

The Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts welcomes Christine Frohnert as the inaugural Judith Praska Distinguished Visiting Professor in Conservation and Technical Studies



The Institute of Fine Arts is delighted to announce the new Judith Praska Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Conservation beginning in fall 2012 and to welcome conservator Christine Frohnert as the first Praska Professor. Ms. Frohnert completed her training as a paintings and sculpture conservator in various institutions in Germany in 1993. She consequently joined the conservation department of the Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany, and held the position of the Chief Conservator from 2000-2005. She holds a graduate degree in the

Conservation of Modern Materials and Media from the Conservation Program of the University of Arts, Berne, Switzerland (2003). From 2002-2005 she was the deputy head of the modern art section of the German Conservators' Association, VDR, and was a co-organizer of the symposium 'From Setback to Success' on the conservation of modern and contemporary art, held at Museum Ludwig in 2004. In October 2005, she joined the Cranmer Art Group in New York City as a conservator of contemporary art and also provides consulting services to the Whitney Museum of American Art on the conservation of their media collection. She lectures and publishes in the field of conservation of contemporary art internationally with a strong research interest in the conservation of installation art created in the 1960s by the artist/engineer collaborations such as E.A.T (Experiments in Art and Technology). Ms. Frohnert is the current chair (2008-2012) of the Electronic Media Group at the American Institute for Conservation and initiated the conference series 'TechFocus' to specifically provide education in each electronic media category. She also serves on the board of the New York Regional Association for Conservation (NYRAC) and Independent Media Arts Preservation (IMAP). This fall Christine Frohnert will lead a seminar course at the IFA, entitled *Art with a Plug – The Conservation of Artworks containing Motion, Sound, Light, Moving Images and Interactivity*.

“This prestigious appointment acknowledges Christine’s eminence in the field of contemporary art conservation and her pioneering work in establishing electronic media

as a topic of urgent need in the field,” says Sherman Fairchild Chairman and Professor of Conservation, Michele Marincola. “As an adjunct faculty member, Christine had helped expand our students’ training in the area of modern and contemporary materials conservation and we are very excited to offer her this opportunity and welcome her back in a more significant role this fall.” In addition to teaching and advising, Christine will also present one public lecture at the Institute on a topic of her choice during the fall.

This new Praska Professorship was made possible through the generous support of an anonymous donor and is named in honor of the donor’s grandmother. Inspired by the Kirk Varnedoe Memorial Professorship at the Institute of Fine Arts, this new visiting professorship in conservation and technical studies will be awarded each semester to a prominent conservator or scientist who can help enhance our conservation program with new areas for research and teaching. The Judith Praska Professor will be invited for a semester to the Institute of Fine Arts to teach in his or her area of specialty, particularly in courses designed for both conservation and art history students. The Judith Praska Professor will also give one public lecture on his or her research at the IFA. The professorship will run for four years through spring 2016.

For more information, contact Oliver Luisi, Assistant to the Chair for Administration and Public Affairs at 212-992-5888 or oliver.luisi@nyu.edu.

Founded in 1960, the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts is dedicated to the study of the technology and conservation of works of art and historic artifacts. It prepares students for careers in conservation through a four-year program that combines practical experience in conservation with art historical, archaeological, curatorial, and scientific studies of the materials and construction of works of art. Students complete a Master’s degree in art history at the Institute of Fine Arts, one of the premier centers of graduate education in art history in the United States, and receive an Advanced Certificate in conservation.

The Institute of Fine Arts of New York University is one of the world’s leading graduate schools and research centers in art history, archaeology, and conservation. The Institute has a permanent faculty unrivalled in the breadth and depth of its expertise and unparalleled in the range of its adjunct lecturers from top museums, research institutes, and conservation studios. Since the Institute awarded its first PhD in 1933, more than 1600 degrees have been conferred. A high proportion of alumni hold international leadership roles as

INSTITUTE *of* FINE ARTS

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

professors, curators, museum directors, archaeologists, conservators, critics, and institutional administrators.