

# GIORGIA AIELLO

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## EDUCATION

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*Ph.D. in Communication.* University of Washington, 2008.

Dissertation: "Visions of Europe: The Semiotic Production of Transnational Identity in Contemporary European Visual Discourse".

Adviser: Crispin Thurlow.

Committee: Miriam Kahn (Anthropology), Nancy Rivenburgh, Barbara Warnick.

*Post-graduate degree Communication and Information Technology.* University of Bologna, 2002.

Conducted advanced coursework in semiotics and sociology of new media, usability and visual communication, multimedia design and programming languages, HCI and cognitive science.

*Laurea in Scienze della Comunicazione (B.A. & M.A. in Communication Studies).*

University of Bologna, 2001. Summa cum Laude (110/110 e lode).

Emphases: film semiology, cultural anthropology and visual communication.

Thesis: "The Aesthetics of Emptiness and Time in the Cinema of Kurosawa and Ozu".

*Visiting graduate student.* University of Washington, 1999 – 2000.

Conducted coursework in visual anthropology, U.S. history of mass communications, Japanese literature and film, Native American activism and documentary film production.

*European Union ERASMUS exchange program.* University of Bremen, 1997 – 1998.

Spent ten months at a German university under the supervision of Prof. Umberto Eco. Conducted coursework in film history and criticism, sociology of culture, semiotics and cultural studies.

## CURRENT POSITION

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*Assistant Professor of Media and Cultural Studies.* Department of Communication Studies, Colorado State University. 2008 – present.

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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### *Visual studies*

Social semiotics, visual perception, aesthetics, phenomenology, multimodal discourse analysis, visual and documentary research methods, photography and film theory, urban communication and tourism, visual design and the global economy, cultural and social implications of technology.

### *Globalization, identity and power*

Collective identity formation through semiotic production, globalization and political/corporate/cultural identity, political economy of cultural production and consumer culture, cultural and social difference in popular culture and public space, communication and cultural policy, identification and performativity.

### *Critical cultural scholarship*

Cultural studies, critical discourse analysis, ethnography, cross-cultural and international research methods, interdisciplinary and experiential pedagogy, digital humanities, public scholarship and community-based work in the arts and humanities.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Refereed journal articles

- Thurlow, C. and Aiello, G. (2007). "National pride, global capital: a social semiotic analysis of transnational visual branding in the airline industry". *Visual Communication*, 6(3).
- Aiello, G. and Gendelman, I. (2007). "Seattle's Pike Place Market (de)constructed: an analysis of tourist narratives about a public space". *Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change*, 5(3).
- Aiello, G. (2006). "Theoretical advances in critical visual analysis: perception, ideology, mythologies and social semiotics". *Journal of Visual Literacy*, 26(2).
- Aiello, G. and Thurlow, C. (2006). "Symbolic capitals: visual discourse and intercultural exchange in the European Capital of Culture scheme". *Language and Intercultural Communication*, 6(2). Reprinted (2006) in *ESiA eMonitor, Issue 2. Singapore: Asia-Europe Foundation*. Available at: <<http://esia.asef.org/FeatureArticles.htm#symbolic>>.

### Book chapters

- Gendelman, I., Dobrowolsky, T. and Aiello, G. (in press for 2009). "Urban Archives: public memories of everyday places". To appear in Jeff Hou (Ed.), *Insurgent Public Space: The Emerging Public Realm in Changing Cities*.
- Aiello, G. (2007). "The appearance of diversity: visual design and the public communication of EU identity", in Jessica Bain and Martin Holland (Eds), *European Union Identity: Perceptions from Asia and Europe*, Baden-Baden: Nomos.

### Book reviews

- Aiello, G. (in press). Review of *Mobilities* (by John Urry). *European Journal of Cultural Studies*.
- Aiello, G. (2005). Review of *Shaping the Network Society: The New Role of Civic Society in Cyberspace* (edited by Douglas Schuler and Peter Day). *New Media & Society*, 7(4).

### Under review

- Gendelman, I. and Aiello, G. (submitted). "Faces of places: façades and global communication in Post-Eastern Bloc urban renewal". To appear in Adam Jaworski and Crispin Thurlow (Eds), *Semiotic Landscapes in Tourism: Text, Space, Globalization*. London: Continuum.

### In preparation

- Book proposal based on dissertation. To be submitted to selected academic publishers.
- "'Speedway', 'thoroughfare' e 'streetscape': cambiamento culturale nel paesaggio urbano visuale di Aurora Avenue a Seattle". To be submitted to *Studi Culturali* (Italy's journal of Cultural Studies).
- "All Tögethé® now: visual branding and identity in the new EU communication policy". To be submitted to *Visual Communication*.

### Other publications

- Aiello, G. (2005). "Creating a network for international students working at U.S. universities". *International Communication Association Newsletter*, February 2005.
- Aiello, G. (2004). "Conversazione politica attraverso un murale: il September Project a Seattle". *Politicaonline.it*, October 2004.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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### Dissertation fellowships and graduate research awards

- University of Washington Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Social Professions (competitive university-wide dissertation award). 2006 – 2007.
- Simpson Center for the Humanities Summer Residency Dissertation Fellowship (competitive university-wide dissertation award). 2006.
- Ames Endowment grant for doctoral research and fieldwork on cultural diversity. Department of Communication, University of Washington. 2006 – 2007.
- Boeing Payloads Concept Center research assistantship. 2006.
- European Union Center of Excellence Summer Research Grant. 2004.

## **HONORS & AWARDS CONTINUED**

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### **Teaching honors and awards**

- University of Washington Bothell Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences “Project for Interdisciplinary Pedagogy” Fellowship (competitive university-wide award declined). 2006 – 2007.
- University of Washington Library Research Award winning undergraduate research project (directed a group of students in the development of the winning project). 2006.
- University of Washington Huckabay Teaching Fellowship (competitive university-wide award). 2005.

### **Public scholarship awards**

- Simpson Center for the Humanities Graduate Student Fund grant to create a display of public scholarship work done at the Seattle Central Library for the September Project. Spring 2005.
- Fellow, “Connecting with the Community: the First Institute on the Public Humanities”. University of Washington Simpson Center for the Humanities. 2003.

### **Scholarships, grants and teaching assistantships**

- Washington State Credit Union Graduate Scholarship (competitive state-wide award). 2005.
- Danz teaching assistantship competitively awarded by the Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington. 2005 and 2007.
- Guaranteed teaching assistantship with tuition waiver competitively awarded by the Department of Communication at the University of Washington. 2002 – 2006.
- Department of Communication one-time grant, University of Washington. 2002.
- Scholarship for the post-graduate program “Communication and Information Technology” competitively awarded by the University of Bologna. 2001.
- Scholarship for the “Overseas” exchange program with the U.S. competitively awarded by the University of Bologna. 1999 – 2000.
- European Union scholarship for the ERASMUS study-abroad program competitively awarded by the University of Bologna. 1997 – 1998.
- ACOSTUD merit-based scholarship, University of Bologna. 1995 – 1997.

### **Conference travel awards**

- Annual travel grants to attend conferences in the U.S. and Europe, including NCA and ICA, competitively awarded by the University of Washington Department of Communication and the Graduate School. 2003 – 2008.
- Conference registration fee waiver awarded by the Visual Communication Studies Division of the International Communication Association. 2008.
- Grant awarded by the University of Washington Graduate School and the Center for Instructional Development and Research to attend the Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education Conference. Autumn 2006.
- International Communication Association Visual Studies Division Conference Travel Grant. 2006.
- Annenberg and Special “Larry Gross” Travel Grants for the International Communication Association Convention. 2006.
- University of Washington European Union Center and University of Canterbury National Research Center on Europe grant fully covering air travel and accommodation expenses to attend the Second Workshop organized by the Network of European Studies Centres in Asia (NESCA), University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. Summer 2006.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Co-director

Ongoing project *Urban Archives* at the University of Washington (<http://www.urbanarchives.org>), exploring communication in public space through visual data and metadata collection, and public access digital archiving. Developed in collaboration with the Library Digital Collections and implemented across campus through invited collaborations. The project has received extensive local media coverage (e.g. Seattle Times, Seattle P-I, King 5 News, NPR-affiliate radio, Microsoft on10.net webcast) and has been featured in the University of Wisconsin Internet Scout Report and an article on exemplary digital humanities projects published in a 2006 special issue of the academic journal *American Quarterly*. 2005 – present.

### Consultant

Invited to participate in the project titled *Mapping Youth Journeys: Cooperative Learning with Geovisualization Technologies* directed by Prof. Katharyne Mitchell (Geography), which was considered for a 2007 MacArthur Digital Media and Learning Innovation Award.

### Research assistant

- Assisted Prof. Phillip Thurtle (History) in the University of Washington Royalty Research Fund sponsored project *Extended Development: Toward a cultural history of evolutionary and developmental biology*. Compiled large digital database of key books and articles for the creation of a web-based archive, supervised undergraduate research assistant, planned and designed oral history resources, researched digital archiving software (Zotero, Omeka) and intellectual property. Winter and Spring 2008.
- Boeing Payloads Concept Center and UW Department of Anthropology research project on human-centered flying: worked with anthropologists, engineers, and communication scholars to design an ethnographic study about the cultures of flying, integrating considerations about the types of social interaction, media texts, material and sensorial phenomena, communication technologies, and intercultural issues that shape people's experiences on airplanes. Autumn 2006.

### International fieldwork

- In-depth interviewing in English, French and Italian with European Union officials, curators and designers, and European Capital of Culture project leaders. Conducted archival research at the European Commission in Brussels. Visited the headquarters of European Capitals of Culture Sibiu (Romania), Luxembourg, and Istanbul. Recorded observational data through ethnographic field notes and visual data collection methods. Winter 2007.
- Participant observation and in-depth interviewing in English and French with Magnum photographers and curators in relation to the opening of the photography exhibition *Euro Visions* in Warsaw (Poland). Ethnographically recorded (both through field-notes and photographs) press conference, opening night, workshops offered by Magnum to staff photographers of the major Polish newspaper and media-partner Gazeta Wyborcza, and public debate on the social role of news and documentary photography held at the newspaper's headquarters. October 2006.
- Pilot research at the European Commission in Brussels (Belgium), the European Cultural Foundation in Amsterdam (the Netherlands), the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (France) and the European University Institute in Florence (Italy). Conducted library research and interviews with officials from the European Commission's DG Education and Culture (MEDIA, Media Literacy, Culture), The Council of Europe's Cultural Policies and Cultural Diversity Program, DG of Human Rights and EURIMAGES. Summer 2004.

## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

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### Academic research

- "Urban Archives: public memories of everyday places". Refereed paper, with Irina Gendelman (first author) and Tom Dobrowolsky (second author). Visible Memories Conference, Public Memories Project, Syracuse University. October 2008, Syracuse, NY.
- "Building Europe's image: corporatization and visual branding in contemporary EU communication policy". Refereed paper. Global Communication and Social Change Division, International Communication Association. May 2008, Montreal (Canada).
- "The appearance of diversity: visual design and the public communication of EU identity". Refereed paper. Visual Communication Studies Division, International Communication Association. May 2008, Montreal (Canada).
- "Aurora Avenue in Seattle: visual landscape and the social construction of a contested place". Working paper. Urban Communication: "Proliferating Worldviews in the Urban Landscape", Pre-conference Seminar, National Communication Association. November 2007, Chicago, IL.
- "Designing Europe: the visual construction of European identity in the public communication materials of fifty cities participating in the European Capital of Culture scheme". Visual Studies Division, International Communication Association. May 2007, San Francisco, CA.
- "Female sexuality as a commodity: a visual analysis of fragrance advertisements in *Cosmopolitan*". Refereed paper, with Kate Marler (first author). Organization for Research on Women and Communication, Western States Communication Association. February 2007, Seattle, WA.
- Panelist in the refereed session "Public spaces and community: 100 years of Pike Place Market". Western States Communication Association. February 2007, Seattle, WA.
- "Advancing discourse about online identity through Stuart Hall and Judith Butler's theories of identification". Refereed paper. Critical and Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association. November 2006, San Antonio, TX.
- "Faces of place: façades and the city as spectacle, laboratory and text". Working paper, with Irina Gendelman (first author). Urban Communication: "Creating Sites for Connection and Action", Pre-conference Seminar, National Communication Association. November 2006, San Antonio, TX.
- "Critical visual analysis: interrogating form, exploring context, questioning practices". Department of Communication Critical Inquiry Symposium, "Critical Inquiry: Why's, How's and Where To's". November 2006, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- "Glimpses of the new Europe? Imag(in)ing European identity in visual discourse". Invited speaker at the Second Workshop organized by the Network of European Studies Centres in Asia (NESCA), *The EU's new identity and its perception in Asia: Responding to the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme "Europe in the World"*. July 2006, The National Centre for Research on Europe at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch (New Zealand).
- "Archiving Seattle and Urban Archives: the city as spectacle, laboratory, and text". Paper part of the refereed panel session "Semiotic landscapes, tourism, mobility and globalisation". With Irina Gendelman. Sociolinguistics Symposium 16. July 2006, University of Limerick (Ireland).
- "Theoretical advances in critical visual analysis: perception, ideology, mythologies and social semiotics". Refereed paper. Visual Studies Division, International Communication Association. June 2006, Dresden (Germany).
- "Symbolic capitals: visual discourse and intercultural exchange in the *European Capital of Culture* scheme". Refereed paper, with Crispin Thurlow (second author). IALIC, Sixth Annual Conference: "Europe Inside Out". December 2005, Brussels (Belgium).
- "Narrative analysis and oral history: an approach to the study of multimodal texts". Refereed paper, with Irina Gendelman. Semiotics and Communication Division, National Communication Association. November 2005, Boston, MA.

**ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED**

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"Slow Food as a new social movement: a global resistance to Fast Food culture through symbolic production". Paper part of refereed panel session "Discourse and the politics of resistance". With Irina Gendelman. Critical and Cultural Studies Division, National Communication Association. November 2005, Boston, MA.

"National pride, global capital: a social semiotic analysis of corporate branding in the airline industry". Refereed paper, with Crispin Thurlow (first author). Language and Global Communication, Centre for Language and Communication, Cardiff University. July 2005, Cardiff, Wales (UK).

"Communication in microfinance. An exploratory case study". Refereed paper, with Irina Gendelman. Language and Global Communication, Centre for Language and Communication, Cardiff University. July 2005, Cardiff, Wales (UK).

"'Talking back' as a strategy in identity formation: the European Union vs. the U.S. on issues of (audio)visual representation". Refereed paper. International and Development Communication Division, International Communication Association. May 2005, New York, NY.

"Public space, cyberspace and culture: a critical conversation about experiences of space and technology". Refereed paper, with Irina Gendelman and Tema Milstein. Human Communication and Technology Division, National Communication Association. November 2004, Chicago, IL.

"The MEDIA Programme and the construction of a unitary European audiovisual identity". Refereed paper. Intercultural and Development Division, International Communication Association. May 2004, New Orleans, LA.

"Seattle's Pike Place Market (de)constructed. An analysis of tourist narratives about a public space". Refereed paper, with Irina Gendelman. Visual Studies Division, International Communication Association. May 2004, New Orleans, LA.

Panelist in the University of Bologna's Department of Comparative Literature session about the University of Washington's documentary filmmaking graduate program *Native Voices*. Spring 2001, Bologna (Italy).

Invited presentation about the film *Kagemusha* for the Akira Kurosawa Film Festival sponsored by the Cinema Studies Program at the University of Washington. Winter 2000, Seattle, WA.

**Public scholarship**

"The September Mural". Permanent display of photographs, poster design work and text regarding the community mural organized at the Seattle Central Library as part of the September Project. In collaboration with graphic and print-making artist Kristen Ramirez. Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington. September 2005 – present, Seattle, WA.

"Urban Archives". Invited presentation for "Connecting with the Community: An Institute on the Public Humanities for Doctoral Students". With Irina Gendelman. Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington. September 2006 and 2007, Seattle, WA.

"Political discourse through a community mural: getting our hands dirty with public scholarship". Poster session, with Irina Gendelman, Tema Milstein and John Carr. Department of Communication Open House Graduate Work Showcase, University of Washington. October 2004, Seattle, WA.

**Scholarship of teaching and learning**

"Photography as pedagogy: fieldwork, archival documentation, and critical analysis in the Urban Archives project". Paper part of refereed panel session "Ethnographic spaces: urban, suburban, and virtual communication pedagogies". With Irina Gendelman. Ethnography Division, National Communication Association. November 2008, San Diego, CA.

Panelist in the refereed session "Providing mentored experiences that address graduate students' instructional interests" (with Donald H. Wulff, Director of the UW Center for Instructional Development and Research, Associate Dean of the UW Graduate School; Elizabeth Feetham, Associate Dean of the UW Graduate School; Angela Linse, Director of the Teaching and Learning Center at Temple University). Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference. October 2006, Portland, OR.

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED**

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“Alignment in experiential learning: collaborating with undergraduates in a technology-based project”. Refereed roundtable discussion, with Irina Gendelman. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference. October 2006, Portland, OR.

“Urban Archives: collaborating with undergraduates in researching the city”. With Irina Gendelman and Tom Dobrowolsky. University of Washington Teaching and Learning Symposium. April 2006, Seattle, WA.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Assistant Professor** (Colorado State University)

*SPCM 347 Visual Rhetoric* (Re-named *Visual Communication: Theories and Methods*). Fall 2008, Spring 2009.

*SPCM 342 Critical Media Studies*. Spring 2009.

### **Pre-doctoral instructor** (University of Washington)

*CHID 270 Communication Matters: The Material History of Communication Practices* (course curriculum co-designed and co-taught with Prof. Phillip Thurtle). Spring 2006.

Lectured on the relationship between meaning-making practices and the physical and material conditions of their creation and distribution, indexicality and multimodality, perception and phenomenology, the history and aesthetics of representational technologies.

*CHID 270 Photography: Theoretical Reflections and Ethnographic Applications*. Winter 2006.

Original course curriculum created, designed and taught upon request of the Comparative History of Ideas program. Integrated lectures and discussions about theoretical literature on photography with the acquisition of research skills in the social sciences and humanities. Taught visual data collection methods, including presentation skills (e.g. digital imaging, web-design).

*COM 495 Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to Visual Communication*. Autumn 2005.

Course created, designed and taught as part of the “Huckabay Teaching Fellowship”. Introduced both undergraduate and graduate students to semiotics, iconography, cultural studies, film studies and visual ethnography. Integrated experiential learning and creative projects into the curriculum. At the end of the academic year, received a letter of praise from the Divisional Dean of the Social Sciences for the top student ratings earned in the course.

*COM 300 Basic Concepts of New Media* (Evening Degree Program). Spring 2004.

Designed course curriculum, lectured on theoretical topics and taught production skills (web design, digital imaging, web publishing via FTP). Managed technology-based learning activities. Integrated relevant field-trips and extra-credit activities into the class curriculum.

### **Teaching assistant** (University of Washington)

- *CHID 110 The Question of Human Nature*. Autumn 2006 and 2007.
- *HUM 203 The World in Motion: Animation in Theory and Practice* (Prof. Stephanie Andrews and Prof. Phillip Thurtle). Interdisciplinary Danz Course in the Humanities. Spring 2007.
- *COM 321 Communication in International Relations* (Prof. Nancy Rivenburgh). Spring 2005.
- *HUM 102 Eye and Mind: Art, Science and Perception* (Prof. Elizabeth Rutledge and Prof. Phillip Thurtle). Interdisciplinary Danz Course in the Humanities. Winter 2005.
- *COM 428 Asian Media Systems* (Prof. Tony Chan). Winter 2004.
- *COM 466 Digital Journalism* (Prof. Tony Chan). Winter 2003.
- *COM 300 Basic Concepts of New Media* (Dr. Aaron Delwiche). Spring 2003.
- *COM 201 Introduction to Communication* (Prof. David Domke). Autumn 2002, 2003, 2004.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE CONTINUED**

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### **Guest lectures**

- *SOC 395 Urban Visual Anthropology*, St. Martin's University, Lacey, WA. Lecture title: "The Visual Culture of Words: Typography". Summer 2008.
- Guest speaker with honorarium in the Discovery Seminar *COM 210 The Tourist Gaze: Understanding Global Communication* (an intensive summer course for incoming freshmen). Created and led counter-tourism field-research exercise. University of Washington. Summer 2007.
- *COM 502 Communication Scholarship and Public Life*. Spoke about collaborative and public scholarship among graduate students. University of Washington. Spring 2007.
- Guest speaker in İzzeddin Çalışlar's course *Designing and Analyzing Campaigns* at Kadir Has University, Istanbul (Turkey). Spoke about the visual communication of European integration and, in particular, the public communication of Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture. Winter 2007.
- *General Studies 105 Writing Ready*. Lecture title: "Reading the city: collecting data for Urban Archives". Facilitated the "Fridays on Foot" assignment requiring students to study a neighborhood through field-notes, photography and writing. University of Washington. Summer 2006.
- *COM 470 Discourse: Analyzing Talk and Texts*. Lecture title: "The Visual Culture of Words: Typography as Connotation, Metaphor and Affect". University of Washington. Spring 2006.
- *Student-originated Software* program of The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA. Lecture title: "Archiving Urban Texts". Winter 2006.
- *COM 300 Basic Concepts of New Media* and *COM 301 Navigating the Information Networks*. Lecture title: "The Evaluation of Web Design: The Web as Artifact and Visual Narrative". University of Washington. Spring 2003 and 2004.
- *COM 466 Digital Journalism*. Lecture title: "Digital Photography as Storytelling". University of Washington. Winter 2003.

## **MENTORSHIP**

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### **Graduate mentoring and advising**

- Hannah Werntz, M.A. candidate. *CSU Department of Communication Studies*. Serve as student's inside committee member for a thesis on the relationship between food, communication and globalization. 2008 – present.
- Terry Ownby, Ph.D. student. *CSU School of Education, Interdisciplinary Studies*. Serve as the student's main mentor for independent study on visual media literacy leading to doctoral dissertation. Fall 2008.

### **Undergraduate theses**

- Kate Marler (2006). "Female sexuality as a commodity: a visual analysis of fragrance advertisements in *Cosmopolitan*". *UW Comparative History of Ideas Senior Thesis*. Served as the student's undergraduate thesis adviser.
- Emily Fischer and Sarah Rosenfeld (2006). "Graffiti and public space: a semiotic analysis of graffiti in Seattle's University District". *UW Communication Honors Thesis*. Mentored students in the development of theoretical framework, data collection methods and visual analysis techniques for the first undergraduate thesis originating from the Urban Archives project.
- Charles Whitmer (2005). "Framing the Middle East: an examination and analysis of the photographic portrayal of twenty-three countries in the Middle East appearing in *Time*, *Newsweek* and *U.S. News and World Report*, 2002 to 2004". *UW Bothell Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Senior Thesis*. Mentored student in the development of the visual content, semiotic and critical analysis part of his undergraduate thesis.

## **MENTORSHIP CONTINUED**

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### **Undergraduate independent study and directed research**

- *COM 498/499 and CHID 499 Urban Archives (University of Washington):*  
Supervised undergraduate students' data collection and editing as well as original research work in the areas of visual and urban communication. Winter 2005 – Spring 2008.
- *Independent and Directed Research (University of Washington):*
  - Directed research on the semiotics and political economy of the Starbucks logo and Che Guevara image (8 students). 2008.
  - Independent research on the discursive realization of Jewish identity across transnational pro-Israel organizations. 2007.
  - Library and archival research work for the creation of a Visual Studies resource website in collaboration with a web-designer and a UW librarian. 2006 – 2007.
  - Development of an independent Visual Studies interdisciplinary degree major. 2006
  - Applied research about the visual communication of European identity (3 students). 2005 – 2006.
  - Teaching practicum in the area of visual research and ethnography. 2006.
  - Internship at *Publicis* and related independent research about the visual representation of food in advertising. 2005.

### **Mentee research awards and presentations**

- Edith J. Fikes (2008). "Building resistance: upcycling and sustainable design/build in Oaxaca, Mexico". *Comparative History of Ideas Senior Thesis*. With my mentorship, this project was awarded a \$ 6,000 Mary Gates Research Scholarship.
- Kris Mroczek (2007). "Identity as a performative practice: materiality, embodiment and communication". *Refereed paper selected for presentation at the Western States Communication Association Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference*. Mentored the student in the development and submission of her research project.
- Emily Fischer (2005). With my mentorship, this student was awarded a \$ 6,000 Mary Gates Research Scholarship for her honors research on graffiti and visual urban semiotics.

## **PROFESSIONAL & CREATIVE EXPERIENCE**

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### **Photography**

- Photograph of "Suggested reading: Untitled" published in *Sculpture Magazine*. February 2007.
- Collaborated with installation artist Iole Alessandrini on visual documentation and creation of book about her and choreographer Jürg Koch's work "Suggested reading: Untitled". 2004 – 2006.
- Documented political community mural at the Seattle Central Library on 9/11 in collaboration with Youth in Focus. Created a visual display about the mural in collaboration with artist Kristen Ramirez for the University of Washington Simpson Center for the Humanities. 2004 – 2005.
- Exhibited a show of photographs of Iole Alessandrini's installation work and Jürg Koch's modern dance performance "Suggested reading: Untitled" at Olympia Artswalk. April 2005.
- Presented a slide show of photos taken at the Seattle Central Library's on September 11 during "Total Projection Action" on the Red Square at the University of Washington. November 2004.
- Exhibited a show titled "Italian Barbershops" at Seattle Center's Festa Italiana and Olympia Artswalk. September/October 2003.
- Cover photo for *Green Pages*, an Olympia-based journal of environmental news. June 2003.
- Featured in the 2003 online visual arts festival "Memefest" with a photograph titled "The other side of Seattle's peace march". As one of the top-ranked participants, I received feedback from internationally known jury members. Douglas Rushkoff commented: "This is a truly nice photo; photojournalism reaching towards something greater, for sure. It's hard to judge it in comparison with more 'intentional' artwork, but your analysis of the image, and your placement in the situation

## **PROFESSIONAL & CREATIVE EXPERIENCE CONTINUED**

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as participant/observer are definitely interesting, and reveal that you live in a very special relationship to your subjects". Spring 2003.

- Collaboratively produced an exhibit about university students' life in Bologna under the supervision of Italian photojournalist Mario Rebeschini. The exhibit was presented to the public twice, the second time by the President of the University of Bologna, with media coverage. The photographs and artist statement are now part of the University of Bologna's Historical Archive. 2001 – 2002.

### **Documentary production**

- Worked as a translator, writer and creative assistant to the editor and the director in the Movie production *Strade Blu. Storie dalla provincia Americana* (engl.: *Blue Highways: Voices of the Other America*), a four episode documentary for RAI TRE (the Italian national television). The production was invited to the 59<sup>th</sup> Venice Film Festival. 2002.
- Competitively selected to participate in the first documentary production program offered by the city of Bologna to 20 participants between the ages of 18 and 29. The final documentary shorts were shown to the public during the European Film Schools Festival. 2001.
- Created the video-documentary *Cooperative Living in Seattle* with the support of the Center for Advanced Research Technology in the Arts and Humanities, University of Washington. 2000.

### **Streaming media**

- Founding team member of the DscMediaLab, the first Italian university online channel devoted to the creative integration of digital media. Collaborated in the creation of digital media formats and streaming video, wrote and produced content, taught video editing workshops. 2000 – 2001.

## **SERVICE & LEADERSHIP**

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### **Professional**

- *International Communication Association:*  
Conference paper reviewer, Visual Communication Studies Division. 2006 – present.  
Conference paper reviewer, Global Communication and Social Change Division. 2007 – present.  
Member of the Student Affairs Committee. 2004 – 2006.  
Convention volunteer. 2006.
- *National Communication Association:*  
Conference paper reviewer, Visual Communication Division. 2007 – present.  
Convention volunteer. 2005.

### **University-wide**

#### Colorado State University

- Invited facilitator for the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures' reading colloquium on Homi Bhabha's *The Location of Culture*. December 2008.
- Invited speaker for the International Connections brown bag lecture series organize by the Office of International Education. Lecture title: "All Tögethé® now: global communication, visual semiotics and transnational identity in the new Europe". September 2008.

#### University of Washington

- Invited speaker for the Information School Research Conversations series. Title of session: "Urban Archives: adaptive tools for creative collaboration and cultural research". All iSchool doctoral students are required to attend these sessions showcasing innovative information science research from around the world. March 2008.
- One of six campus leaders (including deans, faculty, center directors and graduate students) invited to speak in the Simpson Center Institute for the Public Humanities' Roundtable, a public conversation on academics' leadership experience in university-community partnerships and public engagement among scholars. Sponsored by the Graduate School and the College of Arts & Sciences. September 2007.

## ***SERVICE & LEADERSHIP CONTINUED***

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- *Visual Studies at the University of Washington*. Founder of an interdisciplinary research group, sponsored the UW Department of Communication's Laura Crowell Fund and hosted by the Simpson Center for the Humanities. 2005 – 2007.
- Invited participant in the one-day working meeting preceding the Autumn conference "Place Matters: Seeking Equity in a Diverse Society" organized by the Diversity Research Institute. April 2006, Seattle, WA.
- Invited speaker for "Considering Class: Working-Class Graduate Students Discuss their Experiences at the UW", a panel organized by the Graduate School and the Center for Instructional Development and Research for the Graduate Professional Education week at the University of Washington. Winter 2006, Seattle, WA.

### **Departmental**

#### Colorado State University

- Member of the Basic Course Committee. 2008 – 2009.

#### University of Washington

- Senior graduate student mentor to incoming graduate students. UW Department of Communication. 2005 – 2007.
- Invited panelist, "Navigating the Department of Communication". UW Communication Graduate Student Association brownbag seminar. November 2006.
- UW Communication Graduate Student Association (CGSA) officer. 2005 – 2006.
- Invited respondent to Prof. Valerie Manusov's lecture "Nonverbal Communication: Revelations of a Cultural Code" for the University of Washington Ways of Speaking Lecture Series organized by Prof. Gerry Philipson and hosted by the UW Department of Communication. Spring 2006.
- Volunteer at the UW Research Mentor Center, a writing center supporting undergraduate academic work in communication. 2002 – 2003.

### **Community**

- Performed in the UW Faculty Dance Concert in an integrated dance piece titled "Parlour Games", choreographed by Jürg Koch in collaboration with dancers of various ages, physical abilities, performance skill levels and backgrounds. December 2007.
- Member of CROW (Creative Revolution on Walls), a Pacific Northwest public and community arts organization. 2003 – 2007.
- Jury Member at the Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival (Best Documentary Film and Best Local Film Awards). October 2005.
- Member of Grupo de Capoeira Angola Palmares, a Brazil-based organization teaching and promoting capoeira, a traditional Afro-Brazilian martial art and cultural form. Performed several times in Germany, Italy and the U.S. over five years. Helped teach both adult and children's classes. Helped establish the first Palmares academy in Bologna, Italy. 1999 – 2004.

## **MEDIA & PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

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- Worked as a volunteer photography and visual literacy mentor for urban youth enrolled in the programs offered by Seattle non-profit Youth in Focus. 2006 – 2008.
- "Marking Their Words: In the landscape of ideas, graffiti tells us what we may not want to hear". Lead article and interview about graffiti and the Urban Archives project in the *Seattle Times Pacific Northwest Magazine*. August 2007. Available at:  
<[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/pacificnw03182007/2003619754\\_pacificpgraffiti18.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/pacificnw03182007/2003619754_pacificpgraffiti18.html)>
- "Hitting the streets to research the city". Feature article about the Urban Archives project in *The Daily* of the University of Washington. October 2006. Available at:  
<[http://urbanarchives.org/press\\_kit/20061019--UW\\_Daily--Feature.pdf](http://urbanarchives.org/press_kit/20061019--UW_Daily--Feature.pdf)>

## **MEDIA & PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUED**

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- “First Take: Signs of the Times”. Short article about research on Seattle’s Aurora Avenue in *Columns*, the University of Washington Alumni Magazine. September 2006. Available at: <<http://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/sept06/content/view/92/42/>>
- “Photos tagged and organized to create the searchable Urban Archives...your city, yo”. Live interview and visual presentation of the Urban Archives project in the Microsoft video webcast *Channel 10*. July 2006. Available at: <<http://on10.net/Blogs/laura/3721/>>
- Collaborated with the Seattle Americorps’ City Year program “Young Heroes” (a leadership development program for middle-schoolers) to develop the community expression event “Values, Identity and Choices”. Developed concept and prompts for a photographic urban scavenger hunt regarding cultural identity in different Seattle neighborhoods. Spring 2006.
- “Students create urban archive, preserving graffiti for posterity”. Front page article and photograph about the Urban Archives project in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. December 2005. Available at: <[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/visualart/251267\\_urbanarchives08.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/visualart/251267_urbanarchives08.html)>
- Collaboratively created and participated in the “Total Projection Action on the Day Before the Election” event on the UW Campus Red Square on November 1, 2004. This was an initiative inspired by “The Day Before”, a collection of free events on campus relating to the U.S. presidential elections and aimed at fostering political dialogue in a non-partisan way. Together with a group of graduate students and artists, projected photographs, video, and real-time analog and digital messages onto campus buildings walls. November 2004.
- In collaboration with CROW (Creative Revolution on Walls), designed, organized, participated and engaged large public in political community mural painting activities held on September 11, 2004 at the Seattle Central Library for the September Project. August – October 2004.
- Collaborated with Seattle non-profit Youth in Focus by supervising a group of teenage photographers in the documentation of the Seattle Central Library mural. September 2004.

## **DESIGN & PRODUCTION SKILLS**

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Analog and digital photography (35 mm, darkroom, Adobe Photoshop), basic digital video production (mini-DV, DV-cam and Hi-8 video-cameras, Final Cut Pro and Adobe Premiere video-editing), web design (HTML, Macromedia Dreamweaver, introductory Macromedia Flash).

## **LANGUAGES**

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Italian native speaker; fluent in English; proficient in French and German (both spoken and written); beginning Spanish (good reading and listening skills); one year of intensive Japanese.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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- International Communication Association (Student Affairs Committee Member, 2004 – 2006)
- National Communication Association
- Association for Cultural Studies
- European Communication Research and Education Association
- Urban Communication Foundation

## REFERENCES

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- Crispin Thurlow (Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington)  
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