

Laura Lake Smith, Ph.D.

Education

Ph.D., Art History, University of Georgia

M.A., Art History, Vanderbilt University

B.A., Art History, University of Alabama

Recent Academic Positions

University of Alabama Huntsville

Assistant Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art History (Department of Art, Art History, & Design)

Fall 2020—present

- Art History Survey II Course (online and traditional formats)
- Upper level courses: Contemporary Art and Issues as well as other seminar topics from the 18th century forward

Visiting Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Art History (Department of Art, Art History, & Design)

Spring 2019-Summer 2020

- Art History Survey II Course (online and traditional formats); developed an innovative online format for Survey II course which dispenses with textbooks and utilizes OERs, the first course of its kind in the CAHS to do so.
- (Upper-level courses) Contemporary Art and Issues Seminar in 19th Century Art; Seminar in Impressionism and Post-Impressionism; Seminar in Early 20th Century Art (American and European)

Selected Publications

Articles

“Generating Synthetic Autonomy: Pararealistic Explorations and Implications of Ian Cheng’s *BOB (Bag of Beliefs)*” in *International Journal for Digital Art History*, No. 10, 2025. (Peer-reviewed)

“Drawing Out Questions: Speculative Strategies in Richard Tuttle’s ‘Looking for the Map’,” in *Burlington Contemporary Journal*, Issue 8, June 2023. (Peer-reviewed)

“Performing Authenticity: The Confessional Art of Tracey Emin,” in *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice*, vol. 21 (2), 2017. (Peer-reviewed)

Book Chapters/Essays

“ ‘Simply what my work has told me,’ in *Richard Tuttle: Interviews*, edited by Dieter Schwarz, (Köln: Walther König, 2025).

“The Curious Case of Richard Tuttle’s Art,” in *The Art and Artist in Society*, edited by Jane E. Alberdeston, Elsa Luciano Feal, and Jose Jimenez-Justiniano, (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge

Exhibition Catalogue Essays

"Sun Young Kang: Meditations on the In-between," in *In Between Presence and Absence: Sun Young Kang*, edited by Jill Johnson, (Huntsville: University of Alabama at Huntsville/Washington, D.C.: National Endowment for the Arts, 2022).

"Jon Nowell: *Objective Utility Structure Test*," in *Masters of Fine Art Degree Candidates Exhibition 2017*, edited by Isabelle Loring Wallace, (Athens: Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, 2017): 18-19.

"Ry McCullough: *Verse 07: Artifacts from Annihilation Day*," in *Masters of Fine Art Degree Candidates Exhibition 2016*, edited by Isabelle Loring Wallace, (Athens: Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, 2016): 22-23.

Interviews

" 'Simply what my work has told me:' An Interview with Richard Tuttle," in *The Brock Review* Vol. 11, No. 1 (2010): 63-69.

Selected Papers, Lectures, and Seminars

"Memory as Monument: The Art of Do Ho Suh," keynote address, Goodenough College Post-Graduate Colloquium at Tate Modern in London, England, UK, on the occasion of the exhibition, "Do Ho Suh: Walk the House," August 1, 2025.

"Making Change: Enacting Mutability and Agency in Richard Tuttle's *Untitled (Paper Cubes)*," panel paper, "The Work of Sculpture," Annual Conference of Association for Art History, University of York, York, England, April 9-11, 2025.

"Materiality Made to Matter: Richard Tuttle's *Cloth Pieces (1967-68)*," *panel paper*, "'Materiality in Modern and Contemporary Art,'" Southeastern College Art Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, October 24, 2024.

"On Poises and Philosophy: The Serial Art and Poetry of Richard Tuttle," *paper presentation*, International Conference on Poetry Studies: Poetry Between Creation and Interpretation, London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, Birkbeck College, University of London, March 25-26, 2023.

"Ruins of the Contemporary," *session chair and historiographic introductory panel paper*, Southeastern College Art Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, October 2022. Delayed from 2021 due to Covid.

"On Ruinology and Art: A Historiographic Perspective"

"Entangling the Verse and the Visual: Poetry and Sculpture in the Serial Art of Richard Tuttle," *paper presentation*, Henry Moore Institute Research Project and Conference on *Sculpture & Poetry*, February 23-24, 2022

"Models for Uncertainty: Richard Tuttle's Paradoxical Series," UAH RELACS Groups, March 26, 2021

"Modeling the In-between: The Aesthetics of Decay and Generation in the Art of Sarah Sze," *paper presentation*, "The International Conference on the Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction, London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, February 13-14, 2021.

"Contemporary Art in the Wake of the Digital Revolution," *session chair and historiographic introductory panel paper*, Southeastern College Art Conference, Richmond, Virginia, November 30, 2020.

"Grappling with the Logic of the Digital: Some Histories and Propositions for the Future," *panel paper*

"An Origin *in absentia*: Richard Tuttle's First Work," *panel paper*, "Omissions, Absences, and Voids in the History of Art," Southeastern College Art Conference, Birmingham, Alabama, October 19, 2018.

"Art and Temporality," *invited presenter/discussant*, York Summer Theory Institute, topical week-long symposium for Ph.D. Candidates from US and Europe convened by Professor Whitney Davis (Berkley), University of York, York, England, May 23-28, 2016.

"The Seriality of Richard Tuttle and Gilles Deleuze," *panel paper*, The Dark Precursor: International Conference on Deleuze and Artistic Research, Orpheus Institute, Ghent, Belgium, November 9-11, 2015.

"The Fluidity of Time in Christian Marclay's *The Clock*," *panel paper*, "Reel Fluid Film," Society of Literature, Science, and the Arts Annual Conference, Southern Methodist University, October 11, 2014.

"Imaging the In-between: Movement and Difference in Richard Tuttle's *Wire Pieces*," *symposium paper*, "Metabody Conference," Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, July 11, 2014.

"Reconsidering Religion in the 21st century: The Confessional Art of Tracey Emin," *panel paper*, "Reframing Religious Art: Religious Art After 1980," Southeastern College Art Conference, Savannah, Georgia, November 10, 2011.

"Rewriting Richard Tuttle," *panel paper*, "Truth Be Told: A Re-examination of Narrative in the History of Art," Southeastern College Art Conference, Mobile, Alabama, October 24, 2009. *Panel Chair and Session Organizer*

Selected Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

- ◇ *Research/Teaching Development Grant*, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of Alabama at Huntsville, 2022
- ◇ *Research/Teaching Development Grant*, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of Alabama at Huntsville, 2019
- ◇ *Innovative Teaching Grant* (Course Development), College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of Alabama at Huntsville, 2019

- ◇ *Distinguished Alumnus Award, "30 people for the 30th year Anniversary,"* Willson Center for the Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia, 2017
- ◇ *Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowship in American Art,* 2015-2016
- ◇ *Willson Center Research Grant for the Humanities,* University of Georgia, 2014
- ◇ *Outstanding Teaching Award,* Office of the Provost, University of Georgia, 2013-2014
- ◇ *Doctoral Student Teaching Fellowship,* University of Georgia, 2011-2015
- ◇ *Research Grant,* Office of the Provost, Lipscomb University, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011
- ◇ *Outstanding Teaching Award,* Humanities, Lipscomb University, 2006-2007
- ◇ *Professional Development Grant,* Office of the Provost, Lipscomb University, 2005, 2006, 2007
- ◇ *Graduate Student Travel Grant,* Vanderbilt University, 2001, 2002
- ◇ *Graduate Research and Teaching Fellowship,* Vanderbilt University, 2000-2002