

# Rebecca Mendelsohn

The Metropolitan Museum of Art - AAOA  
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## EDUCATION

2017 Ph.D., Anthropology, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY  
2011 M.A., Anthropology, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY  
2008 B.A., Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, *magna cum laude*  
Majors in Archaeology and Art History with a Minor in Anthropology

## MUSEUM WORK HISTORY

2019-Present Sylvan C. Coleman and Pam Coleman Fellow, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

- Conduct research on Pre-Columbian artifacts in the museum's collections
- Access object records using TMS database
- Update collections information on the museum's website to reflect new research
- Aid with installation of the *Arte del Mar* exhibition (December 2019)
- Consult on plans and didactics for upcoming gallery renovations

2018 Volunteer, Native American Ethnography Department, New York State Museum, NY

- Wrote condition reports for new acquisitions
- Participated in gallery renewal meetings with exhibit design firm
- Advised on the "Native Peoples" gallery renewal

2017-2018 Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama

- Gave academic lectures on my archaeological research in Mexico
- Consulted on archaeology exhibits for the reopening of Panama's national museum

2009 3D Imaging Volunteer, Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute, Suitland, MD

- Used 3D scanning to develop digital and physical reproductions of artifacts in Smithsonian collections for educational and conservation purposes

2008 Collections Management Intern, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Cultural Resource Center, Suitland, MD

- Collaborated with conservators, curators, researchers, audio-visual staff, and indigenous groups for various collections needs
- Trained in proper handling of ethnographic and archaeological collections
- Created storage solutions for new acquisitions and traveling art
- Used EMu database to pull lists of artifact records

2008 Summer Program Volunteer, Danforth Art Museum, Framingham, MA

- Developed activities and museum tours to match weekly themes for K-12 students

2007-2008 Co-Curator, *America en plein air: Impressions by Henry Ryan MacGinnis*, Trout Gallery, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

- Collaborated with a team to select wall colors, content for text labels, and thematic layout for an exhibit of impressionist paintings
- Published exhibit catalog and an associated article in *Fine Art Connoisseur*

- 2007 Intern, Department of Museum Learning, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- Ran museum tours and art projects for K-12 students
  - Developed tours and activities on new themes

### **RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2019 Instructor of Record, Anthropology Department, University at Albany, NY
- Developed and taught a new course on “Cultural Heritage, Nationalism and Tourism: The Politics of History in Archaeology and Museums” (27 students)
  - Arranged guest speakers and a collections tour at the New York State Museum
  - Offered textile conservation workshops for students at UAlbany
  - Taught lecture hall class “Aztecs, Incas, and Mayas” (116 students)
- 2016-2017 Graduate Assistant, Institute for Mesoamerican Studies, University at Albany, NY
- 2014-2015
- Rehoused textiles for long-term conservation and accessibility for teaching
  - Organized academic lectures and hosted speakers on campus
  - Orchestrated cultural events on campus in collaboration with a Mexican migrant group
  - Managed and updated the organization’s website
- 2016 Instructor of Record, Anthropology Department, University at Albany, NY
- Taught a four-week intensive summer course in “Archaeology” (13 students)
  - Developed interactive activities to explain course content
- 2014-2015 Principal Investigator, Izapa Household Archaeology Project, Chiapas, Mexico
- Managed a team of four undergraduate students, eighteen field workers, and two lab assistants during a nine-week excavation season
  - Developed educational materials in Spanish for local community members
  - Generated graphics (maps, photographs, etc.) for reports and presentations
- 2006-2012 Participant, Archaeological Fieldwork
- Las Mercedes, Costa Rica (University at Albany)
  - Actuncan, Belize (University of Alabama)
  - Kalavassos-Kokkinogia, Cyprus (University of East Anglia)
  - Mycenae, Greece (Dickinson College)

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES**

- 2013 Museology II Course in Curation and Conservation, Museo El Carmen, Mexico City, Mexico (during 2013-2014 Fulbright award to Mexico)
- 2013 Museums and Tourism Politics in Mesoamerica Course, University at Albany

### **SKILLS**

- Language Spanish (Speaking, Reading, and Writing)- Fluent
- Technical Microsoft Office Applications (Word, PowerPoint, Excel)- Expert  
Museum Databases (TMS, EMu)- Intermediate  
Image Processing Software (CorelDraw, Adobe Photoshop, ArcGIS)- Intermediate  
Web Development Software (Dreamweaver, WordPress)- Intermediate  
3D Methods (3D scanning, Photogrammetry, Reflectance Transformation Imaging [RTI], 3D printing)- Intermediate