

# Mary C. Tait

maryctait@gmail.com . www.maryctait.com

## EDUCATION

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**MFA, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), Baltimore, MD, May 2008**

**Post-baccalaureate Certificate, (MICA), Baltimore, MD, May 2006**

Fine arts studies, prior to commencement of graduate school

**BA, Cum Laude, Studio Art, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA, May 2005**

### **Additional Studies:**

International School of Painting, Drawing and Sculpture, Umbria, Italy, Summer 2006

Summer in Paris Program: Columbia University, NY, Summer 2004

Twelve-College Exchange Program (coursework available significant to major) Wesleyan University, CT, 2003-2004

French language: Intermediate-level

## EXPERIENCE: EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION

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**Intern for the Docent Coordinator, Education Department, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, fall 2008 – present**

Researched and assembled binders containing information on new works of American Art entering the museum with background information on each artist for the docents to study for their tours. Videotaped special curator tours provided for the docents on new shows. Videos were for docents who could not attend the tour.

Assisted in student tours and discussed American Art in the museum for groups of all ages if the docents were short handed.

Provided technical support for videoconferences/ PowerPoint presentations on works in the museum given by the docents to classrooms around the country.

Teaching participant for “Art a la Cart”. Ran an interactive cart with another educator, to teach children ages 5 and up about “A Day in the Life” of a little girl and boy in a 19<sup>th</sup> Century painting using objects such as a slate board and a stereoscope.

Managed docent videoconference correspondence for Colleen Brown, Assistant Docent Coordinator, in her absence.

Performed as the “Ticket Booth Greeter” in the 1930’s virtual movie theater, which is an interactive educational website created by the American Art Museum where visitors can explore the New Deal-era through paintings, historical documents, newsreels, period photographs, and music.

**Intern for the Interpretive Programs Manager, Luce Foundation Center, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, spring 2009-present**

Teach the weekly “Draw and Discover” sketching workshop for any age and skill level in the Luce Foundation Center. Create assignments based around themes such as portraiture, narrative and drapery which are inspired by works in the Luce Center.

Edit video on Final Cut of art collectors discussing their art donation to the Smithsonian for use by the Luce Foundation Center on their website.

Research and write labels to be viewed on the Luce Foundation Center website for American Art entering the Luce Center from the permanent collection.

Answer questions and interact with the public at the Luce Foundation Center Information Desk.

**Videoconference Presenter, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, starting May 2009**

Currently in training to educate students around the United States about American Art through videoconference sessions. Topics of U.S. history and culture are explored using primary sources from the Smithsonian American Art collection as well as educational objects.

**University Faculty Teaching Assistant and Instructor, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, Sept. 2006 – May 2008**

Assisted Raoul Middleman in all preparations for his painting narrative class. Taught classes in professor's absence. Selected topics for class lectures or discussion and chose all accompanying materials necessary for class presentations: videos, books, slides or other materials. Served as liaison to students, answering questions, and explaining information as necessary. Recorded professor's lectures onto video for further educational use.

**University Faculty Teaching Assistant, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, Jan–May 2008**

Served as assistant to David Sterritt for his History of Film class. Prepared class schedules and conveyed to him all information pertinent to organization of the class. Conducted movie screenings complete with introduction and explanation of relevance of the film to the course, in his absence.

**University Faculty Teaching Assistant, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, May 2007-May 2008**

Assisted Churchill Davenport in his Abstract/Representation class. Provided overview of information for students, presented assignments, performed general administrative and organizational support services for professor for class presentations.

**Invitational Co-Instructor, North Carolina School of the Visual Arts, Wilmington, NC, March 4-10, 2007.**

Taught a week long workshop for adults on landscape painting with Raoul Middleman.

**EXPERIENCE: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

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**Intern, Public Programs, External Affairs Department, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, fall 2008.** Assisted staff on all levels for department's public program projects including artist show openings.

Supervised activities for children at "SAAM I AM", the O'Keeffe/Adams Family Day; activity entailed providing Polaroid cameras, information and instruction, with suggestions for the children to take Ansel Adams inspired photographs.

Greeted guests, checked them off the attendance list, and directed them to the proper gallery at both the Lino Tagliapietra opening at the Renwick Grand Salon and the Georgia O'Keeffe/Ansel Adams opening in the Kogod Courtyard.

Assisted performers in event preparations for the "Take Five" concert series including handling and transporting equipment, technical support for equipment set-up, or other tasks necessary for a comfortable working environment and a successful event.

Produced PowerPoint presentation from his lecture notes for William Kloss, an independent art historian, for his talk on "Art in the White House".

Assisted in preparation for a presentation by Barbara Bosworth on her photographic inspirations in the McEvoy Auditorium.

**Researcher and Documentary Video Programmer, Provisions Library, Washington, DC, June 3- Sept. 13, 2008.** (*Non-profit organization with a focus on culture and cultural advancement*)

Researched background information in preparation for art exhibition to be presented in conjunction with American University entitled "*Close Encounters: Facing the Future*"; served as the staff video professional, documenting public programs presented by the Library; archiving recorded events as specified by Library requirements; performed set-up preparations for scheduled invitational Library events.

**Artist and Exhibition Event Organizer, Invitational Art Exhibitions: Individual and Group showings, 2006-2008.**

Responsible for all preparations for art exhibitions presented at Maryland Institute College of Art. Provided organizational assistance to gallery staff for exhibitions in other galleries, including exhibition design, scheduling arrangements, artwork installation and de-installation, transport, publicity development and dissemination, and planning and preparations for gallery receptions.

**Intern and Assistant to Gallery Owner, Sherry French Art Gallery, New York, NY, January Term 2005.**

Assisted and supported the gallery owner and director in all aspects of gallery business operations, including organization of artist receptions or and other events, installation of art works for exhibitions, preparation of visual images for client review, communications with artists, clients, dealers, contractors and other gallery associates as necessary for gallery operations and activities.

**COMPUTER SOFTWARE SKILLS**

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**Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Photoshop, Final Cut Pro, Filemaker Pro, Raiser's Edge** (*software for client database development*); **TMS** (*The Museum System: collections management software for large museums*), and **Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)**