

EMILIA PAPPAS LAYDEN

1313 N FRANKLIN PLACE #604 MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN | emilia.layden@gmail.com 504.491.8528

53202

EDUCATION

University of Chicago

M.A., Concentration in post-war American art (June 2008)
3.95 GPA, Thesis: *Critical Investigations of the Meta Morris*

Boston College

B.A., English and Philosophy, Art History minor (May 2005)
3.74 GPA, *cum laude*

EXPERIENCE

ART CHICAGO, THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF CONTEMPORARY AND MODERN ART NEXT, THE INVITATIONAL EXHIBITION OF EMERGING ART

Programming Manager (2009 – Present)

- Responsible for conceptualizing and executing all educational and programmatic elements of two formerly distinct contemporary art fairs now combined as new entity, Next Art Chicago:
 - **Talk Shop** – A public symposium featuring leading curators, artists, and museum professionals. Maintained program size and impact (2011 featured over 20 panels with more than 70 speakers) despite budget reductions. In 2010 introduced Curatorial Advisory Committee comprised of curators from key regional institutions and incorporated as outreach mechanism for subsequent years.
 - **Special Exhibitions** – Oversee all aspects of exhibitions presented within the art fair.
 - **VIP Program** – Extensive four-day calendar of over 80 private events for art collectors. In 2010 oversaw propriety VIP database roll out and implementation; maintain database shared with **The Armory Show**, **Art Platform – LA**, **Art Toronto**, and **Volta**.
 - **NAC Newsletter** – In 2011 introduced monthly newsletter distributed to approximately 26,000 subscribers. Work with network of contacts at area museums and other arts organizations to develop newsletter content.
 - **Collectors Colloquium** – In 2011 developed and launched educational series designed for art enthusiasts and collectors. Six casual sessions feature experienced and engaging arts professionals who share tips and thoughts related to selecting and buying art.
- Direct continuous outreach efforts to local cultural partners and national museums and cultural institutions: resulted in 10% average increase in attendance each year.
- Assist with management and execution of marketing communications plans; compose copy for website, e-blasts, press releases and other printed materials, including fair catalogue.
- Oversee budget of \$1.8 million in expenditures.

THE DAVID AND ALFRED SMART MUSEUM OF ART AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Executive Assistant for Leadership Support (2008 – 2009)

- Managed the Office of the Director; primary point of contact for the Museum's Board members, top-level donors and prospects, and the academic and administrative leadership of the University.
- Directed all activities flowing through the Office of the Director including exhibition and loan requests, acquisition and donation documents, financial and budgetary reports, public relations and marketing materials, and museum programming initiatives.
- Oversaw all activities of the Museum's Board of Governors and its subsidiary committees and task forces; served as Board and committee secretary and created all governance documents and support materials.
- Provided high-level operational and communications support for the fundraising activities of the Museum Director, Development Director, and Director of Collections and Exhibitions.

EMILIA PAPPAS LAYDEN

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Curatorial Assistant Intern, Department of Architecture & Design (2008)

- Assisted with all aspects of exhibition programming and collection development related to two temporary exhibitions and permanent collection reinstallation.
- Conducted primary and secondary source research on artists, designers and architects, periods and styles as well as on specific works, locations of works, photograph sources, and manufacturer information when applicable.
- Performed other curatorial support: developed gallery layout and lighting, drafted wall texts, prepared justifications for new acquisitions, maintained collections records, gathered catalogue information, fielded general inquiries.
- Prepared materials for board and collection committee meetings and completed various tasks for the Modern Ball and Architecture and Design Society.

SOTHEBY'S INC.

Account Coordinator, Trusts Estates & Appraisals (2005 – 2007)

- As New York liaison to twelve North American offices managed valuations of fine and decorative art assets held by individuals, trusts, estates and museums.
- Collaborated with Sotheby's network of departmental specialists to effectively communicate advice and art management strategies to fiduciaries, executors, advisors, and collectors.
- Accompanied specialists and business development officers to on-site appraisal visits; assisted in cataloguing and photographing fine and decorative works of art.
- Coordinated consignments of appraised property; provided sales schedules and proposals; tagged and arranged shipment and receipt of property; tracked property performance.
- Oversaw data management initiative; comprehensive property listings from 400 appraisals valued at \$10M and above entered into proprietary company wide database to streamline data and improve accessibility.

CURATORIAL

2012

NEXT ART CHICAGO

Exhibition, .edu, currently in development for presentation at 2012 fair. Collaborating with Staci Boris, Executive Director of Next Art Chicago to highlight the internationally recognized artists who are also professors at Chicago's leading schools. Artist list currently includes Dawoud Bey, Paul D'Amato, Jeanne Dunning, Terry Evans, Michelle Grabner, Joseph Grigely, Judy Ledgerwood, Laura Letinsky, Jim Lutes, Dan Peterman, Jason Salavon, Jessica Stockholder, Catherine Sullivan, and Tony Tasset.

2009 – 2011

ART CHICAGO and NEXT

Coordinated *New Insight*, an exhibition of work by top MFA students from the country's most influential graduate art programs; 2009 – 2011 juried by Suzanne Ghez, Director of the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago.

Coordinated *Partisan*, an exhibition of works dedicated to the artistic exploration of activism and social change; 2009 curated by Mary Jane Jacob, Executive Director of Exhibitions at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 2010 co-curated by Rachel Furnari, Curatorial Assistant at The Jewish Museum and Karsten Lund, curatorial assistant at The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

2008

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

Assisted Zoë Ryan, Neville Bryan Curator of Design, in development of Modern Wing reinstallation which integrated new acquisitions with historic design holdings; Prepared exhibition checklist for retrospective *Konstantin Grcic: Decisive Design*;

EMILIA PAPPAS LAYDEN

Conducted preliminary research for *Hyperlinks: Architecture and Design*, which explored the fluidity between the two disciplines.

2005

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

Catalogued works of art in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Collections Management Issues and William Stover, then Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART, BOSTON COLLEGE

Assisted Nancy Netzer, Museum Director, and Sheila Blair and Jonathan Bloom, Norma Jean Calderwood Chairs of Islamic and Asian Art at Boston College, in the organization of *Cosmophilia*, an exhibition of Islamic Art from the C.L. David Collection, Copenhagen; exhibition mounted at the McMullen Museum in 2006 and University of Chicago's Smart Museum in 2007. Researched the history of a rare Mamluk carpet included in the exhibition; composed wall text and proposed installation strategy.

INTERESTS and SKILLS

- Member of **ArtTable**, a not for profit organization dedicated to the visual arts and to advancing women's leadership in the field.
- Exhibition Committee of **Redline Milwaukee**, a nonprofit urban laboratory that seeks to nourish the individual practice of contemporary art and to stimulate the creative potential of the local community.
- Development Committee of **Milwaukee Film**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to hosting Milwaukee's premiere film festival.
- Proficiency with Operating Systems: WIN 98/00/XP and MacOS; Applications: Microsoft Office Suite, Photoshop, FileMaker, SAP, PeopleSoft, Salesforce.com.
- Intermediate knowledge of Italian (reading comprehension and speaking skills); continued study at Parliamo Italiano Language School, New York (2006), University of Chicago (2008).