

# Nicoletta Leonardi

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## Education

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### **PhD in Art History and Theory, University College London**

Fellowships:

Arts and Humanities Research Council

(declined)

UCL Graduate Research Fellowship

### **Graduate studies in Art History, Columbia University**

Fellowships:

Columbia University President Fellowship (1995-96)

Fulbright Fellowship (1994-95)

### **Laurea Magistrale in Art History (summa cum laude), University of Florence**

## Academic Employment

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- 2019 **Accademia di Belle Arti Brera, Milan**  
Associate Professor of Art History and Photographic History
- 2014-2019 **Albertina Academy of Fine Arts, Turin**  
Associate Professor of Art History and Photographic History
- 2013-2015 **University of California, Florence Study Center**  
Visiting Professor of Art History and Visual Studies
- 2012-2013 **Academy of Fine Arts, Naples**  
Associate Professor of Art History
- 2011-2012 **Academy of Fine Arts, Florence**  
Visiting Professor of Art History and Photographic History
- 1995-1996 **Columbia University**  
Teaching Fellow, Department of Art History

## **Publications: Books**

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*Fotografia e materialità in Italia, 1965-1980. Franco Vaccari, Mario Cresci, Guido Guidi, Luigi Ghirri*, Postmedia Editore, Milan 2013.

*Il paesaggio americano dell'Ottocento. Pittori, fotografi e pubblico*, Donzelli Editore, Rome, 2003.

## **Publications: Edited Books**

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*Photography and Other Media in the Nineteenth Century*, co-edited with Simone Natale, Penn State University Press, University Park 2018.

*Feedback: scritti di e su Franco Vaccari*, Postmedia editore, Milan 2007.

*L'altra metà, dello sguardo. Il contributo delle donne alla storia della fotografia*, Agorà Editrice, Turin 2001.

## **Publications: Book Chapters (selection)**

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*Photography and materiality in Italy in the 1960s and 70s: Mario Cresci's work between urban activism and participatory planning*, in Marco Andreani and Nicoletta Pazzaglia (eds.), *Photography and Power in Italy*, Cambridge Scholars 2019, pp. 239-268.

*Le fotografie come oggetti scientifici negli istituti psichiatrici dell'Italia post unitaria: ritratti di alienati dalla collezione del Museo Lombroso*, in Daniela Scala (ed.), *Fotografia e scienze della mente tra storia, rappresentazione e terapia*, Aracne Editrice 2018, pp. 87-114.

*Photography, Visual Poetry, and Radical Architecture in the Early Works of Franco Vaccari*, in Sharon Hecker and Marin Sullivan (eds.), *Postwar Italian Art History Today. Untying the Knot*, Bloomsbury Academic, 2018, pp. 135-151.

*With 'Eyes of Flesh and 'Glass Eyes': Photography and the Railroad in the United States*, in Nicoletta Leonardi and Simone Natale (eds.), *Photography and Other Media in the Nineteenth Century*, Penn State University Press 2018, pp. 74-90.

*Between reality and representation: the souvenir function of Luigi Ghirri's photographic trompe-l'œil*, in Jacopo Benci and Marina Spunta (eds.), *Luigi Ghirri and the Photography of Place*, Peter Lang, Bern 2017, pp. 25-46.

*Il metodo lombrosiano e le fotografie come oggetti sociali*, in Silvano Montaldo (ed.), *Il Museo di Antropologia Criminale Cesare Lombroso*, Silvana Editoriale, Milan 2015, pp. 36-51.

## **Publications: Exhibition Catalogues (selection)**

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*Fotografia e fisiognomica nell'Ottocento*, in Donata Pesenti Campagnoni and Simone Arcagni (eds.), *Il volto delle emozioni. Dalla fisiognomica agli emoji*, Turin, Museo Nazionale del Cinema, Silvana Editoriale, Milan, 2019, pp. 112-116.

*Void/Density: Photography and the Representation of Urban Space*, in Thomas Seelig (ed.), *Concrete: Photography and Architecture*, exhibition catalogue, Winterthur Fotomuseum, Scheidegger & Spiess, Zurich 2013, pp. 244-267.

*The transparent eye-ball. Vision, technology and the representation of landscape in the United States during the nineteenth-century*, in Marco Goldin (ed.), *America! Stories of Painting from the New World*, exhibition catalogue, Brescia, Santa Giulia Museum, Linea d'ombra Edizioni, Treviso 2007, pp. 233-248.

*Fotografia e arte*, in Gianni Canova and Stefano Chiodi (eds.), *Annisettanta*, exhibition catalogue, Triennale di Milano, Skira, Milan 2007, pp. 225-229.

*Espaces Quotidiens de résistance, les livres de Franco Vaccari*, in Gabriel Bauret (ed.), *De l'Europe, photographies, essais, histoires*, exhibition catalogue, Dudelange, Centre National de l'Audiovisuel, Filigranes Editions, Luxembourg 2007, pp. 236-243.

*Photography and the Representation of Subjectivity in Franco Vaccari's Exhibitions in Real Time*, in Franco Vaccari (ed.), *Exhibitions in Real Time*, Damiani Editore, Bologna 2007, pp. 24-31.

*Vision, Culture, and Landscape: the Case of Linea di Confine*, in Urs Stahel and Thomas Seelig (eds.), *TransEmilia*, exhibition catalogue, Winterthur Fotomuseum, Christoph Merian Verlag, Basel 2005, pp. 47-53.

*Private Wealth and Public Responsibility: Art Collecting in the United States, 1880-1945*, in Lisa Dennison and Enzo Siciliano (eds.) *Masterpieces from the Guggenheim Collection*, exhibition catalogue, Rome, Scuderie del Quirinale, Guggenheim Foundation Publications, New York 2005, pp. 52-63.

*Du paysage à l'espace social: les nouvelles voies de la photo italienne*, in Paul di Felice and Christian Gattinoni (eds.), *Le bâti et le vivant, semaines européennes de l'image*, exhibition catalogue, Editions Café- Crème, Luxemburg 2002, pp. 29-31.

## **Publications: Journal Articles (selection)**

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'La bionda scema e la satira ebraica: Monroe nelle caricature di Weegee', *La valle dell'Eden*, No. 28-29, 2014-2015, pp. 38-44.

‘Spazi quotidiani di resistenza: i libri di Franco Vaccari’, *AFT – Rivista di storia e fotografia*, No. 37-38, June-December 2003, pp. 60-67.

‘Anonimato e clandestinità nel ritratto fotografico da Marchel Duchamp a Sophie Calle’, *Eutropia*, No. 3 2003, pp. 208-215.

### **Invited Lectures, Museum Presentations, Guest Teaching (selection)**

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- 2019 **University of Pisa, Doctoral Program in Art History and the History of Performing Arts** - Lecture title: ‘Photography and Other Media in the Nineteenth Century’
- 2019 **Museum of Natural Sciences, Milan** - Lecture title: ‘Scienza e Fotografia nel secolo di Darwin’
- 2016 **University of Turin, Department of Media Studies** - Lecture title: ‘The Selfie, Post Photography, and the End of Photo History’
- 2016 **University of California, Florence Study Center** – Lecture title: ‘Wanderings with the Brigands: English and American Travelers and Southern Italian *Banditti* at the Time of Italy’s Unification’
- 2016 **Camera – Centro Italiano per la Fotografia** - Lecture title: ‘The Photographic Collection of the Cesare Lombroso Museum’
- 2015 **University of Milan-Bicocca, Department of Psychology** - Lecture title: ‘Photography and Mental Asylums in Post-Unification Italy: Images from the Cesare Lombroso Collection’
- 2015 **The Art Institute of Chicago** - Symposium Giulio Paolini - Lecture title: ‘From Street to Page and Back: Photography, Visual Poetry, and the Italian City in the Early Work of Franco Vaccari’
- 2014 **Università IUAV di Venezia** – Lecture title: ‘Photography, Participatory Urban Planning in 1970s Italy’
- 2014 **New York University Florence, Graduate Seminar Series** – Lecture title: ‘Photography and Materiality in Italy in the 1960s and 1970s’
- 2014 **New York University, Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimò** - Lecture title: ‘Photography and materiality in Italy: Franco Vaccari, Mario Cresci, Guido Guidi, Luigi Ghirri’. Respondent: David Forgacs.
- 2014 **Harvard University, Department of Romance Languages and Literature** - Lauro de Bosis Colloquium in Italian Studies - Lecture title: ‘Photography and Materiality in Italy in the 1960s and 70s’

- 2014 **University College London, Slade Research Forum** - Lecture title: 'Photography, Urban Activism and Participatory Planning in Italy: Mario Cresci and Guido Guidi'
- 2013 **De Montfort University, Photographic History Research Centre, Research Seminars in Cultures of Photography** – Lecture title: 'Photography, Participatory Urban Planning in 1970s Italy'
- 2013 **University of South Wales, Newport, European Centre for Photographic Research** – Lecture title: 'Agency and Materiality in Italian Film and Photography During the 1960s and 1970s'
- 2013 **University of California, Florence Study Center** – Lecture title: 'Experiencing Florence: American Travelers' Accounts and Representations of the City from the Grand Tour to Mass Tourism'
- 2012 **University of Rome, Department of Art History** – Lecture title: 'From Images to Material Objects: Photographs as Social Actants in the Work of Franco Vaccari'
- 2012 **Center for Contemporary Culture, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence**  
Exhibition: *Francis Bacon and the Existential Condition in Contemporary Art* Lecture title: 'Photography and the Representation of Subjectivity in Contemporary European Art'
- 2009 **Teatro Grande, Brescia**, Lecture on the occasion of the publication of *American Painting of the Nineteenth Century*, edited by Marco Goldin and Barbara Weinberg
- 2009 **University of Turin, Department of Comparative Literatures** – Lecture title: 'Alfred Stieglitz and Georgia O'Keefe: Modernism in the United States'
- 2009 **Guggenheim Foundation, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice** - Lecture title: 'The Transparent Eyeball: Landscape and Spectatorship in the United States During the 1850s'
- 2009 **Winterthur Fotomuseum, Winterthur, Switzerland** - Lecture title: 'Photography as Aesthetic Practice in Italy during the 1960s and 1970s'
- 2008 **University of Bologna, Department of North American Languages and Literatures** – Lecture title: 'The Ethos of Photography in the United States, 1830-1880'

- 2008 **University of Turin, Department of Media Studies** – Lecture title: 'Vision and Technology in US Landscape Culture, 1830-1880'
- 2007 **European Research Forum on Migration, Turin** - Lecture title: 'Representing Otherness: Photography and Migrations in Italy'
- 2005 **Oracle Photo Curators International Annual Meeting, Florence** - Lecture title: 'Italian Photography and the Representation of Public Space: Franco Vaccari, Olivo Barbieri, William Guerrieri'
- 2004 **Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Torino**  
Lecture title: 'Public Art in Turin: the New Patrons Programme in Mirafiori Nord'
- 2001 **Università della Svizzera Italiana, Academy of Architecture** – Lecture title: 'Public art and Social Conflict'

### Conference Papers

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- 2020 **University of Westminster, London**  
*Photography Beyond the Image Symposium* - Invited Speaker
- 2020 **USI - Università della Svizzera Italiana Lugano**  
*Conference: Rethinking Digital Myths. Mediation, Narratives and Mythopoesis in the Digital Age* Paper title: 'Photographic History and the Myth of Post Photography'
- 2018 **American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference, Sorrento** - Paper title: 'Between Exemplary Heroines and Amoral Beasts: Women, Politics and the Marketization of Photographs in Late Risorgimento Italy'
- 2017 **University of Turin, Center for Comparative Modernisms**  
*Conference: Borders of the Visible: Intersections Between Literature and Photography* – Paper Title: 'A War Fought in the Media as well as on the Battleground: Women and Politics in Photographs, Travel Literature, Journalism and Criminal Anthropology in Late Risorgimento Italy'
- 2016 **Aalto University, Helsinki** – Conference: *Helsinki Photomedia 2016: Photographic Agencies and Materialities* . Paper title: 'Mario Cresci's Work between Urban Activism and Participatory Planning'

- 2016 **University of Leicester, School of Historical Studies – *Pellagra and Pellagrous Mania: Representations and Interpretations*** - Paper Title: 'The Iconography of Pellagra in the Nineteenth Century'
- 2015 **Center for Italian Modern Art, New York – Conference title: *Untying the Knot: The State of Postwar Italian Art History Today*** - Paper title: 'From Street to Page and Back: Photography, Visual Poetry, and the Italian City in the Early Work of Franco Vaccari'
- 2014 **University of Zurich, American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference** - Paper title: 'Mario Cresci's work between urban activism and participatory planning'
- 2014 **De Monfort University, Photographic History Research Centre Annual Conference** - Conference title: *Exchanging Photographs, Making Knowledge* - Paper title: 'Amateur photographers and documentary practice in Milan during the 1960s and early 70s: the case of Gruppo 66'
- 2013 **University of London, Association for the Study of Modern Italy** - Conference title: *Iconic Images in Modern Italy: Politics, Culture and Society* - Paper title: 'From page to street and back: photography, visual poetry and the Italian city in the work of Franco Vaccari'
- 2012 **University of Turin, Actor and Star Studies Center** - Conference title: Marilyn Monroe's Icons between Myth and History– Conference title: 'From Crime Photography to Photography as a Crime Tool: Weegee's Monroe'
- 2012 **University of Zurich, Department of Art History** - Conference title: *Geography of Photography. Focus on Italy* - Paper title: 'Photography and Experimental Poetry in the Early Works of Franco Vaccari'
- 2012 **American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference, College of Charleston, NC** - Paper title: 'From the Book to the Street: Photography and Visual Poetry in Italy during the 1960s'
- 2010 **Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Photographic Studies, University of Messina** - Paper title: 'The Photographic Apparatus as a Model for the Artist's Mind in Mid-Nineteenth Century US Culture'
- 2009 **Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Photographic Studies, University of Bologna** - Paper title: 'Photographs, Archives,

Memories: Representations and Narrations of Subjectivity in Post World War II European Art'

- 2008 **Dalmine Foundation, Bergamo** - Conference: *The Faces of Memory: Photographs, Labor, and People* - Paper title: 'Photography as a Visual Source for Labor History'
- 2001 **Palazzo delle Papesse Center for Contemporary Art, Siena** - Conference: *Face, Portrait, Mask* - Paper title: 'Anonymity and Concealment in the Photo Portrait from Marcel Duchamp to Sophie Calle'
- 2000 **Tuscan Photographic Archive, Prato** - Conference: *Strategies for the Conservation and Valorization Photography* - Paper title: 'Photography within Art Museums'
- 1999 **Tuscan Photographic Archive, Prato** - Conference: *The Image of Independent Africa*. Paper Title: 'Photographs of Africa in the FIAT Historical Archives'

### **Conferences Organized**

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- 2007 **Spazio Oberdan, Milan** - Conceptual Art in Italy during the 1960s and 70s  
Keynote speaker: Renato Barilli
- 2002 **Oratory of Saint Philip, Turin** - *Situations* - Keynote speaker: Nicolas Borriaud
- 2001 **Oratory of Saint Philip, Turin** - *Public/Private* - Keynote speaker: Antoni Muntadas
- 2000 **Oratory of Saint Philip, Turin** - Memories, Accumulations, Archives -  
Keynote speaker: Harald Szeeman

### **Exhibitions**

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- 2019 **Museo Nazionale del Cinema, Turin**, co-curator of *I mille volti di Lombroso - L'Archivio fotografico del museo di antropologia criminale dell'Università degli studi di Torino*
- 1997-2013 **a.titolo-contemporary art projects, Turin**, Co-founder and Curator of photography  
a.titolo is a non profit organization aimed at the production of site-specific art projects, public art commissions, photographic campaigns, workshops.  
Projects carried out in collaboration with the following institutions: European Union/Urban 2 Program | the Venice Biennale, 48<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition | the Venice Biennale, 10<sup>th</sup> International



Architecture Exhibition | Castello di Rivoli, Turin | Fondation de France, Paris | Adriano Olivetti Foundation, Rome | Pistoletto Foundation, Biella | Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin | the City of Turin | the Culture Board of the Piedmont Region | the Culture Board of the Province of Turin | the Province of Milan | ATS Turin-Savona Highway Inc. | Careof, Milan | Huit Facettes, Dakar | Le Coin de Miroir, Dijon | Linea di Confine per la Fotografia Contemporanea, Reggio Emilia | Reporting System, Milan | Rum46, Denmark | the City of Ferrara | 2A+P, Rome | IDLab Interaction Design Lab, Milan | Slow Food Foundation, Bra | iD Barrio, Barcelona | Toepfer Foundation, Siggen (G) | Raumlabor, Berlin

- 2007 **Spazio Oberdan, Province of Milan**, Curator of the show *Franco Vaccari, Exhibitions in Real Time, 1965-2007*
- 2005-2006 **Turin-Savona Highway Inc.**, Curator of a photo campaign on the Turin-Savona Highway displayed on billboards in service and rest areas along the road. Photographers: Giorgio Barrera, Guido Guidi, Pier Francesco Gnot, Ciro Frank Schiappa
- 2004-2005 **Linea di Confine per la Fotografia Contemporanea in partnership with the Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam**, Curator of *Places of Cure*, a photographic campaign on Modena's Sant'Agostino and Estense Hospital  
Photographers: Marina Ballo Charmet, Francesco Gnot, William Guerrieri, Marco Signorini, Raimond Wouda
- 2003 **Linea di Confine per la fotografia contemporanea and Employment Agency of the City of Modena**  
Curator of *Work in Progress*, a photo campaign on labor in Modena permanently on show at the city Employment Agency.  
Photographers: Olivo Barbieri, William Guerrieri, Ciro Frank Schiappa
- 2002-2004 **Galleria SpazioFoto, Florence, Gruppo Bancario Credito Valtellinese Foundation**, Gallery Director  
Exhibitions: *Simon Norfolk and Paolo Woods, Afghanistan: war and everyday life*; *Bill Owens, photography and sociology*; *Manfred Willmann, Das Land*; *Alexey Titarenko, The city of Shadows*, guest curator Gabriel Bauret; *Pier Francesco Gnot, Paesaggi possibili*; *Martino Marangoni, Ozymandias*; *Disfarmer: Heber Springs Portraits, 1939-1946* 2002 Semaines Européennes de l'Image, Luxemburg and Le Havre  
Curator of the Italian section of the exhibition *Le Bâti et le Vivant*

- 2000-2001 **Tuscan Photographic Archive, Prato**, Curator of contemporary photography. Exhibitions: *New social and documentary photography: Stefano Nocchi, Michi Suzuki, Giorgio Barrera, Marco Calò - Places of affection: Osvaldo Sanviti, Pier Francesco Gnot, Ciro Frank Schiappa, Marco De Osti Reynes*
- 1998 **Uffizi Museum, Florence**, Curator of the show *Italian landscapes: images from contemporary Italy*

### **Research Grants and Awards**

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- 2002 **Mosaïque Program Fellowship** granted by the Centre National de l'Audiovisuel, Luxembourg Ministry of Culture, University and Research Project title: *Photographies, Archives, Memories: Models of Subjectivity in Post World War II European art*
- 2001 **Hasselblad Foundation Stipend for Research in Photography** granted by the Herna and Victor Hasselblad Foundation, Goteborg, Sweden. Project title: *Italian Photography and The Neo-Avant- Garde: The Work of Luigi Ghirri*

### **Teaching**

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Teaching areas: History and theory of photography; History of art; Material culture; Tourism studies; History of Science; Photographic preservation and Collections management; Media archaeology.

Courses (selection):

Photography, Science and Popular Culture in the XIX Century.

Photography since 1945.

Photography and Fine Arts Academies in XIX Century Italy: Research and Cataloguing Methods.

The Lure of Italy from the Grand Tour to Mass Tourism.

From Baroque Trompe l'oeil Tricks to Enhanced Reality: a Media Archaeological Perspective.

### **Doctoral Committees/Selection Committees**

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Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa; Fulbright Commission, Italy.

### **Services to the Albertina Academy of Fine Arts**

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Director of the Library, 2015-2019

Curator of the Photographic Collection, 2014-ongoing

Undergraduate admissions, School of Conservation, 2015-2019

Graduate admissions, School of Conservation, 2015-2019

### **Services to the Profession**

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2015 Winterthur Fotomuseum, Switzerland, Plat(t)form 2016, Nominator

2010 Winterthur Fotomuseum, Switzerland, Plat(t)form 2010, Member of the Jury

### **Professional Membership**

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College Art Association; Association of Art Historians; British Photographic Society; Swiss Society of Art Historians; American Association of Italian Studies; Società Italiana per lo Studio della Fotografia

### **Research Languages**

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Italian (mother tongue), English (reading/speaking/writing), French (reading/speaking), Spanish (reading)