JESSICA WILLIAMS STARK
CURRICULUM VITAE

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2024 - *present* Research Fellow, Vision & Justice

2022 - 2024 McCormick Postdoctoral Research Associate in the History of Photography and Lecturer, Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University

EDUCATION

2022 Ph.D., History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

2016 M.A. with Thesis, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

2014 Certificate in Critical Theory, University of Maryland-College Park, Department of English Graduate Studies

2013 M.A., with Thesis, Art History and Archaeology, University of Maryland-College Park

2010 B.A. with Honors, English, Art History and Criticism, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PREPARATION

Photography against Apartheid: Anne Fischer in Exile

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

in progress "'Because of all the hazards:' Naomi Shapiro's Emergent South African Archive," for *Photography and Culture*. (anticipated 2026)

forth. 2026 "Etel Mittag-Fodor: Architectural Photography, South African Modernism, and the Politics of Refusal," *History of Photography* special issue, "A Foreign Eye: Photography's Histories of Exile and Migration," edited by Jordan Troeller and Hyewon Yoon.

2025 "Anne Fischer, 1914-1986," [*Hi]stories of the German-Jewish Diaspora*, part of the Leo Baeck Institute's *German-Jewish History in Modern Times*, a digital platform hosted by the Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies, University of Potsdam.

2025 "'In her capacity as a reporter:' Naomi Shapiro's Anti-Apartheid Photojournalism," *Safundi* 26, no. 1-2 (2025): 1-12.

2023 "From Hamburg to Cape Town: The Denizen Photography of Else and Helmuth Hausmann." In *Urban Exile: Theories, Methods, Research Practices*, edited by Burcu Dogramaci, Ekaterina Aygün, Mareike Hetschold, Laura Karp Lugo, Rachel Lee, and Helene Roth, 601-631. Bristol: Intellect, 2023.

2021 "A Working Woman's Eye: Anne Fischer and the South African Photography of Weimar Women in Exile." In *Women and Photography in Africa: Creative Practices and Feminist Challenges*, edited by Darren Newbury, Lorena Rizzo, and Kylie Thomas, 23-44. Abingdon: Routledge, 2021.

2020 "A Pariah Among Parvenus: Anne Fischer and the Politics of South Africa's New Realism(s)," *October* 173 (summer 2020): 143-175.

2018 "Printing and the Urgency of Translation: Peter Hujar, David Wojnarowicz, and the Task of Schneider/Erdman, Inc." In *Analog Culture: Printer's Proofs from the Schneider/Erdman Photography Lab, 1981-2001*, edited by Jennifer Quick, 38-63. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Art Museums, 2018.

INTERVIEWS AND OTHER MEDIA

2025 Jessica Williams Stark, "Anne Fischer: A Story Untold - *The Vale of Grace*," Orms Print Room, Cape Town, August 12, 2025.

2017 Jessica Williams and Gary Schneider, "Building, Performing, and Translating the Negative: The Working Relationships of Schneider/Erdman, Inc." *VoCA Journal,* October 20, 2017.

2017 Jessica Williams and Vera Ingrid Grant, "On NOTES: A Conversation." In *The Art of Jazz: Form/Performance/Notes,* edited by David Bindman, Suzanne Preston Blier, and Vera Ingrid Grant, 34-39. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2017.

BOOK AND EXHIBITION REVIEWS

2019 Review of *African Photographer J. A. Green: Reimagining the Indigenous and the Colonial*, Martha G. Anderson and Lisa Aronson, eds. *African Arts* 52, no. 2 (summer 2019): 90-91.

2016 Review of *The African Photographic Archive: Research and Curatorial Strategies,* Christopher Morton and Darren Newbury, eds. *African Arts* 49, no. 1 (spring 2016): 95-96.

2015 Review of *Portraiture and Photography in Africa,* John Peffer and Elisabeth L. Cameron, eds. *African Arts* 48, no. 1 (spring 2015): 94-95.

2014 Review of *Earth Matters: Land as Material and Metaphor in the Arts of Africa*, by Karen Milbourne. *De arte* 90 (spring 2014): 77-80.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

2026 Peter E. Palmquist Memorial Fund for Historical Photographic Research Grant for "Frames of Resistance: Naomi Shapiro's Apartheid-Era Archive"

2025 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award Semi-finalist, Cape Town, South Africa
Affiliate with the University of Cape Town's Libraries' Special Collections
Photography against Apartheid: Anne Fischer in Exile

2021 - 2022 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

2021 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University, Derek Book Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard College Office of Undergraduate Education

2021 Peter E. Palmquist Memorial Fund for Historical Photographic Research Grant for "The Exilic Photography of Etel Mittag-Fodor"

2019 - 2020 Smithsonian Predoctoral Fellowship, National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.

2018 - 2019 Fulbright U.S. Student Research Award, Cape Town, South Africa
Affiliate with the University of Cape Town's Center for African Studies

2017 - 2018 Arthur Kingsley Porter Traveling Fellowship, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

2017 Graduate Society Summer Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

2017 Graduate Student Council Conference Grant, Harvard University

2016 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Advanced study of Zulu, Cape Town, South Africa

2013 Graduate Fellowship in Nigerian Visual Art and Culture for Non-Nigerian Scholars at Omooba Yemisi Adedoyin Shyllon Art Foundation (OYASAF), Lagos, Nigeria

2013 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Intermediate study of Zulu, Durban, South Africa

2011 Robert H. and Clarice Smith Doctoral Fellowship, Art History and Archaeology Department, University of Maryland-College Park

CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

forth. 2026 Curatorial Associate, *If Emmett Till Lived: Freedom on American Ground*, guest curated by Sarah Lewis, Museum of Contemporary Photography (MoCP), Chicago, September – December 2026

forth. 2026 Co-curator with Sarah Lewis, *"When They See Us,"* in honor of Ava DuVernay and Koyo Kouoh, Guest Room, Der Greif, Organization for Contemporary Photography

2023 Curatorial Assistant, *I Am Seen…Therefore, I Am: Isaac Julien and Frederick Douglass*, co-curated by Sarah Lewis and Henry Louis Gates Jr., Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art and the Amistad Center for Art & Culture

2021 Graduate Student Intern, Division of Modern and Contemporary Art, Harvard Art Museums

Contributed wall labels and other gallery texts for *Devour the Land: War and American Landscape Photography Since 1970* (curated by Makeda Best) and aided in developing the museums' ongoing *ReFrame* initiative.

2016 - 2017 Agnes Mongan Curatorial Intern, Division of Modern and Contemporary Art, Harvard Art Museums

Conducted research and interviews for *Analog Culture: Printer's Proofs from the Schneider/Erdman Photography Lab, 1981-2001* (curated by Jennifer Quick). Conceived, researched, and authored content for the Schneider/Erdman Printer's Proof Online Special Collection, an online resource published in conjunction with the exhibition.

2015 Curatorial Intern, Wits Art Museum (WAM), Johannesburg, South Africa

Aided in organizing a retrospective on Peter Shütz (co-curated by Fiona Rankin-Smith and Walter Oltmann) and assisted with the museum's auction to raise funds for its endowment.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

2023 - 2024 Lecturer, Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University

Fascist Aesthetics: Women and Photography between the World Wars

Photography and Fact

2024 Invited Guest Lecturer, Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University
"American Icons: Gordon Parks and Dorothea Lange," for *Re-Reading American Photographs*

2023 Lecturer, Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University
"Photography's Origins and the Politics of Portraiture," for *An Introduction to the History of Art: Meanings in the Visual Arts*
Additional Precepts with the Princeton University Art Museum Collections: "Portraiture and Photography in Africa"

2022 Invited Guest Lecturer, History of Art, University of Edinburgh
"Visualizing Struggle: Photography and Migration," for *Image Politics: A Global History of Photography*

2020 Graduate Teaching Fellow, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University
American Racial Ground: Race and Aesthetics in the Era of Stand Your Ground Law (taught by Sarah Lewis)

2019 Lecturer, Art History and Visual Culture, Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town
Art, Theory, and Society

2012 - 2014 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Art History and Archaeology, University of Maryland-College Park
Art and Society in Africa (3 semesters)
Art and Society in the Modern American World (1 semester)

2012 - 2014 Graduate Student Mentor, University of Maryland Undergraduate Art History Symposium

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH POSITIONS AND SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

2024 - *present* Research Fellow, Vision & Justice
Compile research dossiers on previously unheralded artists for the *Vision & Justice Book Series* (in partnership with *Aperture*), co-edited by Sarah Lewis, Leigh Raiford, and Deborah Willis; provide organizational and administrative support for the 2025 convening, *Vision & Justice Now*, on the transformative power of art and culture to inform new visions of democracy, held at the Ford Foundation in New York.

2020 - *present* Research Assistant, Sarah Lewis, John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Humanities and Associate Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University
Provided research and editorial assistance for *The Unseen Truth: When Race Changed Sight in America* (Harvard University Press, 2024), *Vision & Justice* (Random House, 2027), *Groundwork* (Princeton University Press, 2028), and for numerous articles, interviews, catalog essays, and op-eds.

2023 - 2025 Research Collaborator, Ibali Digital Collections, University of Cape Town
Worked with Michal Singer and Susan Mvungi to update UCT's online database with information related to the Anne Fischer Photographic Collection.

2022 - 2025 Membership Coordinator, Photography Network
Maintained PN's membership lists; updated member activities on the organization's website; compiled monthly listserv digests and facilitated online Meet & Greets; aided in organizing PN's bi-annual online symposium; co-organized and co-hosted PN's Virtual

Writing & Publishing Seminar, an initiative aimed at equity, access, and inclusion designed for emerging scholars to receive support for various writing projects; collaborated on and implemented new initiatives (such as free memberships) to help make the organization more accessible and reflective of the field.

2022 - 2024 Research Assistant, Vision & Justice

2012 Graduate Research Assistant, Michelle Smith Collaboratory for Visual Culture, Department of Art History and Archaeology, University of Maryland-College Park

Researched and helped to implement a broad range of digital humanities projects related to Africa and its diasporas.

INVITED LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND MODERATED TALKS

2025 "Invisible Labours: Etel Mittag-Fodor's Forgotten South African Architectural Photography." Women in Photography: Practitioners, Labourers, Entrepreneurs in a Global Perspective (1839-1939), *Fotografiste*, Brera Academy of Fine Arts, Italy.

2024 "'Because of all the Hazards:' Naomi Shapiro's Emergent Archive." Deep Time, Shallow Time, Visual History & Theory International Workshop, Center for Humanities Research, University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

2024 Respondent, Emilie Boone, *A Nimble Arc: James Van Der Zee and Photography*. Photography's Futures Lecture Series, Princeton University.

2023 Symposium co-organizer (with Josie Johnson, Katherine Bussard, Caroline Riley, and Patricia Hayes) of Photography's Frameworks, a three-day virtual symposium jointly convened by the Photography Network and the University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

2023 "Anne Fischer: South African Photographies of Exile and Resistance." Geographies, Spaces of Experience, and Objects of Migration in Jewish Visual and Material Culture, workshop held by the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Max-Planck-Institut, Italy.

2023 "Photography against Apartheid: Anne Fischer, Dora Taylor, and the *Vale of Grace*." Work in Progress Talk, Department of Art & Archaeology, Princeton University.

2022 "Etel Mittag-Fodor: Architectural Photography, South African Modernism, and the Fabrication of Race." Intersecting Photographies, Photography Network Symposium, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

2022 "Anne Fischer: South African Photography and the Politics of a Failed Photobook." A Radical Lens: Global Perspectives on the New Woman Behind the Camera, virtual symposium convened by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

2021 "Käthe Kollwitz and the South African Left." Art Talk Live, given as part of the Harvard Art Museums' *ReFrame* initiative, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

2021 "Denizen Photography: The Postmigrant Work of Else and Helmuth Hausmann." Urban Exile: Placemaking and Belonging, online symposium held by METROMOD, Institut fur Kunstgeschichte, Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München, Germany.

2020 "From Berlin to Cape Town: New Realism and the South African Photography of Anne Fischer." A Foreign Eye: Interwar European Photographers Abroad, Association for Art History's (AAH) 46th Annual Conference, Newcastle University & Northumbria University, England. (Conference cancelled due to Covid-19)

2019 "The Path to Apartheid: Anne Fischer, Constance Stuart Larrabee, and the Politics of South Africa's New Realism(s)." Women Photographers Lecture Series, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.

2018 "Langa in a Hard, Merciless Light: A Working Woman's Eye and an Early Documentary Ethos, 1937-1941." Center for African Studies Graduate Student Colloquium, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

2018 "An Unsentimental Lens: Anne Fischer and the South African Photography of Weimar Woman in Exile." Indexing Transformation: Interventions in Critical Knowledge Production in South Africa, hosted by the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

2017 "Boring Pictures of Uninteresting Things: Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin's *The Polaroid Revolutionary Workers.*" The Politics of Abstract and Conceptual African and African Diasporic Art, Panel Chair, the Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA) 17th Triennial Symposium on African Art, University of Ghana.

2016 "Whitfield Lovell's *Servilis*: Photography and the African American Women's Club Movement." *The Art of Jazz: Form/Performance/Notes* symposium, hosted by the Hutchins Center in correspondence with the Ethelbert Cooper Gallery of African & African American Art, Harvard University.

2015 Respondent, Nandipha Mntambo's *The Flight,* an original performance commissioned for Harvard University's Black History/Art History lecture and performance series.

2014 "Perceiving the Foreign: Images of African Diasporic Identities by Thandile Zwelibanzi and Ade Adekola." African Photography/Diasporas, the Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA) 16th Triennial Symposium on African Art, Brooklyn Museum, New York.

2013 "Dissensus and Belonging in Thandile Zwelibanzi's *Still Existence.*" Revolution 3.0: Iconographies of Social Utopia in Africa and its Diasporas, Iwalewa-Haus, Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, University of Bayreuth, Germany.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA)

Association for Art History (AAH)

Association for Critical Race Art History (ACRAH)

College Art Association (CAA)

Photography Network (PN)

South African Visual Arts Historians (SAVAH)

Visual Arts Network of South Africa (VANSA)

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