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CARL & MARILYNN THOMA FOUNDATION

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Thoma Foundation Awards \$145,000 to Scholars of the Art of the Spanish Americas

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Unrestricted project funding granted to three Marilyn Thoma Fellows and three Exploratory Travel Awardees



From left to right: Elena Amerio, Gaby Greenlee, and Adam Jasienski

SANTA FE, NM - The Carl & Marilyn Thoma Foundation will award nearly \$145,000 in fellowships and grants to support scholarship on the art of the Spanish Americas. This year, the Foundation is pleased to award three scholars whose work advances our knowledge of bodily and moral affect in relation to martyrological imagery, colonial representations of Inka textiles, and the evolution of Mannerism in Jesuit art in early modern Peru.

Now in their fourth year, the **Marilynn Thoma Fellowships** are the only unrestricted research funding in the United States devoted exclusively to the field of art of the Spanish Americas. Inspired by the Thoma Foundation's collection of over 200 works of art from the 17th to 19th centuries from South America and the Caribbean, these fellowships and awards promote original scholarship that significantly contributes to the understanding of the field. "These awards are a testament to Marilyn Thoma's scholarship and dedication to this field over many decades. We're delighted to support a new generation of scholars pushing forward the rigorous study and analysis of Spanish viceregal art," said Holly Harrison, Foundation Director.

Elena Amerio, PhD candidate at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, has received an award to further the research and writing of her dissertation, which examines the circulation of Jesuit religious art and artists between Italy and the Viceroyalty of Peru during the 16th and 17th centuries. Amerio's investigation hinges on the work of painter Bernardo Bitti and his followers, and leverages archival analysis from collections across Italy, Spain, and South America.

Dr. Gaby Greenlee, Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of Art & Art History at Santa Clara University, has received a Marilyn Thoma Postdoctoral Fellowship to support the development of her dissertation into a manuscript for publication. Greenlee's work examines Inka textiles and

colonial-era representations of these. She argues that Inka textiles served as critical materializations for how the Inkas organized space and analyzes Indigenous textiles as communicative modes that complement histories told in the colonizer's mode.

Dr. Adam Jasienski, Associate Professor in the Department of Art History at Southern Methodist University, has been awarded a one-year Marilyn Thoma Postdoctoral Fellowship to research and write several chapters of a manuscript considering the function of disgust in early modern Catholic martyrological imagery. Jasienski will access special collections, museums, and libraries throughout South America and southern Europe to develop this work on disgust at the intersection of visual medical humanities, affect theory, and early modern religious art.

In addition, the Foundation has made its second round of **Exploratory Travel Awards** to support the work of graduate students embarking on initial thesis or dissertation research. This Spring, **Victoria Rodríguez do Campo** (Buenos Aires University), **Andrea Tejada Farfán** (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú), and **Ana Plaza Roig** (Buenos Aires University) each received funding to facilitate travel to key archives and collections. In October 2021, **Elba Tejero Cox** (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid), was the inaugural recipient of this new award.

The fellows and award winners were selected from a competitive pool of international applicants based on their academic accomplishments, their scholarly commitment to the art of the Spanish Americas, and the relative merit of their projects. All awardees were chosen by a jury of undisclosed experts in the field.

2023-24 Fellowships and Research Awards application period announced

Later this summer applications will open for the **2023–24 Marilyn Thoma Fellowships** and **Thoma Foundation Research & Travel Awards** in Art of the Spanish Americas. Fellowships and Research Awards are portable and funds may be used in any reasonable way the applicant sees fit to accomplish the research project. Applicants will be encouraged to propose flexible project timelines. This fall, the Thoma Foundation will offer awards of up to \$5,000 to PhD students to travel to Latin America to visit archives, museums, and art collections and connect with local scholars. The **Exploratory Travel Awards** will enable students to develop viable and innovative research projects for future application to predoctoral fellowships including the Marilyn Thoma Predoctoral Fellowship in Art of the Spanish Americas.

Please visit our website for more information about these [grants](#) and to explore our collection of [Art of the Spanish Americas](#). To stay updated with the Foundation's grants activities, sign up for our Foundation newsletter.

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