

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Chonja Lee

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Current Position

Since 01/2023

Université de Neuchâtel

Lecturer in Early Modern Art History and Museum Studies and postdoctoral researcher within the SNSF-funded [PRIMA-project Bibliothèques et musées en Suisse entre XVIIIe et XIXe](#), led by Prof. Dr. Valérie Kobi (60%)

- Teaching graduate and undergraduate students
- Scientific coordinator for the citizen science digitalization-project on the heterogenous collections of library cabinets as the nucleus of museums.
- Responsible for the scientific and public communication

Fields of Research

- Provenance and cultural heritage studies
- Global material culture in Europe
- Design and media history of printed cotton textiles
- Material culture of slavery
- Decolonial theories and practices
- Theories of life, liveness and animism
- Aesthetics and politics of sculpture and art in public space

Education

Since 11/2016

Universität Bern

Habilitation project in Art History
Political Patterns. European printed Cotton Textiles for West Africa in the 18th and early 19th Century and a New History of Style and Media

22/05/2015

Universität Zürich

PhD insigni cum laude in Art History
Thesis: *Anima vegetativa. Florale Animationen in Film, Tanz und bildender Kunst Frankreichs um 1900* (advisors: Prof. Dr. Tristan Weddigen, Prof. Dr. Oskar Bätschmann)

09/2013–12/2013

Princeton University

PhD student, advisor: Prof. Dr. Spyros Papapetros (SNSF-fellowship for prospective researchers)

05/2013–09/2014

Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte Paris (DFK)

Visiting researcher (SNSF-Doc.Mobility fellowship)

24/04/2009	Universität Zürich M.A. summa cum laude in European and East Asian Art History and Political Science Thesis: <i>Real, ideal, fatal: Frauendarstellung im öffentlichen Raum Zürichs</i>
03–06/2006	Université de Genève Exchange student
09/2003–04/2009	Universität Zürich Studies: European and East Asian Art History and Political Science
08/2002–05/2003	École cantonale d'art de Lausanne (écal) Studies: Fine art and film
10/2001–07/2002	Universität Zürich Studies: European and East Asian Art History and Political Science

Employment History

Since 04/2024	Université de Neuchâtel Lecturer in Early Modern Art History and Museum Studies and Postdoctoral researcher (60%) within the SNSF-PRIMA-project Bibliothèques et musées en Suisse entre XVIIIe et XIXe , led by Prof. Dr. Valérie Kobi: Research and teaching
10/2023–03/2024	Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München Replacement of the Junior Professor for Provenance and Cultural Heritage Research (100%)
08/2023–01/2024	Universität Bern Visiting faculty at the chair of Prof. Dr. Urte Krass
01/2023–09/2023	Université de Neuchâtel Lecturer in Early Modern Art History and Museum Studies and Postdoctoral researcher (60%) within the SNSF-PRIMA-project Bibliothèques et musées en Suisse entre XVIIIe et XIXe , led by Prof. Dr. Valérie Kobi: Research and teaching
08/2022–01/2023	Universität Zürich Visiting faculty in the MA-program Art History in a Global Context
11/2016–11/2022	Universität Bern Postdoctoral researcher (70%) within the SNSF-funded project The Exotic? Integration, Exhibition, and Imitation of Non-Western Material Culture in Europe (1600–1800) , led by Prof. Dr. Noémie Étienne: Research and teaching
08/2007–02/2020	Museum Rietberg Art mediator: Concept and conduction of guided tours on Art from Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Oceania (in German/French/English)
09/2015–08/2016	Université de Genève Assistant/lecturer: Teaching BA and MA seminars on contemporary art (chair of Prof. Dr. Dario Gamboni)

02/2015–10/2016	NZZ-Mediengruppe Employee corporate communication: PR communication and branding, internal and external communication
09/2009–09/2012	Schweizerisches Institut für Kunstwissenschaft (SIK-ISEA) Zürich Doctoral fellow in the Research Promotion Program
2005, 2007, 2014,	Universität Zürich Lecturer: Teaching one BA seminar, Tutor: Co-teaching BA and MA seminars
09/2008–09/2009	Université de Genève Assistant/lecturer: Teaching BA-seminars and co-teaching one MA-seminar (chair of Prof. Dr. Dario Gamboni)
10/2005–02/2006	Kunstmuseum Luzern Trainee: Collection conservation, editing and writing for the online catalogue
02/2002–02/2015	NZZ am Sonntag Freelance journalist, deputy assistant to the Chief Editor

Approved Research Projects, Prizes, Awards, Grants and Fellowships

2023	Publication funds for the book <i>Networks and Practices of Connoisseurship in the Global 18th Century</i> covered through the Commission des publications de la Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines de l'Université de Neuchâtel, co-applicant
06/2022–02/2023	Participant of the career program COMET of the Universität Bern
10/2021	Exhibition funding for the co-curated contemporary art exhibition and festival Fragments & Absences at the Grand Palais Bern , covered through the Walter Benjamin Kolleg and the Grand Palais, co-applicant
05/2021	Winner of the award "Junge Wissenschaft", Walter Benjamin Kolleg
09/2019–02/2021	Exhibition funding for the co-curated exhibition project on the SNSF-research at the Palais de Rumine, Lausanne (construction, transport, insurance, security, catalogue, communication, promotion, scientific and cultural program), covered through the Cantonal Museums of Lausanne and various public and private foundations (not included: staff and running costs of the museums and SNSF-research team), co-applicant
02/2019–02/2021	SNSF-Agora grant for exhibition project <i>Exotic?</i> : Grant for co-curated exhibition project on the SNSF-research at Palais de Rumine, Lausanne (coordination, scenography, artistic contributions), Swiss National Science Foundation, co-applicant

- 24/08/2014–29/08/2014 **Participant of the Summer School by eikones NFS Bildkritik, Basel, *Ästhetiken der Skulptur: Form, Bild und Mensch (1766–1920)*, led by Dr. Malika Maskarinec (Universität Basel) and Prof. Dr. Megan Luke (University of Southern California)**
- 01/12/2013–31/05/2014 **SNSF-Doc.Mobility fellowship: "Bilder der Pflanzenseele in Malerei, Tanz und Film Frankreichs um 1900", Swiss National Science Foundation, Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte Paris (DFK), main applicant**
- 01/05/2013–31/10/2013 **SNSF-fellowship for prospective researchers: "Animismus und Morphogenese in Darstellungen von Pflanzenmenschen um 1900", Swiss National Science Foundation, Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte Paris (DFK)/School of Architecture Princeton University (advisor: Prof. Dr. Spyros Papapetros), main applicant**
- 10/07/2011–15/07/2011 **Participant of the 1. Internationale Sommerakademie by Leibniz-Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung (ZfL), Berlin, *Die 'Erste Kulturwissenschaft' und ihr Potential für die Gegenwart*, led by Prof. Dr. Sigrid Weigel (ZfL, TU Berlin)**
- 09/2009–09/2012 **Doctoral fellowship in the Research Promotion Program of the Schweizerisches Institut für Kunstwissenschaft (SIK-ISEA), main applicant**
- 21/09/2009–25/09/2009 **Participant of the Warburg-Studienkurs by Universität Hamburg, Material-Wissen. Visuelle und taktile Experimente in Kunst und Industrie, led by Prof. Dr. Monika Wagner (Universität Hamburg), Prof. Dr. Susanne Kuchler (University College London) and Dr. Petra Lange-Berndt (University College London)**
- 03/2009 **Prize for M.A. summa cum laude, Universität Zürich**
- 13/05/2007–19/05/2007 **Participant of the École de Printemps by Proartibus. Réseau International pour la Formation à la Recherche en Histoire de l'Art, Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, *Die Kunstgeschichte und die Herausforderung der Anthropologie*, led by Prof. Dr. Enrico Castelnuovo (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa), Prof. Dr. Thierry Dufrêne (Université de Paris X-Nanterre und Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art), Prof. Dr. Dario Gamboni (Université de Genève), Prof. Dr. Claude Imbert (École Normale Supérieure, Paris und Gastdozentin des Studiengangs "Historische Kunst- und Bilddiskurse), Prof. Dr. Thomas Kirchner (Universität Frankfurt), Prof. Dr. Johanne Lamoureux (Université de Montréal), Prof. Dr. Ségolène LeMen (Université des Paris X-Nanterre und Institut Universitaire de France), Prof. Dr. Henri Zerner (Harvard University), Prof. Dr. Michael F. Zimmermann (Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)**
- 2004–2006 **Publication funds for the book *Kunst vor der Haustür*, raised at various public and private foundations, co-applicant**

Teaching

-
- Universität de Neuchâtel** - *Indiennes : Histoire croisée d'un tissu entre l'Asie, l'Europe et l'Afrique (17^e–19^e siècles)* (MA seminar, 2024)

- Universität Wien**
- *Vegetable and Artificial Intelligence. Conceptions of the Non-Human Other in 20th and 21st Century Art* (session in the lecture series *Life and Death in Art and Cultural Heritage* at the chair of Cultural Heritage and Art History, January 23, 2024)
- Zürcher Hochschule der Künste**
- *Von Lenzburg nach Luanda – Eine globale Geschichte der Schweizer Baumwolldrucke* (session in the lecture series *Design Studies* at the chair of Design Theory and History, December 1, 2024)
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, München**
- *Artistic and Collaborative Approaches in Provenance Research* (BA and MA seminar for Provenance and Cultural Heritage Research, 2023/24)
 - *Theories of the Living in Art and Cultural Heritage Research* (BA and MA exercise for Provenance and Cultural Heritage Research, 2023/24)
 - *Decolonial Approaches and Provenance Research at the Humboldt Forum* (Excursion with Prof. Dr. Sophie Junge to Berlin, January 17.–18., 2024)
- Universität Bern**
- *Indiennes: Transkulturelle Verflechtungs- und Designgeschichte eines globalen Textils (17.–19. Jh.)* (lecture in Early Modern Art History and Textile Studies, 2023)
 - *Château de Prangins, plant dyeing workshop and visit to the exhibition “Indiennes. How a fabric conquered the world”* (Textile Studies excursion co-organized with Prof. Dr. Corinne Mühlemann to the Swiss National Museum, October 20, 2023)
- Université de Neuchâtel**
- *Décoloniser la Suisse : Objets, gestes et discours 18^e–21^e siècles* (MA seminar, 2023)
- Universität Zürich**
- *The Material Culture of Colonialism in Switzerland, 18th–21st Centuries* (MA seminar of the Master Program Art History in a Global Context 2022)
- Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst FHNW, Münchenstein**
- *Exotic? Von der Forschung zur Ausstellung* (Workshop, November 19, 2020)
- Universität Bern**
- *Curating and Journalistic Writing – Excursion to the Exhibition Exotic?* (2021)
 - *Curating and Journalistic Writing – Excursion to the Exhibition Exotic?* (2020)
 - Co-organization of the *Amsterdam Excursion* (2019)
 - *The Other as Consumer – Designs for Export Textiles*, session in “Creating Otherness. Images, Objects, Texts (16th–18th centuries, Europe)” (Lecture, 2018)
 - *Art and Diplomacy – Textiles: Trade, History and Art History*, session in “Art and Diplomacy. From the Renaissance to the (French) Revolution” (BA seminar, 2017)
- Université de Genève**
- *Art et animation autour de 1900* (MA seminar, 2016)
 - *L'idéal végétal dans l'art, 1900–2015* (BA seminar, 2015)
 - *L'art dans l'espace public* (BA seminar and excursion, 2009)
 - *L'art contemporain japonais* (BA seminar, 2009)

- *Actualité de la recherche* (MA seminar cycle with Prof. Dr. Dario Gamboni, 2008/2009)

Universität Zürich

- *Die Pflanze als künstlerisches Ideal* (BA colloquium, 2014)
- *Künstlerische Techniken* (BA seminar with Maya Burtscher, 2007)
- *Aktuelle Ausstellungen – Kunstkritik* (Tutor, 2005)

Supervision, Advisory and Jury

xviii.ch Schweizerische Zeitschrift für die Erforschung des 18. Jahrhunderts - Member of the editorial board (since 2024)

Universität Bern

- Co-supervision with Prof. Dr. Noémie Etienne of the PhD-thesis by MA. Etienne Wismer (2019–2024)
- Advisory for Noémie Étienne, "[Indienne-Stoffe: Konsum im Zeitalter der Aufklärung](#)", in: *Geschichte schreiben. Arte*, December 4, 2021

Swiss Association of Art Historians (VKKS)

- Jury member for the Art Research Promotion Awards of the Swiss VKKS (2021–2024)
- Mentor in VKKS' Mentoring Program (2023–2024)

Université de Genève

- Supervision of the BA-thesis (2016)
- Supervision of the BA-thesis (2009)

Art Education

Palais de Rumine, Lausanne Guided virtual and in situ tours for museum professionals and the larger public (2020–2021)

Museum Rietberg, Zürich Guided tours of various special exhibitions and the permanent collection (2007–2020)

Memberships in Associations and Networks

Since 05/2023 **Rietberg Gesellschaft (Museum Rietberg)**
Member

Since 02/2023 **Schweizerischer Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung**
Member

Since 07/2012 **UZH Alumni Art History, Universität Zürich**
President and founding member: Fundraising, co-organization of [lectures, talks, studio and collection visits, and other events](#)

12/2009–05/2016 **Articulations Swiss Association for young Academics in Art History**
President: Organization of lectures and events, lobbying

02/2005–06/2008 **Students Association Department of Art History, Universität Zürich**
President: Communication between students and institute, evaluation of the institute, appellate procedures, organization of lectures and events, allocation of teaching assignments

2011–2015

International Council of Museums (ICOM)

Member of the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Modern Art

Since 2009

Swiss Association of Art Historians (VKKS)

Member

Language Skills

German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (good), Latin (good), Japanese (basic)