

2013 Midwest Women Artists Symposium

“Midwest Women Artists, 1840-1940: Discovering Their Work, Telling Their Stories, Learning from the Past”

This interdisciplinary symposium explored the art, experiences and legacies of women artists working in the Midwest between 1840 and 1940, with especial attention to artists active in the nascent stage of Modernism who made cultural contributions, taught and ran businesses, established community organizations, participated in political debate, and raised children. It considered their wonderful stories that speak to their desire to create and their willingness to go beyond societal boundaries to do it.

Keynote Address

Wanda Corn, Robert & Ruth Halperin Professor Emerita in Art History, Stanford University: “Women Building History” Mary Cassatt and Her Sister Artists at the 1893 Columbian Exposition”

Panel: “Telling Women Artists’ Stories”

Dr. Joni Kinsey, Professor of Art History, University of Iowa

Dr. Joanna Gardner-Huggett, Associate Professor of Art History, DePaul University

Julie L’Enfant, independent scholar, Minneapolis/St. Paul

Jim Zimmer, Director of Art and History, Illinois State Museum

Panel: “Art Practice, Lessons and Legacies”

Heather Brammier, Associate Professor of Painting, Bradley University

Carol Dearborn, painter and educator

Joan Ericksen, Development Director, Sun Foundation, Washburn, IL

Lynn Hellmuth, sculptor, Madison, WI

Beate Minkovski, Executive Director, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL

Joyce Owens, Curator, Galleries Program and Assistant Professor of Drawing and Painting, Chicago State University

Presentations

Mary Caroline Simpson, Assistant Professor of Art History, Eastern Illinois

University: “Representing the Growing City: Women, Art and Urban Revitalization in 1950s Chicago”

Sharon Kennedy, Curator of Cultural and Civic Engagement, Sheldon Museum of Art:

“Creating Culture in the Midwest: Women Artists, 1884-1916”

Lonnie Dunbier Pierson, co-founder of AskArt.com: “Women Artists Active in Arizona and Illinois before 1845 – Their Stories”

Joby Patterson, Instructor of Art History, University of Oregon: “Remembering the Past: Norma Bassett Hall and the Arts & Crafts Tradition”

Lara Kuykendall, Assistant Professor of Art History, Ball State University: “Constance Coleman Richardson and the American Scene” by