

Curriculum Vita

Nathan Harpaz, Ph.D.

Education:

Ph.D. Union Institute & University, Cincinnati, OH, 2010

Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration on Art History and specialization in History of Architecture and Town Planning

Doctoral dissertation: “From Theory to Practice: Zionist Architecture and Town Planning in Early Twentieth Century Berlin and Tel Aviv.”

Doctoral Committee: Dr. Richard Courage, Westchester College (author of the book “The Muse in Bronzeville: African American Creative Expression in Chicago, 1932-1950”); Dr. David Sokol, University of Illinois (author of the book “The Noble Room: The Inspired Conception and Tumultuous Creation of Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple”); Dr. Sandra Sufian, University of Illinois (author of the book “Healing the Land and the Nation: Malaria and the Zionist project in Mandatory Palestine, 1920-1947”); Dr. Volker Welter, University of California, Santa Barbara (author of the book “Biopolis: Patrick Geddes and the City of Life”)

M.A. Tel Aviv University, 1979

Field of Study: Art History

Thesis on “The Art and Architecture in Tel Aviv between the Wars” won the Kaplan Award for the most original study in Israeli art.

B.A. Tel Aviv University, 1977

Field of Study: Art History (including museum studies)

B.A. Tel Aviv University, 1977

Field of Study: Psychology

Affiliations:

American Alliance of Museums

Illinois Association of Museums

Association of Academic Museums and Galleries

Appointments:

Manager and Curator

Koehnline Museum of Art

Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL, 1998 – Present

- Supervises the museum's daily operation
- Utilizes different departments of the college servicing the museum's needs such as Facilities, College Advancement, Foundation, Accounting, IT, and Academic Affairs
- Curates exhibitions focusing on modern and contemporary art and unique exhibits with the collaboration of different academic programs such as Women and Gender Studies, Global Studies, and Jewish studies
- Reviews artists' proposals and produces exhibitions' catalogs
- Manages the college's art collection including the Sculpture Park on campus
- Generates an extensive program to expand the collection through gifts and long-term loans from art collectors and artists
- Initiated an endowment providing annually funds for conservation and purchase
- Assists the college's Foundation to recruit and nurture donors through the museum's activities
- Established an Advisory Board to the museum consisted of faculty members and administrators
- Composed the museum's mission and different policies
- Engaged with assessments of the museum by the Institute of Museum and Library Services: institutional review and collection management
- Generated extensive publicity in the Chicago area media including several appearances in Channel 11 Chicago Tonight show.

Consultant for emerging artists and for Museum Collections Management

Chicago, IL, 1987-2005

- Represented emerging contemporary artists as an independent curator
- Designed customized database programs to manage art collections and architectural structures to institutions such as Benedictine University, Wilmette Historical Museum, Koehnline Museum of Art, and Governors State University

- Conducted assessment for the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at Governors State University, including the sculptures of Mark di Suvero, Martin Puryear, Bruce Nauman, Mary Miss, Joel Shapiro, and Richard Hunt.

Museum Director and Chief Curator

Memorial Art Museum (Beth Yad Le-banim), Tel-Aviv, 1979-1987

- Managed the operation of the museum
- Utilized different departments of the Municipality of Tel Aviv in servicing the museum's needs
- Reported to the head of the Cultural Department and to the Mayor of Tel Aviv
- Developed a new concept and mission to the museum consisted on three motifs: The Land, The Spirit, and The Sacrificing
- Curated exhibitions focusing on modern and contemporary art and architecture, and historical exhibits
- Orchestrated numerous cultural and artistic activities including concerts, performances, lectures, and educational programs
- Supervised a major renovation of the museum after an aggressive fundraising campaign
- Turned a struggling institution into one of the most vibrant cultural venue in Tel Aviv

Museum Education Specialist

Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, 1976-1987

Designed the program "The Walking Museum" involving children and adults in discovering the artistic and historical heritage of the city of Tel Aviv including its unique architecture

Museum Planner

History Museum of Hertzliya, 1985-1987

- Responsible for research, museological conception and master plan
- Oversaw design competition and implementation of all museum's architectural renovation and innovative exhibits
- Produced one of the most creative and sophisticated history museums in Israel

Teaching:

Instructor

Oakton Community College, 2001 to Present

Museum Studies: theory and internship

Art history: courses from Pre-history to Modern

Art history: None western art

Art history: Jewish Art from Antiquity to Modern Israel

Coordinator and Instructor of Museum Studies

Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, 1984-1987

Assisted Prof. Mordechai Omer in founding the two-year program

Planned curriculum studies

Recruited lecturers from the museum field

Lectured on educational aspects of the museum

Lecturer and Curator of college's gallery

Sadna: College of Architecture & Design, Tel Aviv, 1983-1987

Responsible for the planning and presentation of these courses:

Introduction to Art History from Ancient Time to Modern

History of Western Civilizations (complementary course to Art History)

Psychology for Artists, Designers and Architects

Produced architectural exhibitions together with the college's students

Publications:

Walking Museum: Dream Houses of Old Town Tel Aviv, Educational Department, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 1976

Walking Museum: The Modern-Oriental Style, Educational Department, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 1976

Walking Museum: Architecture of Old Jaffa, Educational Department, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 1976

Walking Museum: Neo-Classical Architecture, Educational Department, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 1976

Walking Museum: Modern Architecture, Educational Department, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 1976

“From Dream Houses to Bauhaus.” *Idan* (Jerusalem, 1984): 91-106.

“Hebrew City Searching for Style.” Special Exhibition for the 75th Anniversary of the City of Tel Aviv. (Sadna: College of Architecture & Design, Tel Aviv, May 1984).

“Architectural Drawings of the 1920s: From Neo-Classic to Early Modern.” (Sadna: College of Architecture & Design, Tel Aviv, Summer 1984).

“Rothschild Boulevard: A Street as a Museum.” (Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, 1985).

“The First Hebrew City and its Architecture.” *Haaretz Museum Yearbook* (Tel Aviv, 1985): 277-293.

“Biographical History,” “The 1920’s,” and “Tel Aviv: Bauhaus on the Sands.” *International Architect* (London, 1985) 15-16, 20, 40-41.

“Vincent Van Gogh: Myth and Diagnosis.” *Mosaic* (Des Plaines, IL, spring 2003) 5-10.

“War and Art: The Creative Response to Human Destruction”. *Mosaic* (Des Plaines, IL, fall 2004) 29-33.

Zionist Architecture and Town Planning: The Building of Tel Aviv (1919-1929), West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University Press, 2013.

“The Biro-Bidjan Portfolio: A Soviet Union Endeavor and Chicago Progressive Artists,” in *The Left Front: Radical Art in the “Red Decade,” 1929-1940*, Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, January 2014.

“Jewish Artists and the Perception of the Crucifixion,” in *Teaching the Historical Jesus: Issues and Exegesis* (editor: Zev Garber), Routledge, March 2015.

“Artists’ Perception of the Last Supper and the Passover Seder,” in *The Annotated Passover Haggadah* (editors: Zev Garber and Kenneth Hanson), GCRR Press, February 2021.

“Architect Alexander Levy: Berlin – Tel Aviv – Auschwitz,” in Wendy Adel-Marie, *A History of the Holocaust: A Guide for the Community College Student*.

Exhibitions’ Catalogs

Passages: Corey Postiglione. Nov. 1998, essays by Nathan Harpaz, Bonnie Hartenstein (School of the Art Institute), and Michael Rooks (The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago).

For All Ages: Patrick Miceli. Jan. 1999, essays by Nathan Harpaz and James Yood (Northwestern University).

Mayan Procession: Winifred Godfrey. June 1999, essays by Nathan Harpaz, and Rene Arceo (Mexican Museum, Chicago).

Fragments of Refuge: Fern Valfer, August 1999, essays by Nathan Harpaz and John Brunetti (Art critic, Chicago).

Glancing Back: John Pitman Weber. May 2000, essays by Nathan Harpaz, and Michael Piazza (The School of the Art Institute).

Max Ernst: From the Collection of William A. and Phyllis G. Koehnline. September 2000, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Richard Hunt: Wings. February 2001, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Illinois Landscapes: George Atkinson, Harold Gregor, Fred Jones. May 2001, essay by David Sokol (University of Illinois, Chicago).

Sculpture in Chicago Now. July 2001, essay by Corey Postiglione (Columbia College, Chicago).

John Himmelfarb: Inland Romance. September 2001, introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Gerald Nordland (art historian and former museum director).

Didier Nolet: Full Circle. December 2001, essay by Garrett Holg (Art News magazine). *Plucked Chicken Press: The Stone Prints of Will Petersen and His Contemporaries*. 2001, essays by Nathan Harpaz.

A Gift to Biro-Bidjan, Chicago, 1937: From Despair to New Hope. March 2002, essays by Nathan Harpaz following an original research and new discoveries.

(In 1937 fourteen Chicago area artists created a folio of woodcuts as a fundraising project for the Jewish autonomy Biro-Bidjan in the Soviet Union. These artists were also active in the Works Progress Administration during the Depression era. The woodcuts reveal scenes of oppression and despair against images of “new hope” and optimism. Some of them reflect the hardship of the Depression in the United State or the persecution of Jews in Europe and others express the expectations of the New Deal program or Stalin’s solution for a Jewish homeland.)

Seymour Rosofsky: Fresh Glance. May 2004, introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Diane Thodos (Art critic).

Andrew Young: Harbour, December 2005, preface by Nathan Harpaz and essay by Britt Salvesen (Curator, Milwaukee Art Museum).

ArtWalk at Oakton: Koehnline Museum of Art Catalog and Guidebook of the Art Collection, Des Plaines campus, 2005, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Joseph Delaney: People and Sights of Urban Life, February 2007, introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Frederick Moffatt (University of Tennessee).

Sculpture Invasion, July 2007, introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and artists' essays by Victor Cassidy (Art critic).

Barbie meets G. I. Joe, September 2007, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Convergence: Jewish and African American Artists in Depression-era Chicago, February 2008, introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Richard Courage (Westchester College).

Leo Politi: Mexican Images of Olvera Street, May 2008, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Ink Paintings by Qigu Jiang: Figures, May 2009, text by James Elkins (School of the Art Institute of Chicago) and Nathan Harpaz.

Joseph Meert: Painting in the Shadow of Success, July 2009, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Gregory Orloff: Prints from the Great Depression, September 2009, essay by Nathan Harpaz.

Curt Frankenstein: Dream World and Real world, December 2009, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by David Sokol (UIC).

Corey Postiglione: Retrospective of Paintings 1972-2010, February 2010, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Max King Cap (Columbia College Chicago).

Fragments of Color: Georg Stahl, September 2010, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Georg W. Stahl.

Steven Jay Urry: A Retrospective, May 2012, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Victor Cassidy (Art critic).

Eyewitness: Works by Morris Topchevsky, August 2012, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, and essay by Donna Korey and Amy Galpin (San Diego Museum of Art).

The Art of Leon and Sadie Garland, August 2013, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz, essay by David Sokol (UIC).

ArtWalk at Oakton: Koehnline Museum of Art Catalog and Guidebook of the Art Collection, Skokie campus, 2013, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Egon Weiner: Pillar of Human Emotions, July 2014, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Art After 1600° Fahrenheit: Enamel Painting in Chicago, May 2015, Introduction by Nathan Harpaz and essay by architect/artist Georg Stahl.

Elmer Sanders: Rediscovery of a Chicago Outsider Artist, May 2017, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Non-Objective Art by Medard Klein, December 2017, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Sculpting a Chicago Artist: Richard Hunt and his teachers Nelli Bar and Egon Weiner, (Art Design Chicago, the Terra Foundation for American Art), July 2018, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Harold Haydon: Retrospective from the Collection of the Koehnline Museum of Art, December 2018, text by Nathan Harpaz.

From Sorrow to Triumphant Joy: The Art of David Bekker, December 2019, text by Nathan Harpaz.

Publications in Libraries

31 works in 44 publications in 499 library holdings (from WorldCat Identities)

Selective holdings

Zionist architecture and town planning: the building of Tel Aviv (1919-1929):

University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Harvard University, University of California LA, Cornell University, Syracuse University, Yeshiva University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania.

A Gift to Biro-Bidjan, Chicago, 1937: From Despair to New Hope:

Art Institute of Chicago, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Spertus College, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, University of Michigan, Syracuse University, Princeton University, Yeshiva University, Stanford University, University of California Santa Barbara, Lake Forest College, American Academy of Art.

Joseph Meert: Painting in the Shadow of Success:

University of Chicago, Art Institute of Chicago, Smithsonian Institution, Library of Congress, University of California Santa Barbara.

Presentations, lectures and Publicity:

“Exhibiting in Non-Traditional Spaces,” Annual Conference of the Association of Midwest Museums and the Illinois Association of Museums, Sponsored by the Association of College and University Museums and Galleries, Rockford, IL, 2001.

“Lost and Found” by Martha Bayne (The discovery of the Biro-Bidjan portfolio by Nathan Harpaz), Chicago Reader, August 9, 2002, Cover page and pp. 12-13.

“Community Builders – Education, or Entertainment?” Illinois Association of Museums Annual Conference, Skokie, IL, 2003.

“Images from Illinois: A Gift to Biro-Bidjan: Chicago, 1937 – from Despair to New Hope,” Conference on Illinois History, Springfield, IL, 2003.

“Jewish Art: Restrictions, Assimilation and Originality”, lecture has been presented in various institutions since 2004.

“Venus and the Muses,” Women’s Day (Keynote speaker), Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL, 2005.

“Symbolism in the Sculpture of Richard Hunt”, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL, 2007.

“Sculpture Invasion,” Chicago Tonight, WTTW (Channel 11), July 17, 2007.

“Gregory Orloff: Forgotten Chicago Artist,” Chicago Tonight, WTTW (Channel 11), Terra Foundation Artbeat Special, September 28, 2010.

“Carl Jung, the Collective Unconscious and DNA: Art beyond Cultures,” lecture has been presented in various institutions since 2011.

“Annie Leibovitz: From Pop Culture to Political Activism,” lecture has been presented in various institutions since 2011.

“Art of the Holocaust,” lecture has been presented in various institutions since 2011.

“Eyewitness: Works by Morris Topchevsky,” Chicago Tonight, WTTW (Channel 11), Terra Foundation Artbeat Special, August 21, 2012.

“Zionist Architecture and Town Planning: The Building of Tel Aviv (1919-1929),” Association of Jewish Studies Conference, Boston, MA, December 2013.

“Zionist Architecture and Town Planning: The Building of Tel Aviv (1919-1929),” Bauhaus Center, Tel Aviv, Israel, December 2013.

“Egon Weiner: Pillar of Human Emotions,” Chicago Tonight, WTTW (Channel 11), Terra “Art After 1600° Fahrenheit: Enamel Painting in Chicago,” Chicago Tonight, WTTW (Channel 11), Terra Foundation Artbeat Special, June 16, 2015.

Coverage of numerous articles and reviews on special collections, exhibitions and relevant programs in the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, Daily Herald, Chicago Magazine, Pioneer Press, and the New York Times.