

TARA KOHN

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. 2013 Art History, The University of Texas at Austin
 M.A. 2007 Art History, The University of Texas at Austin
 B.A. 2005 Art History, Theater and Dance, Bowdoin College, *Magna Cum Laude* and *Phi Beta Kappa*

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2026-Present Assistant Professor of Art History, University of Southern Maine, Portland and Gorham, ME
 2024-2026 Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History, Berea College, Berea, KY
 2020-2024 Chair, Department of Visual Arts, Wells College, Aurora, NY
 2019-2024 Assistant Professor of Contemporary Art History, Department of Visual Arts, Wells College, Aurora, NY
 2017-2018 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in American Art History, Department of Art History, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
 2014-2019 Full-Time Lecturer in Art History and Museum Studies, Department of Comparative Cultural Studies, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

- In Progress *Ancestral Time: Toward a Postnational History of the Photographic Book*
 2018 Tara Kohn and Magdalena Waligórska, ed. *Jewish Translation/ Translating Jewishness*, Berlin: De Gruyter Press, 2018.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2025 “On White Surfaces: Beauford Delaney and Georgia O’Keeffe at An American Place,” *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art* 11, no. 2 (Fall 2025) <https://journalpanorama.org/article/on-white-surfaces/>
 2018 “Elevated: Along the Fringes of 291 Fifth Avenue,” *Panorama: Journal of the Association of Historians of American Art*. 4, no. 2 (Fall 2018), <http://editions.lib.umn.edu/panorama/article/elevated>.
 *Honorable Mention for the Director’s Essay Prize, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution
 2016 “An Eternal Flame: Alfred Stieglitz on New York’s Lower East Side,” *American Art*. 30, no. 3 (Fall 2016), 112-128.

Other Essays

- 2018 “Introduction: Jewish Translation/Translating Jewishness.” In *Jewish Translation/Translating Jewishness*, edited by Tara Kohn and Magdalena Waligórska. (Berlin: DeGruyter Press, 2018), 1-14.
- 2018 “Translation and Re-Vision: On the Resurgence and Resurfacing of Alter Kacyzne’s Photographic Texts.” In *Jewish Translation/Translating Jewishness*, edited by Tara Kohn and Magdalena Waligórska. (Berlin: DeGruyter Press, 2018), 279-300.
- 2018 “City of Ambition: Alfred Stieglitz at the Colby Museum.” *The Lantern*, Colby College Museum of Art. (May 2018.)
- 2009 “Writing in Stone: Alter Kacyzne’s *Old Road-Maker in Ostroleka, Poland*.” *Montage*, The University of Iowa, Vol. 3. (May 2009.)

Curated Exhibitions

- 2018 Tara Kohn and Björn Kronendorfer, *Echoes of Loss: Visual Responses to Trauma*, Coconino Center for the Arts, Flagstaff, AZ, April and May 2018.

Book Reviews

- 2020 *How the Other Half Looks: The Lower East Side and The Afterlives of Images*. Sara Blair. Princeton University Press, 2018. *MELUS: The Journal of the Society of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*, 45, no. 3 (Fall 2020), 206-208.

Cultural Impact and Media

- 2025 Excerpt from “Elevated: Along the Fringes of 291 Fifth Avenue” reprinted in the wikipedia page for Hodge Kirnon: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hodge_Kirnon
- 2020 Award-winning article “Elevated: Along the Fringes of 291 Fifth Avenue” Reprinted in the biennial impact report for PORTAL=Portraiture + Analysis, the National Portrait Gallery’s scholarly center

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2022 Award for Excellence in Academic Advising, Wells College
- 2019 Honorable Mention, Director’s Essay Prize, National Portrait Gallery
- 2017-18 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in American Art History, Bowdoin College
- 2017 College of Arts and Letters Summer Research Award, Northern Arizona University (declined)
- 2013 Departmental Nomination for the Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Fine Arts, The University of Texas at Austin
- 2010 Joyce and Arthur Schechter Fellowship, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC
- 2010 Travel Grant, College of Fine Arts Student Excellence Award, The University of Texas at Austin

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2026 Roundtable Participant, “American Art and the Jewish Experience,” Association for Historians of American Art Symposium, Colby College, Waterville, ME.
- 2025 “On White Surfaces: Beauford Delaney and Georgia O’Keeffe at An American Place,” *Bites of History* Lecture Series, Berea College, Berea, KY.
- 2023 Panelist and Chair, “Embodied Form: Material Engagement as a path to Environmental and Social Justice,” Scope International Art Fair, Miami Beach, FL.
- 2021 “These Fragments become Obstructions: Ansel Adams and *The Family of Man*,” Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2018 “The City of Ambition,” Colby Museum of Art, Waterville, ME.
- 2010 “Bea Stadtler’s *Reconstructing the Past*: Testimony, Teaching, and the Art of Restoration,” Department of Survivor Affairs, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC.

Conference Participation

- 2026 “Soil and Skin: The Texture of Grief in Ben Altman’s *The More That is Taken Away* (2011–2021),” SECAC Annual Conference, October 2024, Winston-Salem, NC.
- 2024 “Trace Fossils: On Archival Absences, Copies, and Translations,” SECAC Annual Conference, October 2024, Atlanta, GA.
- 2024 “Into the Abyss: Ben Altman’s *The More that is Taken Away* (2011-present),” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, March 2024, Montreal, Canada.
- 2023 “Stone Memories: Reflections on Photographic Originality and Absences in the Jewish Archive,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2023, San Francisco, CA.
- 2023 “Sinking,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, March 2023, Chicago, IL.
- 2020 “Writing the Break: Bea Stadtler’s *Reconstructing the Past* (1976),” College Art Association Annual Conference, February 2020, Chicago, IL.
- 2018 “To Paint the Entire Sky Over the Old Marketplace: On Light/Writing,” 11th Congress of the European Jewish Association for Jewish Studies, July 2018, Krakow, Poland.
- 2017 “Elevated: On the Fringes of 291 Fifth Avenue,” College Art Association Annual Conference, February 2017, New York, NY.
- 2016 “At the Threshold: Off White and Not Quite Black at 291 Fifth Avenue,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 2016, San Diego, CA.
- 2016 “Translation and Re-vision,” *Performative Commemoration of Painful Pasts*, Stockholm University, June 2016, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2015 “All of Our History is Waiting Here: Encircling and Returning through Visions of Israel,” Conney Conference on Jewish Arts, The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of

- Southern California Initiative for Israeli Arts and Humanities, March 2015, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2014 “An Eternal Flame: Alfred Stieglitz on New York’s Lower East Side,” College Art Association Annual Conference, February 2014, Chicago, IL.
- 2013 “Beneath the Surface: Entangled Histories of Jewish Loss in Raphael Abramovitch’s *The Vanished World* (1947),” Conney Conference on Jewish Arts, The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 2013, Madison, WI.
- 2012 “Fragments,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Brown University, March 2012, Providence, RI.
- 2011 “In the Penumbra: Reflections on Jewish Identity in and Between the Pages of *Camera Work* 36,” Conney Conference on Jewish Arts, The Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 2011, Madison, WI.
- 2011 “Between Visibility and Darkness: Veiled Jewishness in Alfred Stieglitz’s *Camera Work*,” Picturing the ‘People of the Book’: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Art in the Jewish Diaspora, The University of Texas at Austin, February 2011, Austin, TX.
- 2010 “Books to Connect the ‘People of the Book’: Notes on Current Research,” Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC.
- 2009 “Pathways back to the Old Country: Raphael Abramovitch’s *The Vanished World* (1947),” Nomadism and Art: Art Histories in the Age of Globalization Conference, Kress Foundation of Art History, The University of Kansas, April 2009, Lawrence, KS.
- 2009 “Writing in Stone: Alter Kacyzne’s *Old Road-Maker in Ostroleka Poland*,” Art and Catastrophe Symposium, The University of Iowa, April 2009, Iowa City, IA.
- 2009 “A Stone in that Great Monument: Raphael Abromavitch’s *The Vanished World* (1947) as a Site of Memory and Mourning,” Eleanor Greenhill Symposium, The University of Texas at Austin, April 2009, Austin, TX.
- 2008 “‘What 291 Means to Me’: Alfred Stieglitz’s *Nadelman Exhibition—2 Rooms, December 1915*,” ‘Mongrel’ America Symposium, The University of Texas at Austin, October 2008, Austin, TX.
- 2008 “Laboratory Space: Experiments in Modernism, Medicine and Racial Categorization at 291 Fifth Avenue,” Consuming Race: Shifting Paradigms and the Politics of Race in the 21st Century Conference, The University of Chicago, May 2008, Chicago, IL.

Panels Organized

- 2022 “Toward an Inclusive Methodology: Experiments in Art Writing,” College Art Association Annual Conference, February 2022, Chicago, IL.
- 2020 “More than Just Art and Objects: Building Community Through Collections at the New York State Museum: A Conversation with Dr. Gwen Saul,” moderated by Tara Kohn and hosted by the String Room Gallery, Wells College, October 2020, Aurora New York.

- 2020 “Decentering the Canon?: An Interdisciplinary Roundtable on Anti-Racist Teaching Practices,” hosted by the Wells Anti-Racist Pedagogy Collective, Wells College, July 2020, Aurora, NY.
- 2018 “Feathers and Fabric: A Conversation with Eric O’Connell and Gina Adams,” moderated by Catherine Peterman and Björn Krondorfer and hosted by the Coconino Center for the Arts, May 2018, Flagstaff, AZ.
- 2018 “Bullets and Fire: A Conversation with Ruth Liberman and Azin Seraj,” moderated by Tara Kohn and Björn Krondorfer and hosted by the Coconino Center for the Arts, April 2018, Flagstaff, AZ.
- 2011 “Picturing the ‘People of the Book’: An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Art in the Jewish Diaspora,” February 2011, Austin, TX.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Southern Maine (3/3 courseload)
 Berea College (3/3 courseload)
 Wells College (3/3 courseload)
 Bowdoin College (2/1 courseload)
 Northern Arizona University (4/4 courseload)

400-Level Courses

Senior Thesis Seminar in Art History
 Senior Thesis Seminar in Visual Art
 Interdisciplinary Capstone Seminar: Becoming American
 The Museum in Theory and Practice

300-Level Courses

Art and Activism
 Art and Catastrophe: Visual Responses to Trauma
 Professional Practices in the Visual Arts
 Theoretical Frameworks in the Visual Arts
 Becoming American: The Immigrant Journey in Art and Culture
 The Museum in Theory and Practice

200-Level Courses

20th and 21st Century Art
 Twentieth-Century Latin American Art
 A History of Contemporary Art
 A History of Modern Art
 Snap, Shoot, Instagram: A History of Photography in America
 A Cultural History of Photography
 Exploring Museums

100-Level Courses

A History of Western Art to 1400
 A History of Western Art Since 1400
 A History of Non-Western Art

Introduction to the Visual Arts

First-Year Writing Seminars

Becoming American: The Immigrant Journey in Art and Culture

SERVICE

College Service

2022-2023	Chair, Academic Standing, Advising, and Admissions Committee, Wells College
2020-2023	Elected Member, Academic Standing, Advising, and Admissions Committee, Wells College
2020-2022	Co-Director, String Room Gallery, Wells College
2020	Team Co-Leader, Strategic Initiative to Embody Inclusive Teaching and Inclusive Community Engagement into the Core Wells Experience, Wells College
2020	Co-Founder and Steering Committee Member, The Wells Anti-Racist Pedagogy Collective, Wells College
2017-2018	Program Coordinator for the Museum Studies Minor, Northern Arizona University

Professional Service

Peer Reviewer:

Art Journal (2023)

Art Journal (2021)

American Art (2020)