

SARAH ELIZABETH LEWIS

Harvard University
12 Quincy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Tel: (617) 495-3241
sarahlewis@fas.harvard.edu

EXPERIENCE

- 2022-Present John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Humanities and Associate Professor of African and African American Studies
Harvard University, Department of History of Art and Architecture,
Department of African and African American Studies
- 2019-2022 Associate Professor, Harvard University, Department of History of Art and Architecture, Department of African and African American Studies
- 2019-Present Founder, Vision & Justice
Award-winning initiative that generates original research, curricula, and programs that reveal the foundational role of visual culture in America's representational democracy
- 2015-2019 Assistant Professor, Harvard University, Department of History of Art and Architecture, Department of African and African American Studies
- 2014-2015 Dorothy Porter and Charles Harris Wesley Fellow, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University
- 2009-2015 Yale University, Critic, School of Art, Painting Department, Photography Department
- 2015 The Metropolitan Museum, Associate Curator [Declined]
- 2010 Deputy Director, National Endowment for the Arts [Declined]
- 2004-2007 The Museum of Modern Art, New York, Department of Painting and Sculpture, Department of Photography

EDUCATION

Yale University

Doctorate in History of Art, 2015, Edward Bouchet Honor Society

Courtauld Institute of Art

M.A., History of Art, 2004, *Distinction*, British Marshall Scholar

Oxford University

M.Phil. Economic and Social History, 2003, *Distinction*, British Marshall Scholar

Harvard College

Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies and History of Art and Architecture, 2001
Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

HONORS and AWARDS

- 2026 Named to the TIME List, The Closers, 18 Extraordinary Black Leaders Working Toward Greater Equality
- 2025 Honored by Aperture Foundation alongside Vision & Justice at the Aperture Gala, Jazz at Lincoln Center, New York City
- 2025 Winner, American Book Award, *The Unseen Truth* (Harvard University Press, 2024)
- 2025 Harvard University, Walter Channing Cabot Fellowship for *The Unseen Truth*
- 2025 Finalist, Anisfield-Wolf Book Prize, *The Unseen Truth*
- 2025 Honorable Mention, James Porter Book Award, *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Pratt Institute, Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, and Commencement Speaker, Radio City Music Hall
- 2022 Winner, Andrew Carnegie Fellowship
- 2022 Winner, 2022 Arthur Danto/American Society for Aesthetics Prize, American Philosophical Association awarded for “the best paper in the field of aesthetics, broadly understood.”
- 2021 Winner, Photography Network Book Prize Award for *Carrie Mae Weems* (MIT Press, 2021)
- 2021 Winner, Frieze New York Honoree for Vision & Justice
- 2019 Winner, Freedom Scholar Award, Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), awarded in recognition of work that has a “direct positive impact on the life of African Americans.”
- 2017 Winner, Infinity Award, International Center of Photography, Critical Writing and Research for the “Vision & Justice” issue of *Aperture*
- 2016-2017 Winner, Faculty Leadership Award, Black Men’s Forum, Harvard College
- 2016 Yale Corporation Committee on Honorary Degrees, Appointed Member
- 2014 Winner, Gold Rush Award, Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation
- 2008, 2012 President Obama’s Arts Policy Committee, Appointed Member
- 2010 Oprah’s Power List, *O Magazine*
- 2006 Winner, New Leadership Award Recipient, ArtTable

FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS (Harvard University)

- 2025-2026 The Lewis Foundation [\$250,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2025-2026 Terra Foundation for American Art Grant [\$200,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2025-2026 Ford Foundation Grant [\$750,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2022-2024 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship [\$200,000]
- 2019-2020 Whiting Public Engagement Seed Grant [\$10,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2018-2019 Anonymous Gift for the creation of the Vision & Justice Fund [\$250,000]
- 2018-2019 Tenure-track Manuscript Workshop Grant, Harvard University [\$4,000]
- 2018-2019 Established the Gordon Parks Foundation Essay Prize at Harvard University in 2019. This gave \$15,000 to give three prizes of \$5,000 for graduate and undergraduate student essays that explore the relationship between visual art and justice as it pertains to racial equity. This was changed in later years to \$7,000 to one student. Prizes are selected by a jury of Harvard faculty.]
- 2018-2019 Ford Foundation Grant [\$50,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2018-2019 Lambent Foundation Grant [\$25,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2017-2018 Ford Foundation Grant [\$250,000]
Principal Investigator, Vision & Justice
- 2017-2018 William F. Milton Fund, Harvard University [\$40,000]
- 2016-2017 Junior Faculty Research Grant, Harvard University
- 2015-2016 The Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, New York Public Library
- 2015-2016 Junior Faculty Research Grant, Harvard University

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS (Yale University)

- 2014-2015 Dorothy Porter and Charles Harris Wesley Fellow, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University
- 2012-2014 Henry S. McNeil Fellowship in American Art, Yale University

- 2011 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
- 2011 Chester Dale Fellowship, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (alternate)
- 2010-2011 Nathaniel Currier Fellowship, Yale University
- 2008 The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Graduate Fellowship
- 2008 Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Graduate Fellowship

UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, and HONORS (Harvard College)

- 2001-2004 British Marshall Scholarship
- 2001 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2001 John Harvard Scholarship for Academic Achievement
- 2000 Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Scholar
- 2000 Goldman Sachs Scholarship for Excellence

EXHIBITIONS (sole or co-curated)

“If Emmett Till Lived: Freedom on American Ground,” Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago, Aug. 2026 – Dec. 2026, Associate Curator, Jessica Stark.

What if Emmett Till lived? What if he had returned home still a child, alive and free? *If Emmett Till Lived...* is an exhibition and a civic invitation. The very statement invites a range of questions, a reckoning with the past, and a probing investigation of the current state of American life. This exhibition, and the invitation it offers to viewers, creates a collective arena to consider how freedom has been secured on American ground.

“When They See Us,” in honor of Ava DuVernay and Koyo Kouoh, Guest Room, Der Greif, Organization for Contemporary Photography, Feb. 2026– March 2026. Co-curator with Jessica Stark.

What does it mean to be seen, and why does it matter? The title of this exhibition honors filmmaker Ava DuVernay and curator Koyo Kouoh. DuVernay’s miniseries “When They See Us” revealed the crisis of misrecognition surrounding the now-exonerated Central Park Five. Kouoh’s exhibition “When We See Us” shifted the gaze from they to we, affirming the political and cultural power of Black joy, self-definition, and presence. This exhibition considers how images shape recognition, agency, and belonging and celebrates what happens when we truly see one another.

“Art of the Black World,” Harvard Art Museums, Aug. 2024 – Jan. 2025. Co-curator with Suzanne Preston Blier.

What would be lost without an understanding of Art of the Black world? Co-curated with Suzanne Preston Blier, this exhibition accompanied a course taught by Professors Lewis and Blier that introduced students to visual art from the African continent and African diaspora, with an emphasis on the United States, by examining the impact of a set of landmark exhibitions.

“I Am Seen... Therefore, I Am: Isaac Julien and Frederick Douglass,” Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, May 2023 – Sept. 2023. Co-curator with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Sir Isaac Julien’s immersive, multi-screen film installation *Lessons of the Hour* anchored this exploration of Frederick Douglass’s reflections on image-making, race, and citizenship. Co-curated by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, and presented in collaboration with The Amistad Center for Art & Culture, the exhibition brought together rare nineteenth-century daguerreotypes—on public view for the first time—saluting the studio practices of the African American photographers of Douglass’s era, as well as the many compelling sitters who sought to have their images captured and remembered.

Juxtaposing these historic images with Julien’s contemporary work, the presentation represented a dialogue between local and international, between Douglass’s encounters with the citizenry of Hartford, Connecticut, and the continuing international reach of his unfinished movement for social justice. *I Am Seen... Therefore, I Am: Isaac Julien and Frederick Douglass* marks the 180th anniversary of Douglass’s first visit to Hartford in May 1843.

“Vision & Justice: The Art of Citizenship,” Harvard Art Museums, Aug. 2016 – Jan. 2017.
[Graduate Students published 500-1000-word articles on each object, published online as a digital tool for the Harvard Art Museums].

Over 40 works were displayed, including prints by Kara Walker and Glenn Ligon, and photographs by Bruce Davidson and Gordon Parks. The exhibition complemented the Vision & Justice course at Harvard University and served as conceptual companion to the “Vision & Justice” issue of *Aperture* magazine.

“Race, Love, and Labor,” Center for Photography, Woodstock, 2014.
[Traveled to seven venues including the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University, November 18, 2016 – January 28, 2017 and toured through 2023].

This show included photographs, video, and books from the collection.

SITE Santa Fe Biennial, “The Dissolve,” 2010. Co-Curator with Daniel Belasco.

“The Dissolve” presented a new sensibility in the art of our time, a mingling of up-to-the-minute technology and traditional visual arts (painting, drawing, and sculpture) with dance, music, and film. The fundamental form of this new work was animation, uniting the technological (the camera) with the handmade (drawing).

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. *Groundwork: Race, Aesthetics, and Stand Your Ground Law*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, under contract, 2028.
2. *Vision & Justice*. New York: One World/Random House, forthcoming 2027.
3. *The Unseen Truth: When Race Changed Sight in America*. Cambridge, MA.: Harvard University Press, 2024.

American Book Award, Winner.

Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards, Finalist.

James A. Porter Book Award, Honorable Mention.

"10 Best Books of 2024," *Chicago Tribune* (Nov. 2024).

"The 30 Best Art Books of 2024," *Hyperallergic* (Nov. 2024).

"The Best Black History Books of 2024," *Black Perspectives* (Dec. 2024).

Reviewed by *Kirkus Reviews*.

Reviewed by Erin L. Thompson for *The Nation* (Jan. 2025).

Reviewed by Audrey Wu Clark for *Society for U.S. Intellectual History* (Dec. 2025).

"The Next Big Idea Club's September 2024 Must-Read Books," Next Big Idea Club (July 2024).

"Suzanne Nossel Is Heartened by 'Liberalism as a Way of Life,'" *The New York Times* (July 2024).

"Learning not to see," *The Ink* (Aug. 2024).

"The 60 Must-Read Books of Fall 2024," *Town & Country Magazine* (Sept. 2024).

"18 Art Books to Read This Fall," *Hyperallergic* (Sept. 2024).

"Sarah Lewis's New Book Shows How Photography Taught Americans to 'See' Race," *Art in America* (Sept. 2024).

"'We can love all of the United States without lying about it,' says Harvard professor Sarah Lewis," *The Boston Globe* (Sept. 2024).

4. *The Rise: Creativity, the Gift of Failure, and the Search for Mastery*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014.

Translated into seven languages for markets in Brazil, China, the Netherlands, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

Reviewed by Scott A. Sandage for *The New York Times* (April 2014), by A. Roger Ekirch for *The Wall Street Journal* (April 2014), *Kirkus Reviews* (Jan. 2014), *Publishers Weekly* (Dec. 2013), and *The International Review of African American Art*.

Selected as the Provost Reading Selection for the University of Houston, 2015-2016 and Hofstra University, 2017-2018.

“Author Sarah Lewis Interview,” *Late Night with Seth Meyers* (March 2014).

Edited Collections

5. *Coreen Simpson: A Monograph*, Sarah Lewis, Deborah Willis, and Leigh Raiford, eds., New York: Aperture, 2025.

Reviewed by Naomi Elias for *The Brooklyn Rail* (Dec. 2025), by Jasmine Weber for *Hyperallergic* (Dec. 2025), by Natasha Gural for *Forbes* (Nov. 2025), by Briana Ellis-Gibbs for *The Guardian* (Oct. 2025), by David Friend for *Vanity Fair* (Oct. 2025), by Sandrine Hermand-Grisel for *All About Photo* (Oct. 2025), by Sebastian Frenzel for *Monopol Magazine* (Sept. 2025).

“Coreen Simpson’s Multifaceted Approach to Art Making,” *T: The New York Times Style Magazine* (Oct. 2025).

“The Erotics of Coreen Simpson,” *The New Yorker Photo Booth* (Oct. 2025).

“This October Brings New Releases from Black Authors,” *Ebony* (Oct. 2025).

“Coreen Simpson, A Creative Force Between Images and Jewelry,” *Blind* (Oct. 2025).

“Why Did Coreen Simpson’s Stylish Pictures of Exuberant Black Life Fail to Reach a Wider Audience Until Now?,” *Art in America Reframed* [newsletter], (Nov. 2025).

“The 30 Best Art Books to Gift, According to GQ Photo Editors Around the World,” *GQ* (Nov. 2025).

“Whitewall’s Book Review Wish-List for the Bibliophile in Your Life,” *Whitewall*, (Nov. 2025).

6. *Race Stories: Essays on the Power of Images*, Sarah Lewis, Deborah Willis, and Leigh Raiford, eds., New York: Aperture and *The New York Times*, 2024.

Reviewed by Nilofer Khan for *The Phoblographer* (Dec. 2024), by Emmanuel Iduma for *Art in America* (Dec. 2024), and by Holly Bass for *The New York Times* (Dec. 2024).

“How image and the arts help create a just society,” *The Emancipator* (Dec. 2024).

“Sarah Lewis on Ways of Seeing Race in America,” *Hyperallergic* (Dec. 2024).

“Welcoming Underexposed Black Photographers Into the Canon,” *The New York Times* (Apr. 2024).

7. Editor, with Christine Garnier. *Carrie Mae Weems*. Cambridge, MA.: MIT Press, 2021.

Winner of the 2021 Photography Network Book Prize. [Listed under “Honors and Awards”]

Starred review, *Publishers Weekly*.

Reviewed by Nina MacLaughlin for *The Boston Globe* (June 2021), by Allison Conner for *Hyperallergic* (July 2021), and by Manisha Aggarwal-Schifellite for *The Harvard Gazette* (Sept. 2021).
“The Must-Read Books of Summer 2021,” *Town & Country* (June 2021).

“Carrie Mae Weems and the Long History of Collective Self-Institutionalization Among Black Radicals,” by Thomas J. Lax, *Lit Hub* (June 2021).

“Interview: How Carrie Mae Weems Takes Up Space,” *Zora* (Aug. 2021).

8. *Vision & Justice: A Civic Curriculum*. New York: Aperture, April 2019. [A publication to coincide with the 2019 Vision & Justice Convening at Harvard University]

9. Editor, “Vision & Justice” Special Issue, *Aperture* 223 (2016).

Winner of the 2017 Infinity Award, International Center of Photography, Critical Writing and Research.

Selected as one of the best books of 2016, *ARTNews*.

Made required reading at NYU Tisch School of the Arts for all incoming freshman in 2016.

Reviewed by Lucia De Stefani for *TIME* (May 2016), by Sandra Stevenson for *The New York Times* (June 2016), by James Estrin for *The New York Times Lens Blog* (May 2016), by Ralph Gardner, Jr. for *The Wall Street Journal* (May 2016), by Rebecca Carroll for *The Los Angeles Times* (May 2016), by Priscilla Frank for *The Huffington Post* (June 2016), and by Winslow Laroche for *VICE Magazine* (May 2016).

“How Photography Can Transform Social Justice In America,” by Diana Budds, *Fast Company* (May 2016).

“Curating a visual record,” by Jill Radsken, *The Harvard Gazette* (June 2016).

10. Sarah Lewis and Daniel Belasco, *The Dissolve: The SITE Santa Fe Eighth International Biennial*, Exh. Cat. New York: Distributed Art Publishers, 2010. [exhibition catalogue]

Refereed Publications

11. “The Road to the White House: Race, Politics, and Groundwork,” in “Earthbound: Gravity/Figure/Ground” Special Issue, *West 86th*, forthcoming, Spring-Summer 2026.
12. “Style as Political Statement,” in *Coreen Simpson*, Sarah Lewis, Deborah Willis, and Leigh Raiford, eds., New York: Aperture, 2025, 223-226.
13. “Groundwork: Race and Aesthetics in the Era of Stand Your Ground Law,” in M. Kelly and M.

Roelofs, eds., *Black Art and Aesthetics: Relationalities, Interiorities, Reckonings*. London: Bloomsbury, 2023.

14. "The Arena of Suspension: Carrie Mae Weems, Bryan Stevenson, and the "Ground" in the Stand Your Ground Law Era." In *Law and Literature*, no. 34 (2022). [online version, 2021]
15. "Visual studies questionnaire: how do you engage with the visual, and what is its importance in the twenty-first century?" *Visual Studies* 36 (2021): 223-225.
16. "From Here We Saw What Happened: Carrie Mae Weems and the Practice of Art History," in S. Lewis with C. Garnier, eds., *Carrie Mae Weems*. Cambridge, MA.: MIT Press, 2021, 1-6.
17. "Groundwork: Race and Aesthetics in the Era of Stand Your Ground Law," in "Blackness" Special Issue, *Art Journal* 79, no. 4 (2020): 92-113.

Winner of the 2022 Arthur Danto/American Society for Aesthetics Prize, American Philosophical Association. [Listed under "Honors and Awards"]

18. "The Insistent Reveal: Louis Agassiz, Joseph T. Zealy, Carrie Mae Weems, and the Politics of Undress in the Photography of Racial Science," in I. Barbash, J. Stauffer, and D. Willis, eds., *To Make Their Way in the World: A New History of African Americans Revealed Through Nineteenth-Century Photography*. Cambridge, MA.: Aperture / Peabody Museum Press, 2020.

Winner of the Rencontres d'Arles Book Award (Historical).

19. "African American Abstraction," in Eddie Chambers, ed., *The Routledge Companion to African American Art*. New York and London: Routledge, 2019, 159-173.
20. "The Future Real Conditional: Race and Monuments in the United States," *October* 165: (2018).
21. "Truth and Reconciliation: Bryan Stevenson and Sarah Lewis in Conversation," in "Prison Nation," Special Issue, *Aperture* 230 (2018): 21-29.
22. "The Art of Negotiation," in Dawoud Bey, ed., *Dawoud Bey: Seeing Deeply: Photographs, 1975-2016*, Austin: University of Texas Press, 2018.

TIME Magazine's Best Photo Books title of 2018.

23. "Love Visual: A Conversation with Haile Gerima," *Callaloo*, no. 3 (2013): 634-657.
24. "Unhomed Geographies: The Paintings of Julie Mehretu," *Callaloo*, no. 1 (2010): 219-222.

Invited Articles, Chapters, and Exhibition Catalogue Essays

25. "American Ground," in P. Brookman and D. Willis, eds., *Photography and the Black Arts Movement: 1955-1985*, Washington, D.C.: National Gallery of Art, 2025.
26. "Clearing the Ground, Claiming the Sky," in *Tyler Mitchell: Wish This Was Real*, New York: Aperture, 2025.

27. "Elizabeth Prophet's Tools of Sovereignty," in S. Ganz Blythe, D. Molon, and A. Pickworth, eds., *Nancy Elizabeth Prophet: I Will Not Bend an Inch*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2024.
28. "Conversation," in *Deborah Roberts: Twenty Years of Art/Work*. Santa Fe: Radius Books, 2023.
29. "Just Portraiture: A Legend at 100," in *Avedon 100*. New York: Gagosian, 2023.
30. "Introduction: Young Gordon Parks," in Philip Brookman, ed., *Gordon Parks: The New Tide, Early Work, 1940-1950*. Göttingen: Steidl Verlag, 2018.

Best Photo Books of 2018, *The New York Times*.

31. "The Cut: The Conceptual Work of Hank Willis Thomas," in *Hank Willis Thomas: All Things Being Equal*. New York: Aperture, 2018.
32. "Henry Taylor: The Impossible Present," in *Henry Taylor: The Only Portrait of My Momma I Ever Painted was Stolen*. New York: Rizzoli, 2018.
33. "Incendiary Acts," in *Lyle Ashton Harris: The Ektachrome Archive*. New York: Aperture, 2017.
34. "Mark Bradford: The Art of Productive Dissent," in C. Bedford and K. Siegel, eds., *Mark Bradford: Tomorrow is Another Day*, New York: Gregory R. Miller & Co., 2017.
35. "Whitfield Lovell: A Reverence for Ordinary People," in *Whitfield Lovell: KIN*. New York: Skira Rizzoli, 2016.
36. "Foreword," in *Carrie Mae Weems: The Kitchen Table Series*. New York: Matsumoto Editions, 2016. [Selected as one of the "Best Art Books of 2016," in *The New York Times*.]
37. *Race, Love, and Labor: New Work from the Center for Photography at Woodstock's Artist-In-Residency Program*, Exh. Cat. New York: State University of New York Press, 2014.
38. "Celebration and Critique," in *Kehinde Wiley*. New York: Rizzoli, 2012.
39. "Mickalene Thomas: On Beauty," in *Mickalene Thomas: Origin of the Universe*. Exh. Cat. Santa Monica Museum of Art, 2012.
40. *Romare Bearden: Idea to Realization*. New York: D.C. Moore Gallery, 2011.
41. "Wangechi Mutu," in *Re: Collection: Selected Works from The Studio Museum in Harlem*. New York: The Studio Museum in Harlem, 2010.
42. "A Reverence for Ordinary People," in *Mercy, Patience and Destiny: The Women of Whitfield Lovell's Tableaux*. Atlanta: Woodruff Arts Center and The Savannah College of Art and Design, 2009.
43. "Freedom Beyond Fort Monroe," in Collier Schorr ed. *Freeway Balconies*, Exh. Cat. New York: Distributed Art Publishers and the Guggenheim Museum, 2008.
44. "Incendiary Acts," in Cassandra Coblentz ed. *Lyle Ashton Harris: Blow Up*, Exh. Cat. Scottsdale, AZ: Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art and Greg Miller & Co., 2008.

45. “American Idols,” in Deborah Willis ed., *Let Your Motto Be Resistance: African American Portraiture from 1865 to the Present*, Exh. Cat. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2007.
46. “Mark Bradford: The Evidence of Things Not Seen,” in *Street Level*, Exh. Cat. Durham, NC: Duke University Press / The Nasher Museum at Duke University, 2007.
47. “Boris Achour: Creationism,” *Notre Histoire: Une Scène Artistique Française Émergent*, Exh. Cat. Paris: Palais du Tokyo, 2006
48. “Zoe Charlton,” in Thelma Golden ed., *Frequency*, Exh. Cat. New York: The Studio Museum in Harlem, 2005

Public Writing

49. “Shinique Smith and Sarah Lewis Discuss Permeating Spaces with Empathy,” *A-M Journal*, 2025.
50. “Why Civil Rights Icon Bryan Stevenson Never Loses Hope,” *Town & Country Magazine*, October 29, 2024.
51. “How we learn to see history: A case study at the National Cathedral,” *The Washington Post*, January 14, 2024.
52. “The Vision and Justice Project,” in K. Drew and J. Wortham, eds., *Black Futures*. New York: One World, 2020.
53. “For Black Suffragists, the Lens Was a Mighty Sword,” *The New York Times*, Special Issue, August 12, 2020.
54. “Kerry Washington Wants You to Know the Truth,” *Town & Country Magazine*, August 5, 2020. [Interview with Washington and lawyers from the American Civil Liberties Union about the documentary, *The Fight*, executive produced by Washington]
55. “Where Are The Photos of People Dying of Covid?” *The New York Times*, May 1, 2020.
56. “The Racial Bias Built into Photography,” *The New York Times*, April 25, 2019.
57. Michelle Obama: Representational Justice,” in *The Meaning of Michelle*. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2017. [Reviewed in *The New York Times* and NPR’s “Here and Now.”]
58. “Which is the Real Confederate Flag?” *The New York Times*, June 26, 2017, A16.
59. “The Hidden Past of Sochi,” *The New Yorker*, February 19, 2014.

Reviews

60. “Tyler Mitchell’s Photography Exhibition in New York Focuses on Family,” *Town & Country Magazine*, October 27, 2021.
61. “Romare Bearden: Assembling America,” *The New York Review of Books*, 2020. [Book Review of Mary Schmidt Campbell’s *American Odyssey: The Life and Work of Romare Bearden*. New York: Oxford

University Press, 2018].

62. "The Other Us," *Art in America*, no. 5 (2016): 49-52. [Book Review, Kobena Mercer, Travel and See: Black Diaspora Art Practices Since the 1980s. Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2016]
63. "Of Two Minds: 'Powers of Two' by Joshua Wolf Shenk," *The New York Times*, August 22, 2014. [Book Review]
64. "Yinka Shonibare," *Artforum*, no. 2 (2009): 227. [Exhibition Review]
65. "How to See a Work of Art in Total Darkness," *Nka*, no. 22/23 (2008): 206-207. [Book Review]
66. "Arthur Simms at Five Myles," *Art in America*, no. 2 (2006): 132. [Exhibition Review]
67. "De(i)fying the Masters: Kehinde Wiley's portraits meld urban street life and European high art traditions," *Art in America*, no. 4 (2005): 120-25. [Exhibition Review]

DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIPS

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2025 | UN General Assembly, Invited Keynote by the Secretary General, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination |
| 2025 | Sam Gilliam Lecture Series, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center, Washington, D.C. |
| 2025 | The Juilliard School, The 12 th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture |
| 2025 | Bates College, Alison Lockwood Endowed Lecture, Keynote |
| 2024 | Jane and Robert H. Weiner Lecture in the Fine Arts, Dickinson College |
| 2024 | Pratt Institute Commencement Address Speaker |
| 2023 | Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Tyrone Maurice Adderley Lecture |
| 2023 | The Gibbes Museum of Art, Distinguished Lecture Series |
| 2023 | Spelman College Museum of Art, 2022-2023 Atlanta University Center Art History + Curatorial Studies Distinguished Lecture |
| 2023 | Philadelphia Museum of Art, Arcadia Library Lecture, Keynote |
| 2022 | 32 nd Annual James A. Porter Colloquium on African American Art and Art of the African Diaspora, Howard University, Opening Keynote |
| 2022 | University of North Carolina – Charlotte, Convocation of Arts and Architecture, Keynote |
| 2022 | Marquette University, Excellence in Leadership Program Annual Banquet, Keynote |

- 2022 Columbia University, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Bettman Lecture Series, Keynote
- 2022 Capital Community College, Pennington Lecture, Keynote
- 2021 Capella University Commencement Address Speaker
- 2021 Yale School of Architecture, 2021 George Morris Woodruff, Class of 1857, Memorial Lecture
- 2019 Harvard University 19th Annual Navin Narayan Memorial Lecture Speaker
- 2019 Yale School of Art, Commencement Address Speaker
- 2018 Tanner Lecture in Human Values, “Images, Place, and Cultural Memory,” Southern Utah University
- 2019 Harvard University, 19th Annual Navin Narayan Memorial Lecture, The Committee on Degrees in Social Studies
- 2017 Ann Radcliffe Trust Lecture delivered during Harvard College convocation, selected by Harvard student nomination
- 2017 Phi Beta Kappa address, Harvard University chapter, Induction ceremony
- 2016 International Baccalaureate Annual Conference, Barcelona, Spain, *The Rise*, Keynote
- 2016 National Endowment for the Humanities, 50th Anniversary Conference, University of Virginia, Keynote
- 2015 Duke University, Jean Fox O'Barr Distinguished Lecture, *The Rise*
- 2015 American Library Association, San Francisco, CA, President’s Keynote

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- 2025 *Vision & Justice Now: The Challenge and Promises of American Democracy* [Co-hosted with the 14th Amendment Center for Law & Democracy; co-organized by Sarah Lewis, Sherrilyn Ifill, and Darren Walker. Supported by Ford Foundation and Terra Foundation for American Art grants]
- 2025 Washington National Cathedral, Sacred Spaces: Racial Justice & Spirituality in Action Convening [Invited]
- 2024 MoMA Forum on Contemporary Photography, Democracy, Race, and the Power of Images with Dawoud Bey, Vinson Cunningham, Aruna D’Souza, Ava DuVernay, Awol Erizku, Marvin Heiferman, Sherrilyn Ifill, Sarah Lewis, Siddhartha Mitter, Leigh Raiford, Deborah Willis, and other special guests

- 2024 Washington National Cathedral, Sacred Spaces: Racial Justice & Spirituality in Action Convening, Unit based on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2021 MoMA Forum on Contemporary Photography: A Tribute to Carrie Mae Weems. [Co-Organizer, on the occasion of the publication of *Carrie Mae Weems*, MIT Press, 2021]
- 2021 College Art Association 2021 Annual Conference, “Belated Exposure: Crafting an Anthology on Carrie Mae Weems, African American Art and the Archives as Method,” Writing Black Archives: African-American Art History in Real Time. [Co-Chair with Jordana Moore Saggese]
- 2019 Harvard University, Vision & Justice: A Convening [Organizer], Opening Keynote. Co-hosted by The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard Art Museums, The Hutchins Center for African & African American Research [supported by Ford Foundation and Lambent Foundation grants]
- 2018 Black Portraiture conference, Harvard University, [Co-Organizing team]
- 2014 Contemporary African Art at Cooper Gallery, Hutchins Center, Harvard University, [Co-organizer]

ACADEMIC AND INVITED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Selected Lectures

- 2026 Princeton University, Learning Through Photography symposium, Keynote
- 2026 Institute for Black Intellectual and Cultural Life & Dartmouth Society of Fellows, Dartmouth University, Keynote
- 2026 The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, MONUMENTS, Keynote
- 2026 Commemorating 100 Years of Black History, Southern Illinois University — Carbondale, Keynote
- 2026 University of South Carolina, 2026 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast, Keynote
- 2025 The Westcott House, 20th Anniversary Celebration, Keynote
- 2025 Edinburgh International Festival, *The Unseen Truth*, Keynote
- 2025 Center for Historic American Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society, summer seminar on *The Unseen Truth* [Invited]
- 2025 The City Club of Cleveland, *The Unseen Truth*, Keynote
- 2025 Brooklyn Public Library, Night in the Library
- 2025 *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books

- 2025 Tulane University, New Orleans Book Festival
- 2025 Saint Anslem College, Drawing the Line: Ethics and the Arts [Invited]
- 2025 Northeastern University, Women’s History Month symposium, “Pictures, Words, and Lies: Representing Gender and Race in the New Media” [Invited]
- 2025 The Graduate Center, City University of New York, Intellectual Publics, Black Dandyism Revisited, Monica Miller in conversation with Sarah Lewis
- 2025 Westminster Town Hall Forum, *Threads of Our Fabric: Tending Our Moral Collective*, Keynote
- 2025 Clemson University, History, Justice, and Representation, Keynote
- 2025 LIVE from NYPL, Sarah Lewis with Nell Irvin Painter: Myths of Whiteness
- 2025 Aperture, The Power of Images: A Conversation about *Race Stories*, Panel discussion with Marvin Heiferman and Deborah Willis
- 2025 Bridgewater State University, *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Center for Art, Design, and Visual Culture at UMBC, *Race Stories*: Celebrating Maurice Berger
- 2024 Clark Art Institute, *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 First Light Books, Book event with Casey Gerald for *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Brooklyn Public Library, In conversation with Jacqueline Woodson and Hank Willis Thomas on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Boston Book Festival, Panel discussion with Eddie Glaude, Kellie Carter Jackson, and Thulani Davis
- 2024 The Ohio State University, Wexner Center for the Arts, Lambert Photography Symposium [Invited]
- 2024 Library Company of Philadelphia, In conversation with Huey Copeland on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Harrisburg Book Festival, In conversation with David Blight on *The Unseen Truth* [Invited]
- 2024 Politics & Prose, In conversation with Ibram X. Kendi on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Ford Foundation, Book launch for *The Unseen Truth: When Race Changed Sight in America* with Darren Walker and Sherrilyn Ifill
- 2024 Pratt Institute, 2024 Commencement Address
- 2024 CENTER, The Democratic Lens: Photography and Civic Engagement, *How We*

Teach the Truth

- 2024 Brooklyn Public Library, Night in the Library
- 2024 Carnegie Corporation of New York, Black History Month, Keynote
- 2023 Association of Marshall Scholars, Art & Empathy: Through the Lens of Carrie Mae Weems, [Invited]
- 2023 Muhlenberg College, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2023 Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Opening Artist Conversation with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, and Isaac Julien
- 2023 Princeton Atelier, *Sites of Memory: Gender, Performance, and the Law*
- 2022 University of Southern Mississippi, Honors Forum Lecture Series
- 2022 The Curb Center for Art Enterprise and Public Policy, Vanderbilt University, Keynote
- 2021 University of Graz, Dialogue I: Art – Political Responsibility – Social Justice [Invited]
- 2021 Rasmussen University, Annual Academic Symposium
- 2021 Capella University, Commencement Address (Virtual)
- 2021 University of Art and Design Linz, A World of Changemakers [Invited]
- 2021 ASALH and PBS Books, *To Make Their Own Way in the World*, A Conversation with Deborah Willis, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, and Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, moderated by Ilisa Barbash
- 2021 Roger Williams University, School of Architecture, “Groundwork: Race and Aesthetics in the Era of Stand Your Ground Law”
- 2021 New York Public Library, Work/Cited. [Presentation on *The Unseen Truth* manuscript]
- 2021 Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, Spring 2021 Lecture Series, Groundwork: Race and Aesthetics in the Era of Stand Your Ground Law
- 2021 Peabody Essex Museum, Keynote
- 2021 Arizona State University, School of Art, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Speaker Series, “Vision & Justice: Race, Citizenship, and America”
- 2021 New York University, Center for Black Visual Culture/Institute of African American Affairs, *The Black Civil War Soldier: A Visual History of Conflict and Citizenship*, A book talk with Sarah Lewis, Matthew Fox-Amato and Deborah Willis
- 2020 Isaac Julien in conversation with Angela Y. Davis, moderated by Sarah Lewis, A

- partnership with McEvoy Foundation for the Arts and Museum of African Diaspora
- 2020 The Graduate Center, City University of New York, “Change: How Artists Lead the Way”
- 2020 Vera List Center for Art and Politics, White Lies: A Tribute to Maurice Berger
[Memorial Panel discussion]
- 2020 University of North Carolina, Greensboro. College of Visual and Performing Arts
Virtual Master Class Series
- 2020 Stanford University, Vision & Justice, Keynote [declined, medical leave]
- 2020 University of Berkeley, Vision & Justice, Keynote [declined, medical leave]
- 2019 University of Kentucky, Robert C. May Photography Lecture, Vision & Justice
- 2019 Opening for Amanda Theater, Array, Los Angeles
- 2019 Yale School of Art, Commencement Address Speaker
- 2018 National Museum of Women in the Arts
- 2018 Conversation with Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, at the Annenberg Space for
Photography, Los Angeles
- 2018 Brown University, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2018 University of Missouri: The Cockefair Foundation, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2018 Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Vision & Justice, Keynote,
- 2018 Pratt Institute, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2018 Belmont Hill School, *The Rise*, Keynote
- 2018 Philadelphia University & Thomas Jefferson University, *The Rise*, Keynote,
- 2018 Central Michigan University, Vision & Justice, Keynote,
- 2018 United States Artists, Annual Conference, Chicago, Keynote
- 2018 The Society for Photographic Education (SPE), Annual Conference, Opening Keynote
- 2018 SXSW, Conversation about *The Rise* (2014)
- 2018 Mississippi Museum of Art, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2018 Milton Academy, All school address, The Margo Johnson Speaker series
- 2018 The Brearley School, Martin Luther King Day address

- 2017 New York University, Department of Russian & Slavic Studies, Black Sea, Black Atlantic
- 2017 Yale University, Yale Center for British Art, Norma Lytton Lecture
- 2017 Brooklyn Public Library, Vision & Justice (Keynote, three-part lecture in March and April, civic version of the *Vision & Justice* class at Harvard University)
- 2017 University of Michigan, Slavic Studies Dept., Black Sea, Black Atlantic, Manuscript-in-progress presentation
- 2017 University of Michigan, F. W. Thompson Critical Issues Forum, Keynote, Flint, MI
- 2016 Boston Book Festival
- 2016 Conversation with Ford Foundation President, Darren Walker, on Art and Inequality, Rothko Chapel
- 2016 Ford Foundation, Launch of the “Vision & Justice” issue of *Aperture* magazine. Co-hosted by Ford Foundation President, Darren Walker, [Co-organizer]
- 2016 The Getty, Los Angeles, “What does blackness mean?”
- 2016 University of Iowa, Writers' Workshop, Creative Matters series, Keynote
- 2016 Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, Work-in-Progress presentation, New York Public Library
- 2015 University of Houston, Freshman Reading in Common, Keynote about *The Rise*, selected as the Provost Summer reading for all incoming freshman
- 2015 The Getty, Los Angeles, CA, “The Art of Justice,” Keynote
- 2015 Aspen Institute Arts Summit at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 Case Western Reserve University, Keynote
- 2015 Brooklyn Historical Society, Conversation with Nell Painter
- 2014 The New York Public Library, Conversation with Anna Deavere Smith [Book launch for *The Rise*]
- 2013 National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C., “Photography in the Federal Art in Embassies Program”
- 2013 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, panel on “African Art, New York and the Avant-Garde”
- 2012 “A Writers’ Celebration of Romare Bearden, with Elizabeth Alexander, Stanley Crouch, Kwame Dawes, Khalil G. Muhammad, Sarah Lewis, and John Edgar Wideman,” 92nd Street Y, New York, NY

- 2012 “Nicola Green: Images of the 2008 Obama Campaign,” Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- 2012 National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C., “Art and Architecture: Creating Community”
- 2011 “Pictures and Progress: Frederick Douglass, The Circassian Beauties and American Racial Formation,” Yale University, History of Art Department
- 2010 ““Go Back to Russia! Go Back to Africa!”: Circassian Beauties and American Racial Formation,” The Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale

HARVARD and HARVARD CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 Harvard Book Store, Virginia McGee Richards in conversation with Sarah Lewis
- 2026 Harvard University, ArtsThursdays, *Reflections in Black: A Reframing*, In conversation with Deborah Willis to commemorate the 25th anniversary edition of *Reflections in Black: A History of Black Photographers 1840 to the Present*, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research
- 2025 Harvard University, ArtsThursdays, “Paint me a Road Out of Here” Screening and Discussion with Cat Gund, Sarah Lewis, Yara Shahidi, and Keri Shahidi, Hutchins Center for African & African American Research
- 2024 Harvardwood, In conversation with Franklin Leonard on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Harvard Kennedy School, Culture of Change: Racial Equity in Art, Entertainment, & Sports, In Conversation with Hank Willis Thomas
- 2024 Harvard Book Store & Cambridge Public Library, In conversation with Imani Perry on *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Harvard University, Harvard Black Alumni Global Changemakers Conference
- 2024 Harvard IT Summit, Keynote, The Rise, Creativity and the Gift of Failure, Sanders Theater
- 2024 Harvard University, Women’s Philanthropy Initiative Summit, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2024 Harvard and The Legacy of Slavery Initiative’s 2024 Symposium: Reckoning with History, Shaping Our Future, Memorializing Through the Arts: Honoring Ancestral Legacies
- 2023 First Year and Junior Family Weekend, *Vision & Justice: The Art of Race and American Citizenship*
- 2021 Harvard Book Store, Tina M. Campt in conversation with Sarah Lewis
- 2020 Harvard Book Store, Panel, *To Make Their Own Way in the World* book launch

- 2018 Harvard University, Neiman Foundation, 80th Anniversary celebration
- 2018 The Harvard Campaign Celebration, Sanders Theater, invited faculty speaker
- 2018 “On monuments: place, time, memory,” Harvard University Committee on the Arts (HUCA), Tribute to President Drew Gilpin Faust
- 2017 Panelist for Harvard Alumni Association Event with President Drew Faust and Archon Fung, St. Paul, MN
- 2017 Phi Beta Kappa address, Harvard University chapter, fall term induction ceremony, Keynote based on *The Rise and the gift of failure*.
- 2017 TEDxHarvardCollege
- 2016 Harvard Art Museums, Conversation with LaToya Ruby Frazier, moderated by Sebastian Smee (*Washington Post*)
- 2016 Harvard Art Museums, Vision & Justice: The Art of Citizenship, Keynote
- 2016 Harvard University, Hutchins Center, Du Bois Lecture
- 2014 Global American Studies Symposium, Warren Center, Harvard University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026 Making Their Mark Forum, Sarah Lewis in conversation with Dr. Chelsea Clinton
- 2025 Boston Globe Summit, *Revolutionary Ideas*, Panel *Boston on Boston* with Sarah Lewis and Dr. Makeeba McCreary
- 2025 American Evaluation Association, 2025 AEA Conference - EVAL 2025, Keynote
- 2025 MASS Design Group, Abundant Futures Live
- 2025 Aspen Ideas Festival, *Creating Justice*, Plenary session with Sarah Lewis, Imani Perry, and Neal Katyal
- 2025 Aspen Ideas Festival, *How Photography Shapes Perception*, Plenary session with Tyler Mitchell
- 2025 Urban League of Hampton Roads, 41st MLK Breakfast, Keynote
- 2024 Creative Commonwealth Convening, Keynote
- 2024 Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, 2024 Women's Healthcare Event, Keynote
- 2024 Howard Law School, Wiley Branton Symposium

- 2024 Saint Louis Art Museum, Advancing Change: Centering Mentorship in Arts, Education, and Community, Keynote
- 2024 Equal Justice Initiative's Dedication of Freedom Monument Sculpture Park and the Legacy Sites, The Arts & Justice, Panel discussion with Hank Willis Thomas, Alison Saar, Sarah Lewis, and Kwame Akoto-Bamfo
- 2024 Aspen Ideas Festival, *What Images Teach About Racial Justice*, Plenary session with Hank Willis Thomas
- 2024 Aspen Ideas Festival, *The Question of Happiness*, Plenary session with David Brooks, Jeffrey Rosen, Sarah Lewis, Adam Gopnik, and Tamar Gendler
- 2024 Aspen Ideas Festival, *The Bigger Picture*, Roundtable with Vincent Brown
- 2024 National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, 2024 NCECA Conference
- 2024 SXSW, Design as a Medium Within Visual Art
- 2024 California Conference for Women, Reframing Failure into Success: Embrace the Near Win
- 2023 The Instructional Coaching Group, Keynote
- 2023 Gartner IT Symposium / Xpo
- 2023 PDT Partners, Women & Allies Speaker Series, Keynote
- 2023 Facing History & Ourselves, *The Power of Memorials and Public Art: Complex Histories and Legacies Today*
- 2023 Activision, Company-wide event, Keynote
- 2022 Seekonk Public Schools, Professional Development Day, Keynote
- 2022 U.S. Attorneys Conference, Keynote
- 2022 Black Portraiture[s] Venice 2022 - Enduring Blackness [Invited]
- 2022 Aspen Ideas Festival, *What is Beauty?*, Panel Discussion
- 2022 SXSW 2022: Designing Consciousness [Invited]
- 2022 APA Eastern Division Meeting, APA Committee Session: Danto/ASA Prize Lecture
- 2021 Justice Works 2021, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2021 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, People: A Global Dialogue on Museums and Their Publics, Closing Keynote

- 2021 Higher Learning Commission, 2021 Annual Conference, Opening Keynote
- 2021 Rutgers University-New Brunswick, Center for Cultural Analysis Conference, “Caucasian War: Race and the Remaking of Vision in America”
- 2020 C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, “The Circassian Beauties and the Caucasian War,” *Managing Sight: African American Visual Tactics*
- 2018 Aspen Ideas Festival, Conversation with Carrie Mae Weems
- 2017 Aspen Ideas Festival, Conversation with architect Michael Murphy
- 2017 28th Annual James A. Porter Colloquium on African American Art and Art of the African Diaspora, Howard University
- 2017 “Picturing Social Movements from Emancipation to Black Lives Matter,” College Art Association
- 2017 SXSWedu, Austin, TX, Closing Keynote, Vision & Justice
- 2016 Aspen Ideas Festival, Vision & Justice
- 2015 American Studies Department, Un-Conference on Racial Passing, Brown University
- 2014 Aspen Ideas Festival, invited lecture about *The Rise*
- 2013 *Callaloo* Conference, Oxford University
- 2012 “A Conversation with Haile Gerima,” Sarah Lewis and Dagmawi Woubshet interviewing Haile Gerima, *Callaloo* Conference, Princeton University, [Co-organizer]
- 2012 “‘Pictures and Progress’: Frederick Douglass, The Circassian Beauties, and American Racial Formation,” Society of Early Americanists Conference
- 2011 “Pictures and Progress,” American Studies Association, Baltimore, MD
- 2011 Savannah College of Art and Design, deFINE Art Festival, Atlanta, GA, Keynote
- 2011 “Multiple Modernities and Global Art Worlds,” College Art Association, co-chaired with Leslie King-Hammond
- 2007 Here and Now: African American Art and Film conference, sponsored by W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University and Tisch School of the Arts, New York University

OTHER APPEARANCES and MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- 2026 WURD Radio, LLC, Evening WURDs, *Tuesday Teach-In* [Forthcoming]
- 2025 Jack Shainman Gallery, Hank Willis Thomas in conversation with Sarah Lewis celebrating

- the closing of Thomas's exhibition, "I AM MANY"
- 2025 Woman Evolve, podcast interview
- 2025 American History Hit, What Does 'Caucasian' Mean?
- 2024 New Books Network, *The Unseen Truth: When Race Changed Sight in America*
- 2024 Unlocking Us with Brené Brown, Dr. Sarah Lewis on *The Unseen Truth: When Race Changed Sight in America*
- 2024 Time Sensitive, podcast interview for *The Unseen Truth*
- 2024 Cerebral Women, podcast interview for *The Unseen Truth*
- 2023 MIT Museum, Book launch event for *Unmasking AI*
- 2023 Stephen Friedman Gallery, In Conversation with Deborah Roberts
- 2023 2 Pages with MBS, Podcast Interview, How to be a Light in the Darkness
- 2023 All Of It with Alison Stewart, Radio Interview, Richard Avedon at 100
- 2022 Museum of Modern Art, LaToya Ruby Frazier Scholar's Day, Roundtable Discussion
- 2022 RBC Wealth Management, Women's Association of Financial Advisors Conference, Keynote
- 2022 Harley-Davidson, The Role of Culture in Justice, Keynote
- 2022 Washington National Cathedral, *Light in the Darkness: When Monuments Attack*, Panel Discussion
- 2022 Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, *Ascendant: The Power of Descendant Communities to Shape our Stories, Places and Future*, Panel Discussion
- 2022 *Civil War History* Journal, A Roundtable with Cheryl Finley, Matthew Fox-Amato, Sarah Lewis, Nell Painter, Anne M. Shumard, and Deborah Willis, moderated by Jim Downs, discussing *The Black Civil War Soldier*
- 2022 Forrester, B2B Summit North America, Keynote
- 2022 Prada, Experimental Design Lab Awardees Announcement, Panel Discussion
- 2022 Davidson Kempner Capital Management LP, Black History Month: A REAL Discussion with Sarah Lewis
- 2022 Prada Mode x Frieze, Sarah Lewis in conversation with Martine Syms
- 2022 Harley-Davidson, Black History Month: Inclusion & Belonging, Keynote

- 2022 African-American Community Service Agency, Black History Month Kick-off, Keynote
- 2021 YWCA Wisconsin, 17th Annual “An Evening to Promote Racial Justice”
- 2021 Ralph Lauren, Company-wide event, Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2021 Film at LACMA, Black Joy and Resilience Film Series, Mr. SOUL! A Post-Screening Conversation with Melissa Haizlip, Blair Underwood, Nikki Giovanni, and Sarah Lewis, moderated by Neal Lester
- 2021 Greenville Racial Equity and Economic Mobility Commission
- 2021 Facebook Live Audio Room, featuring Sarah Lewis, Yara Shahidi, and Trevor Noah
- 2021 *Black Art*, A Conversation with Richard J. Powell and Sarah Lewis, Hirshhorn Museum [Book Launch]
- 2021 MASS Superintendents General Session, [state-wide gathering of school superintendents], Vision & Justice, Keynote
- 2021 Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn Talks: John Edmonds and Sarah Lewis
- 2021 Black Trustee Alliance for Art Museums, Inaugural Convening, Opening Keynote
- 2021 Silicon Valley Bank, Quarterly Speaker Series
- 2021 Frieze New York 2021: An Online Discussion with Ava DuVernay, Carrie Mae Weems, Franklin Leonard, Theaster Gates, Wynton Marsalis and Sarah Lewis
- 2021 Dare to Lead with Brené Brown (*Part II*): Brené with Dr. Sarah Lewis on Creativity, Surrender, and Aesthetic Force
- 2020 Museum of Tolerance, Mr. SOUL! Virtual Q+A, featuring Doug Blush, Nikki Giovanni, Melissa Haizlip, Blair Underwood, moderated by Sarah Lewis
- 2020 Dare to Lead with Brené Brown (*Part I*): Brené with Dr. Sarah Lewis on *The Rise*, the Creative Process and the Difference Between Mastery and Success
- 2020 Christiane Amanpour show, Interviewed by Walter Isaacson
- 2016 WNYC (Radio program), Segment on the “Vision & Justice” issue of *Aperture* magazine with Carrie Mae Weems, LaToya Ruby Frazier, moderated by Rebecca Carroll
- 2016 WGBH segment on the “Vision & Justice” issue of *Aperture* magazine and the related Harvard course and teaching gallery installation
- 2016 “Powerful Words,” Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
- 2016 Kent Presents, Panel on the legacy of Gordon Parks with Deborah Willis, LaToya Ruby Frazier, moderated by Carter Foster

- 2016 Yale University, Creative Careers in the Arts, Conversation with Shana Waterman
- 2015 Texas Municipal League, Annual Conference Delegate Luncheon, Keynote
- 2015 Covenant Church, Flourish Conference, Keynote
- 2015 Berkshire Partners, Investor Conference, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Keynote
- 2015 Arts Orange County, Santa Ana, CA, Keynote
- 2015 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Houston, TX, Keynote
- 2015 National Association of Independent Schools, Annual Conference, Boston, MA, Keynote
- 2014 Segment for the “Big Think,” Art and Social Justice
- 2014 Danville Regional Foundation, Keynote
- 2014 Boston Book Festival, *The Rise*, Keynote
- 2014 Federal Reserve Bank, annual conference, Keynote
- 2014 Guest appearance on *Charlie Rose*, Interview about *The Rise*
- 2014 Guest on NPR: TED Radio Hour
- 2014 Law School Admissions Council, Asheville, NC, *The Rise*, Keynote
- 2014 Guest on MSNBC, The Cycle, segment about *The Rise*
- 2014 International Association of Privacy Professionals, Keynote
- 2014 TED2014, *Embrace the Near Win*, Main stage talk, Vancouver, Canada
- 2014 Featured on Minnesota Public Radio, segment about *The Rise*
- 2014 Appearance on *Late Night with Seth Myers*, interview about *The Rise*
- 2014 Guest on *The Brian Lehrer Show*, WNYC, segment about *The Rise*
- 2014 Sundance Film Festival, Panel with Robert Redford, Dave Eggers, Chris Stone, and Jill Soloway, (Moderator), book launch event for *The Rise*

COURSES (Harvard University)

Primarily for Undergraduates

HAA 172V
HAA 178V

Unseen Black Art
Art of the Black World

HUMAN20
Freshman Seminar 62M
HAA 176E
AFRAMER 185X

A Colloquium in the Visual Arts
Can Art Inspire Social Justice?
Vision & Justice: The Art of Citizenship
What is Black Art? African American Cultural
Production from the Early Republic to Civil Rights
Directed Reading, Junior Tutorial
Race and Aesthetics, Junior Tutorial

AFRAMER 98
HAA 98ar

Primarily for Graduates

HAA 274
HAA 273N

American Racial Ground
Exhibiting Blackness: The Role of Exhibitions in the Black
Atlantic World

HAA 176E

Vision & Justice: The Art of Citizenship, led a weekly
section for the graduates, law school, and GSD students
enrolled in the course.

HAA 271K
HAA 310b

Picturing America: Photography, Race, and Citizenship
Methods course, History of Art and Architecture on
“Aesthetics, Reception, and the Invention of Race”

OTHER TEACHING (Yale University)

Yale School of Art, Painting and Printmaking Departments. Taught seminars for MFA students on the
topic of Race and Aesthetics, 2009-2015.

Led graduate photography critiques at Yale School of Art, MFA Program and critiques in the Painting
& Printmaking Department.

Yale Prison Education Initiative.

COMMITTEES (Harvard University)

2025 Faculty Endorsement Committee, Marshall Scholarship nominations

2017-2025 Standing Committee on American Studies

2020-2023 Standing Committee on Women

2018-2019 Vision & Justice Convening Committee, Chair

2018-2019 Gordon Parks Essay Prize Jury, Chair

2018-2019 Curriculum Task Force, History of Art and Architecture Department

2017-2018 Search Advisory Committee, Dean of Undergraduate Education

2017-2018 Undergraduate Curriculum committee, African and African American Studies
Department

2017-2021 Faculty Council on the Arts, Office for the Arts

2016-2021	Standing Committee on Women, Gender, and Sexuality
2016-2020	Harvard Arts Medal Committee
2016-2019	FAS Standing Committee on Public Service
2016-2017	Visual and Environmental Studies Department, Asked to consult to the Search Committee for a Tenure-track assistant professor in video/film, installation, and performance
Fall 2016	Richard L. Menschel Curator / Associate Curator of Photography, Search Committee, Harvard Art Museums

(NON-COMMITTEE) ACADEMIC SERVICE

Juror, 2024-2025 Dedalus Foundation Dissertation Fellowship and Senior Fellowship

Peer review, Duke University Press, *Art Journal*, *Third Text*, *Art Bulletin*, and MIT Press

Advisor, Peabody Museum, Harvard University exhibition of J.T. Zealy daguerreotypes, exhibition in 2019

Harvard Art Museums, History of Art and Architecture faculty panel for donors, Evening presentation (Oct. 2017)

Visiting Committee to the Harvard Art Museums, Panel luncheon discussion (2018)

Women's Leadership Conference, Faculty Tea, Harvard University (Jan. 2017)

Harvard Alumni Association, Saturday of Symposia, Vision & Justice, Invited Lecture (Dec. 2016)

Harvard Women's Weekend, Interviewed by VP of Alumni Affairs and Development, Tamara Rogers (Nov. 2016)

Harvard Alumni Association, Reunion Classes of '71, '76 and '82, Keynote, Harvard Science Center, with Melissa Franklin and Jill Abramson (Oct. 2016)

BOARD SERVICE

Present:

Civil War History (journal), Editorial Board (2020-Present)

Thames & Hudson Inc. (Nov 2020-Present)

Vision & Justice Advisory Board, President (2022-Present)

Members include: Series Co-Editors Leigh Raiford and Deborah Willis, along with Courtney R. Baker, Dawoud Bey, LeRonn Brooks, Jelani Cobb, Teju Cole, Huey Copeland, Vinson Cunningham, Awol Erizku, Cheryl Finley, Nicole Fleetwood, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Michael B. Gillespie, Rujeko Hockley, Tyler Mitchell, Valerie Cassel Oliver, Richard Powell, Antwaun Sargent, Ming Smith, Salamishah Tillet, and Carrie Mae Weems

Past:

Yale Corporation Committee on Honorary Degrees (2016-2022)
The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Board Member (2010-2018)
The Brearley School, Board Member (2008-2015)
Harvard Alumni Association (2008-2014)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association
American Philosophical Association
American Society for Aesthetics
American Society for Legal History
American Studies Association
Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)
Association of Historians of American Art
Black Women's Studies Association
The Century Association
College Art Association
Law & Society Association
The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists
Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society
Society for Photographic Education
Society of Senior Ford Fellows