

Curriculum Vitae
LARA G. TOHME

CONTACT INFORMATION

Art Department
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA. 2005.
Department of Architecture, History, Theory, and Criticism Section.
Dissertation Title: "Out of Antiquity: Umayyad Baths in Context"

Master of Arts University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. 1995.
Department of Art History

Bachelor of Arts University of Washington, Seattle, WA. 1992.
Department of the History of Art and Architecture

American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon. 1987-1988.

TEACHING AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Director Architecture Program. Wellesley College. Wellesley, MA 2006-2008, and
Spring 2010

Knafel Assistant Professor Art Department. Wellesley College. Wellesley, MA 2005-present

Lecturer Boston Architectural Center. Boston, MA 2005

Research Assistant Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 2004-2005

Visiting Lecturer Art History Department, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 2002-2003

Research Assistant Assisted Kanan Makiya in researching visual materials for his book, *The Rock: A
Tale of Seventh-Century Jerusalem* (New York: Pantheon Books, 2001) 2000

Research Assistant Assistant to Leila Fawaz, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Jackson
College for Humanities and Arts, Tufts University, Medford, MA. 1998-1999

Teaching Assistant Department of Architecture, History, Theory and Criticism
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 1996-1998

PUBLICATIONS

- "Between *Balneum* and *Hamam*: the Role of Umayyad Baths in Syria," in *Bathing Culture in Anatolian Civilization: Architecture, History and Imagination*, ed. Nina Ergin (Peeters Press) [forthcoming]
- Review of *The Historical Topography of Samarra*, by Alastair Northedge in *Journal of Oriental and African Studies* [forthcoming]
- *Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009. S.v. "Islamic Art and Architecture"; "Art and Architecture: Abbasid"; "Art and Architecture: Almoravid"; "Art and Architecture: Ayyubid"; "Art and Architecture: Mozarab"; "Muqarnas"; "Alcazar"; and "Qubba".
- "Spaces of Convergence: Christian Monasteries and Umayyad Architecture in Greater Syria," in *Negotiating Secular and Sacred in Medieval Art: Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism*, eds. Alicia Walker and Amanda Luyster (Ashgate, 2009)
- Co-author with Chrysanthos Kanellopoulos, "A True Kufic Inscription on the Kapnikarea Church in Athens?" *al-Masaq: Islam and the Medieval Mediterranean* 20 (2008)
- Review of *Qusayr Amra: Art of the Umayyad Elite in Late Antique Syria* by Garth Fowden. Published on April 11, 2006, in caareviews.org
- Review of *The Great Mosque of Damascus: Studies on the Makings of an Umayyad Visual Culture*, by Finbarr Barry Flood. In *Al-Abhath*, vol. 50-51 (2002-2003): 222-224.
- *Encyclopedia of Modern Asia*. Barrington, MA, 2002. S. v. "Architecture –West Asia."
- Co-author with Ghazi Bisheh, Muhammad al-Asad, Fawzi Zayadine, and Ina Kehrberg. *The Umayyads: The Rise of Islamic Art*. Islamic Art in the Mediterranean Series. Museum With No Frontiers, Beirut: Arab Institute for Research and Publishing, 2001.
- *Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition*. London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 2000. S. v. "Arabia."
- *Dizionario di Architettura Contemporanea* Turin: UTET, 1999. S. v. "Mario Ciampi" and "Emory Roth."

CONFERENCES, PAPERS, & PUBLIC LECTURES

- "Cultural Appropriation in Medieval Mediterranean Architecture" presented at the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean Conference, University of Exeter, July 10, 2009.
- "Appropriation and Cultural Conversion: The Creation of a New Christian Architectural Language in Norman Sicily" part of the panel, Brick and Stones Against Heresy and for Orthodoxy, International Medieval Congress. Leeds, July 14, 2009.
- "From Mosque to Monastery? San Giovanni degli Eremiti in Palermo and its Architectural Syntheses," in the panel *Medieval Italy and Islam* 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 10-13, 2007
- Presider for panel, "Byzantine Art and Architecture" 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI. May 10-13, 2007

- "Instances of Cross-Cultural Encounter in the Medieval Mediterranean: Damascus, Palermo and Toledo" Invited lecture. Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA. April 12, 2007.
- "Continuity and Innovation: Umayyad Architecture in Context," Invited lecture. Facoltà di Architettura, Politecnico di Bari. January 16, 2007.
- "The Importance of Material and Visual Culture for the Study, Teaching and Research on the Medieval Middle East/Islamic World: Architecture" Middle East Medievalists Panel, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA. November 2006.
- "From Hinterland to Heartland: Syria in the 7th and 8th centuries," in the panel, *Boundaries in the Mediterranean*, The Medieval Academy 81st Annual Meeting. Cambridge, MA. March 31, 2006.
- "Christian Monasteries in the Early Medieval Islamic Context," in the panel, *Secular and Sacred in Medieval Art: Bridging the Divide*, College Art Association Annual Conference. Boston, MA. February 25, 2006.
- "The Politics of Pleasure: the Strategic Use of Umayyad Bath Complexes," Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture Lecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. October 3, 2005.
- Co-organizer, "Islamic Cities in the Classical Age: A Symposium," Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. May 6 & 7, 2005.
- "The Architectural and Archaeological Monuments of Lebanon," a public lecture in conjunction with *Tastes, Sights, and Sounds of Lebanon*, a cultural event sponsored by *Shamis*, the Dartmouth Arab Association. Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. May 17, 2003.
- "Iraq's Cultural Heritage in Jeopardy," *Middle East Forum Panel: Dartmouth's Middle East Experts Discuss Iraq*. Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. April 2, 2003.
- "Islamic Building," Panel Chair, *Middle East Studies Association* Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. November 2002.
- "Architecture in the Desert: Umayyad Bathhouses as Spaces of Diplomacy," *The Sixth Annual UCLA Graduate Late Antiquity Conference*. University of California, Los Angeles. May 12, 2001.
- "Reflections on the Social and Political Roles of Bathhouses in Early Islamic Syria," University of Washington, Seattle, WA. May 9, 2001.
- "Expanding Antiquity: Umayyad Art and Architecture in Jordan," a public lecture at the *American Center of Oriental Research*, Amman, Jordan. December 1999.
- "The Umayyad 'Desert Castles' in Jordan," *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, Massachusetts. October 1997.

GUEST LECTURES

- "Integrating Islamic Architecture into a Global Curriculum" in the Globalization Faculty Seminar, Sponsored by Globalization Studies and funded by the US Department of Education UISFL Grant, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA, April 14, 2007.
- "The Architecture of Medieval Iberia: From Islamic to Mudejar," in *SPAN-306 Cultural Topics: Spain*, Spanish Department at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA, April 13, 2007
- "Politics, Power and Pleasure: the Roles of the Umayyad Qusur" in *REL 262: Islamic Cities*, Religion Department at Wellesley College, February 20, 2007.

- “Picturing the Non-Christian *Other* in Medieval Europe: Jews, Muslims & the Monstrous Races” in “The Clothed and the Naked in Colonial Latin America,” a seminar in the Spanish Department at Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. October 2006.
- “Islamic Architecture in Spain,” as a guest lecturer in “Civilizations and Cultures of Spain,” a lecture class in the Spanish Department at Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. October 2005.
- “Ottoman and Mughal Architecture,” in “Introduction to the History of Architecture,” Boston Architectural Center, Boston, MA. April 2005.
- “The Art and Architecture of Islamic India” in “The Monuments of Asia,” a lecture class in the Art History Department at Dartmouth College, Hanover NH. February 2003.
- “Representations of Arab-Muslim Cultures in 19th-century World’s Fairs,” as guest lecturer in “The Anthropology of Art,” a seminar in the Anthropology Department at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. December 2002.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Research Assistantship Aga Khan Program in Islamic Architecture. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2004-2005

Visiting Scholar Art History Department. University of Washington, Seattle, WA. September 2001-June 2002

Visiting Scholar. Middle East Center, The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies. University of Washington, Seattle, WA. 2000-2001

Travel Grant. UCLA Multi-campus Grant on the History and Culture of Late Antiquity. University of California, Los Angeles, CA. May 2001

Samuel H. Kress Fellowship in the Art and Archaeology of Jordan. The American Center of Oriental Research. Amman, Jordan. 1999-2000

Summer Travel Grant for Advanced Research on Islamic Architecture. Massachusetts Institute of Technology Aga Khan Program. Cambridge, MA. Summer 1999 and Summer 1997

Aga Khan Fellowship for Islamic Architecture. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. 1996-2000

Graduate Teaching Fellowship. Art History Department, University of Oregon. Eugene, OR. 1994-1995.

COURSES AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE

- ARTH 100, Fall 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2009 (coordinator)
- ARTH 201 Medieval Art, Fall 2005
- ARTH 201 Art and Architecture of High Middle Ages in Europe, Spring 2007
- ARTH 202 Byzantine Art and Architecture, Spring 2010
- ARTH 227 Islamic Architecture in the Age of the Caliphates, Fall 2007
- ARTH 247 Islamic Art and Architecture 650-1850, Spring 2006, Fall 2009
- ARTH 267 Cross-Cultural Encounters in the Early Medieval Mediterranean, Fall 2006

- ARTH 268 Art, Architecture and Pilgrimage in the Medieval World, Spring 2008
- ARTH 332 Topics in Medieval Art: Architecture of Medieval Jerusalem, Spring 2006
- ARTH 332 Topics in Medieval Art: Toledo: the Convergence of Medieval Cultures, Spring 2007
- ARTH 332 Topics in Medieval Art: From Constantinople to Istanbul, Spring 2008
- ARTH 332 Topics in Medieval Art: At the Crossroads of the Medieval Mediterranean: the Art and Architecture of Sicily and Southern Italy

LANGUAGES

- Arabic: Native language
- French: Advanced reading and conversation
- Italian: Advanced reading and conversation
- German: Reading knowledge
- Latin: Reading knowledge