

Graham Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Graham Foundation Announces 2021–22 Carter Manny Award Recipients *Awarding innovative doctoral dissertation writing and research by emerging scholars of architecture and design*

The Graham Foundation is pleased to announce the 2021–22 Carter Manny Awards for outstanding doctoral dissertations on architecture and its role in the arts, culture, and society. **Caroline E. Murphy** (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture + Planning; History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture and Art) is the recipient of the Carter Manny Writing Award, and **Danya Epstein** (Southern Methodist University, Meadows School of the Arts; Rhetorics of Art, Space and Culture) is honored with the Carter Manny Research Award. These projects were selected by an external panel of scholars in addition to six citations of special recognition.

Murphy's dissertation, "Waters and Wealth: Rivers, Infrastructure, and the Territorial Imagination in Grand Ducal Tuscany, ca. 1549–1609," examines state efforts by the Medici to control the aqueous landscape—principally along the Arno River corridor—and forge a connective system of hydraulic infrastructure through the emergence of a distinct "improvement" ideology in late-Renaissance Italy, in which the management of infrastructure, environment, and economy were intimately linked.

Research for Epstein's dissertation, "Archival Ruins: Dennis Numkena and Hopi Art History," explores the first sustained scholarly interpretation of Phoenix-based Hopi artist and architect Dennis Numkena's career—analyzing and critiquing the ways archives of Native American art have been produced and argues that Numkena is a key figure in late twentieth century Native American art history.

This year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Carter Manny Award program which has awarded 41 awards, 122 citations, and \$936,000 since its establishment in 1996. The program—named for architect Carter H. Manny (1918–2017) and his contributions to the Graham Foundation, as founding trustee 1956, director 1993–71, and director emeritus—is the only pre-doctoral award dedicated to architectural scholarship and supports projects that are poised to impact how architecture is studied and practiced.

Panelists for the 2021–22 awards included: Jiat-Hwee Chang (Associate Professor and Deputy Head, Department of Architecture, National University of Singapore); Ateya A. Khorakiwala (Assistant Professor, Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation); and Stephanie Whitlock (Executive Director, Architectural Heritage Center).

Below is the full list of the 2021–22 Carter Manny Award recipients and citations of special recognition. Learn more about the history of the award and browse a selection of past winners on our [website](#).

WRITING AWARD

Caroline E. Murphy

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture + Planning, Department of Architecture

History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture and Art

“Waters and Wealth: Rivers, Infrastructure, and the Territorial Imagination in Grand Ducal Tuscany, ca. 1549–1609”

2021–22 Carter Manny Writing Award

RESEARCH AWARD

Danya Epstein

Southern Methodist University, Meadows School of the Arts

Rhetorics of Art, Space and Culture

“Archival Ruins: Dennis Numkena and Hopi Art History”

2021–22 Carter Manny Research Award

CITATIONS OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Seçil Binboğa

University of Michigan, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Architectural History and Theory

“Scaling the Region: Visuality, Infrastructure, and the Politics of Design in Cold War Turkey”

2021–22 Carter Manny Writing Citation

By exploring how the American Cold War deployed environmental and infrastructural design technologies to recast existing ways of knowing about nature and space, this dissertation elucidates the transformation of Turkey's national territory into a regional testing ground for nascent regimes of financial extraction and warfare.

Amy Chang

Harvard University, Department of History of Art + Architecture

“Architecture at the Edges of Empire: Seville, Manila, and the Formation of Spanish National Architecture, 16–17th Centuries”

2021–22 Carter Manny Research Citation

Executing a sequential study of Seville and Manila, this dissertation examines the ways in which Islamicate vernacular architecture, and the question of how to describe it, was critical to the formation of Spanish national architectural identity in Iberia and then in its global empire.

Chuan Hao (Alex) Chen

University of Pennsylvania, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Anthropology

“Biocontainment Architecture: Constructing Race at the Border of Emerging Diseases and the American Nation”

2021–22 Carter Manny Research Citation

This dissertation examines how biocontainment architecture, as part of the biosecurity apparatus in the United States, constructs American racial relations under emerging pandemics.

Matthew Slaats

University of Virginia, School of Architecture
Constructed Environment

“Infrastructures of the Marvelous: Exploring contemporary, Black grassroots social transformation in the Southern United States”
2021–22 Carter Manny Research Citation

A participatory action research project that studies the way Black grassroots movements in the Southern United States are presently imagining and realizing new economic and political systems to create resilient cities.

Y. L. Lucy Wang

Columbia University, Department of Art History and Archaeology
Modern Architecture

“Contagious Places, Curative Spaces: Disease in the Making of Modern Chinese Architecture, 1894–1949”
2021–22 Carter Manny Research Citation

Tracing the emergence of professionalized architecture in Greater China, this dissertation examines how a hygienic consciousness entered architectural expertise and how architects, doctors, land-surveyors, and engineers integrated new understandings of disease.

Zhiyan Yang

University of Chicago, Department of Art History
Modern and Contemporary Art, Asian Art

“Reinventing Architectural Culture in Post-Socialist China, 1979–2006”
2021–22 Carter Manny Writing Citation

Through an examination of the notion of “jianzhu wenhua” (architectural culture) in China from the end of the Cultural Revolution to early 2000s, this dissertation studies a time of rapid economic development and unprecedented urbanization, and historicizes how architects, scholars, critics, artists, and curators deployed a variety of strategies to liberate the discipline from both persisting socialist ideologies and newly prominent capitalist agendas.

GF

ABOUT THE GRAHAM FOUNDATION

Founded in 1956, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts fosters the development and exchange of diverse and challenging ideas about architecture and its role in the arts, culture and society. The Graham realizes this vision through making project-based grants to individuals and organizations, and by producing exhibitions, events and publications.

The Graham Foundation was created by a bequest from Ernest R. Graham (1866–1936), a prominent Chicago architect and protégé of Daniel Burnham.

UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINE

Carter Manny Award: November 15, 2021

CURRENT EXHIBITION

The Available City, Chicago Architecture Biennial

Through December 18, 2021

Gallery & Bookshop Hours: Wednesday–Saturday, 12–5 p.m.

Reservations required, [book here](#)

MEDIA CONTACTS

James Pike

Grant Project Manager

jpik@grahamfoundation.org

+1 312-787-4071; extension 225

Ava Barrett

Program and Communications Manager

abarrett@grahamfoundation.org

###

In addition to the high-resolution images that are available on the press section of our website, please let us know if you are interested in any of the images from the grantee profile pages. To access our [website's press section](#) or to request any other images, email abarrett@grahamfoundation.org for the login information.