, General Services Administration, the High Museum of Art, and Nexus Contemporary Art Center. She recently edited and published an important resource for the study of African American Art: The Paul R. Jones Collection.

### **Paul Reber** President, Old Salem, Inc.

Paul Reber arrived at Old Salem in February of 2002. Since his arrival, Old Salem has completed the largest expansion in its history including a new visitor center, the restoration of the oldest African American church building in North Carolina, a Toy Museum, the restoration of the Vogler Gun Shop as Old Salem's second free standing trade shop, and the restoration of the Tannenberg organ. This \$15 million expansion has significantly improved the Old Salem experience by making it more diverse and inclusive and by providing more amenities and opportunities for the thousands of visitors who come to Old Salem each year.

Previously, Paul was the executive director of the Decatur House Museum, a National Trust Historic Site in Washington, DC. Along with his duties at Decatur House, Paul also served as Associate Campaign Director for Historic Sites where he was responsible for coordinating the capital campaign at the Trust's 19 historic sites. Prior to joining the National Trust in 1996, he served as director of development at Mount Vernon. From 1989 to 1993 he was director of the White House Endowment Fund, an organization established to raise a \$25 million endowment to support the ongoing preservation and conservation of the White House public rooms and collection. Paul holds a BA from Gettysburg College, an M.A. from George Mason University in American History, and a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park. Paul serves as a Trustee of the Sagamore Institute of the Adirondacks in Raquette Lake, NY, is a member of the Blue Grass Trust, Pope Villa National Advisory Board in Lexington, KY, and was a former member of the Board of Directors of the Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery in Washington, DC. He is an adjunct professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

# Kathy Peiss Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History University of Pennsylvania

Kathy Peiss is the Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Professor of American History at the University of Pennsylvania, where she has taught since 2001.



Her teaching and research focus on the areas of American women's and gender history, history of sexuality, and modern cultural history, with a particular interest in the ways commerce and culture have shaped everyday life and popular beliefs. Her publications include *Cheap Amusements: Working Women and Leisure in Turn-of-the-Century New York* (1986); *Love Across the Color Line* (1996); *Major Problems in the History of American Sexuality* (2001), and *Hope in a Jar: The Making of America's Beauty Culture* (1998), which was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Award. She is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the NEH, ACLS, Smithsonian Institution, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and the Fulbright Program. She has also served as a consultant to museums, archives, public history projects, and films, including the documentaries "New York" and "Miss America." She is currently working on two projects: "Designs for Living," a cultural history of the mass middle class of WWII and the postwar years, and–something completely different–"The Secret Life of a Librarian," a family story of librarians, intelligence, and cultural reconstruction in the 1940s.



#### **David S. Shields**

McClintock Professor of Southern Letters, Departments of English and History, University of South Carolina

David Shields is a professor of English and History at the University of South Carolina. He holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Chicago. He began his career as an early Americanist while working as an archaeological excavator under Bill Kelso in Kings Mill, Virginia. Dr. Shields is the editor of *Early American Literature*, a triquarterly journal exploring the "history, aesthetics, cultural significance, and meaning of writings in and about America from European contact to 1820." His many publications

include *Civil Tongues and Polite Letters in British America* (1997) and *Oracles of Empire* (1990), numerous book length publications, as well as 40 chapters in books, journal articles, commissioned articles, and reference essays. He is the former president of the Society of Early Americanists, and former director of the College of Charleston's Program in the Carolina Low Country and Atlantic World. He has served on the governing council of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture at the College of William & Mary, and is currently on the executive board of the MLA Division of American Literature to 1800 and the Advisory Committee Chair for the American Antiquarian Society's Program in the History of the Book.

#### Presenters

**Elizabeth Arnold Hull** received a bachelor's degree in archaeology from Appalachian State University in 1999, and is currently pursuing a Master's in Public History, Museum Studies concentration, part-time at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Employed until recently as a manuscripts processor in Duke University's Special Collections Library, she has begun a new position as archivist/librarian for the Forest History Society in Durham, NC.

**Kelly J. Baker** is a doctoral student in American Religious History at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. She holds an M.A. in American Religious History and a B.A. in American Studies, summa cum laude, from the same institution. Her research focuses on material forms of religious hatred, and she currently is an Assistant to the Editors for *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*.

**Dana Byrd** earned her B.A. in the History of Art from Yale University. She is currently a master's candidate in the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture co-sponsored by the University of Delaware. Her field is American material culture with a focus on the visual culture of reform, including the American anti-slavery movements, and workplace evangelism.

**Isabell Cserno** is a Ph.D. candidate in the American Studies Department at the University of Maryland, College Park. Originally from Germany, she joined the Ph.D. program in 2001, after spending two years at the University of Maryland as a Fulbright scholar. Isabell's research has been funded by the David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the African Diaspora, the Graduate School's Office for Student Affairs, and by the Provost's Office for Equity and Diversity. She is also currently the president for the International Graduate Students Association (IGSA) on the Maryland campus.

**Holly Grout** is a Ph.D. candidate in Modern French History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research interests include cultural histories of the Third Republic, gender studies, consumer culture and the democratization of leisure, and modern configurations of the self. Holly's paper, "The Old and the Beautiful: Wrinkle Creams, Hair Dyes and the Ageing Body in Early 20th Century Paris," is derived from with work she has done on her dissertation titled: "Embodying Beauty: Cosmetics and the Search for Selfhood in France, 1890-1939."

**Susan Lamb** is in her first year of doctoral studies at the Institute of the History of Medicine at The Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore. Her primary area of study is the history of psychosomatic medicine and psychiatry. She received her Master's in History from the University of Toronto, and her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from York University.

Anna O. Marley is currently finishing her Ph.D. coursework with a major field in American art at the University of Delaware's Department of art history. Her main areas of interest are eighteenth and nineteenth-century American and British painting, visual, and material culture, and nineteenth and twentieth-century photography, particularly representations of landscape. Anna recently received an Ailsa Mellon Bruce Predoctoral Travel Fellowship for travel to Spain and France from the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, which allowed her to travel along medieval pilgrimage routes in search of Romanesque Madonnas. She has held internships at the National Gallery of Art in the American and British paintings department, and also with the National Park Service working with the Historical Architecture Program. Anna received her Master's degree in



Museum Studies and Art History from the University of Southern California, and her bachelor's degree in Art History from Vassar College.

**Stefan Osdene** completed his Bachelor of Arts degree at Cornell University in May of 2004. He received degrees in American Studies and History, as well as a minor in Science and Technology Studies. Stefan participated in the College Scholar Honors program, which enabled him to create his own major in American Material Culture. He has worked and interned in a variety of settings including the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Store Architecture and Design, and the Matthew Barney Sculpture Studio in New York City. He hopes to pursue a doctorate in material culture and further his understanding of critical theory. In his spare time, he continues to research and acquire artifacts for his collection of vintage electrical fans, toasters, and appliances.

**Katherine Rieder** is in her third year of graduate study at Harvard in the History of American Civilization program. Her main interests are eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American art and material culture. She is in the very beginning stages of her dissertation, which will focus on the meanings and movements of portraiture and possessions during the American Revolution.