

## Jaimee K. Comstock-Skipp

Institutional email:  
[j.k.comstock-skipp@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:j.k.comstock-skipp@hum.leidenuniv.nl)  
Personal email:  
[uniquejaimee@gmail.com](mailto:uniquejaimee@gmail.com)

Hannemanstraat 174  
2526 VJ  
The Hague  
Netherlands  
Tel. (+31) 0626 06 32 68

### Education

- .October 2017** (started) **Leiden University**, Leiden, Netherlands  
**PhD Candidate, Persian Studies**  
Supervisors: Prof. Ivo Smits, Prof. Dr. Gabrielle van den Berg  
Dissertation Title: “The forgotten decades: the Shaybānid [Uzbek] take on Firdausī’s *Shāhnāma* epic and artistic exchanges across Baghdad and Bukhara.”
- .July 2015** **The Courtauld Institute of Art**, London, England  
**M.A. in History of Art—Persian Painting** awarded with Distinction  
Thesis: “**Heroes of Legend, Heroes of History: Militant Manuscripts of the Shaybanid Uzbeks in Transoxiana.**”
- . June 2012** **Williams College Graduate Program in the History of Art**, Williamstown, Massachusetts (USA)  
**M.A. in the History of Art** awarded with GPA: 3.77  
Thesis: “*‘To be an Infidel or an Unbeliever...’ Edmund Dulac’s Christian Subject in a Persian Style.*”
- .May 2009** **University of California, Berkeley**, Berkeley, California (USA)  
**B.A. in Near Eastern Studies— Islamic Civilizations (major), Art History (minor)** awarded with Highest Honors, GPA: 3.96  
Thesis: “**Whose Painted Reality? Redefining Orientalism in British Representations of the Sultan Hasan Mosque in Cairo.**”

### Nationalities

- USA
- UK

### Languages

- **English:** native
- **Persian:** fluent in Farsi and Tajiki (reading, writing, speaking)
- **Arabic:** advanced proficiency (reading, writing, speaking)
- **Russian:** reading proficiency
- **French:** reading proficiency
- **German:** reading proficiency
- **Spanish:** reading proficiency

### Editing Experience

- . 2015-present** **Freelance editor and proof-reader**  
• Assistance to PhD students and scholars of Iranian heritage editing their book chapters and conference papers
- . 2013- 2015** **Santa Rosa Junior College** Santa Rosa, California  
• Proctor of exams, grader of term papers, and reader for two courses: World Art History to 1500, and World Art since 1500 with Professor Heidi Saleh. Additional assistance given to help prepare a syllabus and plan lecture materials for a future course on Islamic Art and Architecture.
- . 2014- 2015** **The Courtauld Institute of Art: Iran Heritage Foundation Research Assistant and Courtauld Scholar** London  
• Research and programming support to Dr Sussan Babaie to promote the study of Persian arts in London, England.
- . 2013- 2015** **Santa Rosa Junior College** Santa Rosa, California  
• Proctor of exams, grader of term papers, and reader for two courses: World Art History to 1500, and World Art since 1500 with Professor Heidi Saleh. Additional assistance given to help prepare a syllabus and plan lecture materials for a future course on Islamic Art and Architecture.
- . 2010- 2012** **Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute** Williamstown, Massachusetts  
• **Research Assistant**  
Researched various projects for Clark Fellow Susan Siegfried as part of the Visiting Scholars Program. Compiled bibliographies, tracked down citations, provided assistance with her project on French lace production and veiling.

- .2010- 2012 **Williams College Museum of Art** Williamstown, Massachusetts
- **Mellon Curatorial Intern**  
Researched collection's holdings in Islamic, Mesopotamian, and Indic arts, including writing wall texts, planning programming, installation, photography permissions.
  - **Curatorial Assistant to Exhibitions**  
Arabic translation and presentation duties for the exhibition "*The Object of Art: the Qur'an as a Religious and Artistic Object*" (Spring 2011) with Professor Holly Edwards. Research assistance for the exhibition "Who Owns the Past? A Collection of Histories in Two Assyrian Reliefs" (Fall 2010) with Elizabeth Gallerani.
  - **Presenter to Undergraduate Lecture Courses**  
Persian and Arabic text translations and presentations on related manuscripts held by Williams College's Chapin Library (April 2011). Research and Persian translation for presentation on an overview of Persian miniature paintings in the museum collection (March 2011).
- . 2005- 2009 **University of California Berkeley employment** Berkeley, California
- **Research Assistant**  
Compiled bibliographies, tracked down citations, provided editing assistance to Dr. Sabrina Maras for her dissertation on Achaemenid iconography.
  - **Publication Intern**  
Undergraduate intern for the interdisciplinary publication Journal of Associated Graduates in the Near Eastern Studies.
  - **President, Event Coordinator, and Publicity Director of NESSA: Near Eastern Studies Student Association**  
Student leader of group devoted to the art, history, languages, and cultures of the ancient and modern Near East.
- . 2005 **High School employment**, Santa Rosa, California
- **Editor, KMT publications** (2004)  
Editing services for journal on Egyptology.

#### Other Occupational Experience

- . Jan.-Dec. 2019 **Nationaal Museum van Wereldculturen (National Museum of World Cultures)**, Netherlands
- **Research Center for Material Culture-Foundation for Ethnology in Leiden (RCMC-FEL) Junior Scholar**  
Fellowship to carry out independent project cataloguing Persianate arts of the book in the NMVW collection.
- . Jan.-May 2015 **British Museum** London, England
- **Volunteer in Middle East Department**  
Assisted curator Peyvand Firouzeh (Middle East) and St John Simpson (Arabia) in documenting and cataloguing objects in the collection, and responding to public inquiries.
- . 2013- 2017 **American Councils** Dushanbe, Tajikistan (spring-summer position)
- **Resident Director for National Security Language Initiative for Youth Program (NSLI-Y)** for Tajiki language immersion. Appointed by American Councils to coordinate the program, hire host families and language instructors, develop the academic curriculum, supervise and ensure the health and safety of the 15 American participants, make arrangements for the cultural program events and excursions, assist in the administration and daily operations, consult with the program manager in Washington, D.C., and oversee the program budget.
- . 2015- 2016 **University of Central Asia** Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- Collaboration with Obidkhon Kurbonkhonov of the Aga Khan Humanities Project: to promote pluralism in ideas, cultures, and peoples by initiating and supporting the creation and implementation of an interdisciplinary undergraduate humanities curriculum in Central Asian universities and community outreach projects. Guest lecturer and course facilitator.
- .2006- 2008 **Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology** Berkeley, California
- **Docent**  
Gave gallery talks to school groups (elementary through college level) on the ancient holdings (Egyptian and Classical) and exhibits from Rajasthan, India.
- . 2008 **Asian Art Museum** San Francisco, California
- Public outreach and Persian translation provided for museum-goers to the exhibition "*Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul*".

### Professional Affiliations

- British Institute of Persian Studies member
- Historians of Islamic Art Association member

### Honors and Awards

- Leiden University Fund award winner for research funding (2018-2019)
- Iran Heritage Foundation research funding, Istanbul (2018)
- Netherlands Institute in Turkey residency fellow, Istanbul (2018)
- Fulbright Student Language benefit for Russian instruction, Tajikistan (2016)
- Fulbright US Student Award 2015-2016, Tajikistan
- British Institute of Persian Studies travel grant to Iran (2015)
- Soudavar Memorial Foundation scholarship, for remaining costs at The Courtauld Institute of Art, London (Fall 2014)
- Friends of The Courtauld Institute 2014 Scholar, for tuition and fees at The Courtauld Institute of Art, London
- I.B. Tauris Prize for Best Paper at the Symposia Iranica's First Biennial Graduate Conference on Iranian Studies (2013)
- Critical Languages Alumni Fund for continued Farsi tutoring (2012)
- Critical Languages Institute Title VIII Fellowship for Tajiki language immersion, Tajikistan (2012)
- US Department of State Critical Languages Scholarship winner for Farsi language immersion, Tajikistan (2011)
- Williams College Graduate Class of 1951 Student Merit Fellowship (2010)
- Highest Honors and Departmental Citation, Department of Near Eastern Studies, UC Berkeley (2009)
- Charlene Conrad Liebau Library Prize for Undergraduate Research Winner, UC Berkeley (2009)
- Center for British Studies Travel Grant for London-based fieldwork, UC Berkeley (2009)
- Robert and Colleen Haas Scholar for London and Cairo-based fieldwork, UC Berkeley (2008)
- Center for African Studies Carl Rosberg and Judith Geist Undergraduate Research Fellow, UC Berkeley (2008)
- Center for Race and Gender grant winner, UC Berkeley (2008)
- Sultan Program for Arab Studies Undergraduate Scholarship Fund Winner, UC Berkeley (2007)
- Junior member of Phi Beta Kappa Society, UC Berkeley (2008)
- Art award winner for the National Arts Program, sponsored by Santa Rosa Parks and Recreation, CA (2008)
- California Association for the Gifted Scholar (2005)

### Publications

- **“Liberating the ‘Turkoman Prisoner’: an Assessment of Sixteenth/Seventeenth-century Folios of ‘Bound Captives’** (Published in: *Recovering ‘Lost Voices’: The Role and Depictions of Iranian/Persianate Subalterns from 1501-1747*, ed. Andrew J. Newman, Routledge Press, forthcoming).
- **“Turk amongst Tajiks: the Qipchaq *Shahnama* Manuscript in Tajikistan’s Institute of Oriental Studies and Written Heritage.”** (To be published in: LUCIS: Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam & Society, forthcoming).
- **“Heroes of Legend, Heroes of History: Militant Manuscripts of the Shaybanid Uzbeks in Transoxiana”** (To be published in: IRAN, the Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies, forthcoming).
- **“To be an Infidel or an Unbeliever...” Five Wise Men: Edmund Dulac, W.B. Yeats, and the Magi** (Relegere: Studies in Religion and Reception 3 no. 2 (2013): 307-28. In “Intuiting the Past: New Age and Neopagan Medievalisms”, edited by Karolyn Kinane). <<https://relegere.org/relegere/article/viewFile/582/676>>
- **“From the World's Fair to Disneyland: Pavilions as Temples”** (*What is a Pavilion?*, edited by Joel Robinson, The Open Arts Journal, Issue 2, Winter 2013). <<http://openartsjournal.org/issue-2/2013w05jkcs/>>
- **“Sartorientalism”** (The Contemporary Visual Studies Reader, edited by James Elkins, Kristi McGuire, Maureen Burns, Alicia Chester, and Joel Kuennen. New York and London: Routledge, 2012).
- **“Temples”** (The Contemporary Visual Studies Reader, edited by James Elkins, Kristi McGuire, Maureen Burns, Alicia Chester, and Joel Kuennen. New York and London: Routledge, 2012).
- **“Art Deco Sartorientalism in America: Persian Urban Turbans and Other Versions”** (Chitrolekha International Magazine on Art and Design, Vol. 1, no. 3, 2011). <[http://www.chitrolekha.com/V1/n3/05\\_Persian\\_Urban\\_Turbans.pdf](http://www.chitrolekha.com/V1/n3/05_Persian_Urban_Turbans.pdf)>
- **“Who Defines Culture Across Borders? Art and Immigration in the Iranian-American Community”** (published in Perspective Magazine, UC Berkeley Iranian Students' Cultural Organization, Fall 2009).