

SAMUEL. K. PARKER CURRICULUM VITAE

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Professional Experience

Institution and Location	Position Held	Dates
University of Washington Tacoma	Assoc. Prof.of Interdisc. Arts & Sciences	8/96 to present.
University of Auckland New Zealand	Visiting Lecturer in Anthropology	7/95-6/96
University of Washington Tacoma	Assistant Prof.of Liberal Studies	8/90-8/96.
Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois	Visiting Lecturer. in Anthropology	1/90-6/90.
University of Hawaii	Part-time Lecturer in Art History	1981-1983, 84, 85 & 87.

Teaching: Interdisciplinary cultural studies of Asia (India, China, Japan) and the Pacific (Indonesia, Polynesia, Micronesia and Melanesia). Meaning, material culture and production practices. History and contemporary uses of the culture concept. Semiotics.

Research: The traditional visual culture of the Hindu temple in contemporary contexts of production & use, including cultural tourism.

Professional Memberships:

American Council for Southern Asian Art, Association for Asian Studies, American Anthropological Association

Educational Summary

Institution/location	Dates	Degree & date awarded
University of Chicago	9/83 to 8/89	Ph.D 8/25/89 Anthropology
University of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii	8/81 to 5/83	M.A. 5/15/83 Anthropology
University of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii	1/77 to 5/81	M.A. 5/17/81 Art History
University of Hawaii	8/70 to 12/76	B.A. 12/23/76 Psychology and Art

Dissertation: "Makers of Meaning: The Production of Temples and Images in South India."

SAMUEL. K. PARKER CURRICULUM VITAE

Dissertation adviser: Bernard Cohn. (Committee: Marshall Sahlins, Nancy Munn, McKim Marriott).

Master's Thesis: "Harappan Art: A Structural Approach." Thesis Adviser: Prithwish Neogy.

Ethnographic fieldwork

- September 2008-January 2009. Fieldwork in India on the uses and interpretations of ancient Indian art in an age of cultural tourism.
- September 1999-March 2000. A study of contemporary Hindu temple construction and image making in Bali, Indonesia, in collaboration with Professor Graeme MacRae, Massey University, Auckland N.Z.
- June 1987-June 1988. A study of contemporary Hindu temple construction and image making in Tamil Nadu, South India.

Publishing:

Edited Volume

- Guest Editor, *Art, Artists and Art Worlds in Asia*. A special volume of the *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol 29 No 1, 2011

Peer Reviewed essays:

- "Lived Cosmologies and Objectified Commodities: Reinventing the Traditional Art of India in a World of Cultural Tourism." *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*, "Lived Cosmologies and Objectified Commodities: Reinventing the Traditional Art of India in a World of Cultural Tourism." *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol 29 No 1, 2011
- "Ritual as a Mode of Production: Ethnoarchaeology and Creative Practice in Hindu Temple Arts." *South Asian Studies*. Vol. 26. No. 1, March 2010.
- "The Renovation, Disposal and Conservation of Hindu Temples and Images: The Institutionalization of Creativity in South Indian and American Art Worlds." *Museum Anthropology Review*. Vol 3. No. 2. Fall, 2009.
- "Making Temples/Making Selves: Essentialism and Construction in the Identity of the Traditional South Indian Artist." *South Asian Studies*, vol 19, 2003.
- "Text and Practice in South Asian Art: An Ethnographic Perspective." *Artibus Asiae*, vol 63, no. 1, 2003.
- "Will the Real Undagi Please Stand Up? The Social Location of Balinese Architectural Knowledge." Co-authored with Professor Graeme MacRae, Massey University, Auckland New Zealand. *Bijdragen*, vol 158, no 2, 2002.
- "Unfinished Work at Mamallapuram, or, What is an Indian Art Object?" *Artibus Asiae*, vol. 61, no.1 in July/August, 2001.
- "The Revenge of Practical Reason? A Review Essay on Gananath Obeyesekere's *The Apotheosis of Captain Cook*" *Oceania*, 64, 1995.
- "The Matter of Value Inside and Out: Aesthetic Categories in Contemporary Hindu Temple Arts." *Ars Orientalis*, 22, 1993.
- "Contemporary Temple Construction in South India: The Srirangam Rajagopuram." *Res* 21, Spring 1992.
- "Dialectics of Power in the Maori Creation Myth," *Pacific Studies*, Vol. 10, No. 3, July, 1987.
- "Artistic Practice and Education in India: A Historical Overview," *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, Vol. 2, No. 4, Winter, 1987.

SAMUEL. K. PARKER CURRICULUM VITAE

Book Chapters

- “A ‘Royal’ Temple Construction Project in Contemporary South India.” To appear in *The Traditional Arts of South Asia: Past Practice, Living Tradition*. Crispin Branfoot (ed.) Prasada Institute, Leicester U.K.
- “Are there "decorative arts" in Asia?" *Reading Asian Art and Artifacts: Windows to Asia on College Campuses*, P. Neitupski and J O'Mara (eds). Lanham Maryland:Roman Littlefield-Lehigh University Press, 2011
- "Sanctum and Gopuram at Madurai: Aesthetics of *Akam* and *Puram* in Tamil Temple Architecture.” *Tamil Geographies: Intellectual Constructions of Space in Tamil Nadu*, Indira Peterson and Martha Selby (eds), Albany: SUNY Press, 2007.

Exhibition Catalogs

- *New Lives for Asian Images*. Carlisle, PA.: Dickinson College and the Trout Gallery, 2008 (with introduction by David Strand)
- *What is a Trade? Donald Fels and Signboard Painters of Southern India*. Tacoma, WA: Tacoma Art Museum, 2008 (with introduction, catalog notes and questions by Greg Bell, Don Fels and Rock Hushka).

By Invitation:

- “Historical Contexts and the Construction of Twenty-first Century Asian Art Worlds.” *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol 29 No 1, 2011
- Drops of a Fluid World: Indian Sculpture in the Seattle Art Museum.” *Orientalism*, 25, No. 8, 1994

Documentary Video

- *Dancing Fire: Bronze Casting in South India*, 1994 (17 min). An educational video commissioned by the Seattle Asian Art Museum, (written, shot and edited).

Grants and Awards

- 2008 awarded an invitation (plus travel and stipend) to deliver the prestigious Wheedon Lecture at the University of Virginia.
- 2007 UW T Founders’ Endowment award supporting sabbatical research in India.
- 2005 Henry Luce Foundation AsiaNetwork Consultancy. Through my participation in this grant I researched and catalogued the Asian Art collection in the Trout Gallery, Dickinson College.
- 1999 UW T Founders’ Endowment award for research in Bali.
- 1995 UW T Founders’ Endowment award for travel to New Zealand to participate in a teaching exchange with the Univ. of Auckland Anthropology Department.
- Mar 1999 UWT Founders Endowment Fund. A grant for research travel to Indonesia.
- April 1996 UWT Founders Endowment Fund. A grant for travel from Auckland to Honolulu to deliver a paper at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies.
- Mar 1995 The University of Washington International Faculty Exchange (IFEX) program. A travel grant in support of a faculty exchange with Professor Steve Webster at the University of Auckland in New Zealand.Aug 1993 .

SAMUEL. K. PARKER CURRICULUM VITAE

- Nov 1993 Travel grant awarded by the University of Chicago Department of Anthropology. For presenting an invited paper at the University of Chicago Anthropology Alumni Conference.
- 1987-88. Fulbright-Hays fellowship for research in India.
- 1985-86 American Institute of Indian Studies fellowship for Tamil language study in Madurai, India.
- 1983-85 FLAS fellowship for Anthropology and Tamil at the University of Chicago.
- 1978-79 American Institute of Indian Studies fellowship for Hindi language study in New Delhi, India.

Selected Scholarly presentations:

- April 15, 2011 “Are There Decorative Arts in Asia?” 2011 AsiaNetwork conference, Chicago Illinois.
- February 11, 2011 “Dharma in the 21st Century” Presented at the Copenhagen Asia Business Forum and at the Copenhagen School of Business.
- November 20, 2008. "The ancient art of India in an age of cultural tourism" Delivered for the 2008 Wheedon Lecture, University of Virginia
- November 15, 2008 "What is a Trade? Donald Fels and Signboard Painters of South India" Presented at the Tacoma Art Museum.
- April 6-9, 2006. “The Renovation, Disposal and Conservation of Temples and Images in Tamil Nadu.” Presented at the AAS meeting in San Francisco California.
- April 30-May 1, 2005 U. C. Berkeley Tamil Conference. “Imagining Creativity: An Ethnoarchaeology of Creative Practice and Personhood in South Indian Temple arts.”
- June 26, 2002. A “Royal” Temple Construction Project in Contemporary South India.” Presented at the Prasada Institute, DeMontfort University, Leicester U.K.
- November 11, 2001, “The Photography of Prithwish Neogy: A Phenomenology of South Asian Art.” Presented at the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, for the bi-annual Symposium of the American Council for Southern Asian Art.
- May 14, 2000, “Siva in the New Millennium: A Hawaiian Temple of South Indian Granite.” Presented at the Philadelphia Museum of Art for the bi-annual Symposium of the American Council for Southern Asian Art
- October 19, 1999, “The Past in the Present: Modern Hindu Temple Arts in India.” Presented by invitation at the Wo International Center, Honolulu Hawaii.
- April 15, 1999, “The appropriation and re-reading of antiquities in South Indian Popular Culture: An Ethnoarchaeological view.” Presented by invitation at the Center for South Asian Studies, U. C. Berkeley.
- March 14, 1998, “Modern Myth Making: The Rhetoric of Science in the Practice of Tamil Temple Architecture” Presented at a conference titled Fluid and Contested: Tradition in South Asia held at the Institute of Asian Research, The University of British Columbia.
- September 21, 1997: “Is Mamallapuram Unfinished? Ancient Incompleteness and Contemporary Practices in South India” Presented by invitation at the Art Institute of Chicago.
- April 11, 1996, “Can Indo-Japanese Cooperation provide Opportunities for Culturally Appropriate Organizational Changes in Indian Workplaces?” Presented at the annual Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Honolulu.

SAMUEL. K. PARKER CURRICULUM VITAE

- October 21, 1995, "The Identity of the South India Sthapati". Presented at the annual South Asian Studies Conference at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.
- June 9, 1995, "South Indian Bodies and Persons, Stone and Flesh". Presented at the annual Conference on Religion in South India held at Indiana University.
- September 18, 1994, "Sight and Insight in the Art of India". Presented on the occasion of the opening of the new Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park.
- February, 1994, "Sastra and Practice in South Indian Temple Construction". Presented at the College Art Association annual meeting in New York.
- November, 1993, "Making History Here and There: Remarks on the Creation of Real Worlds in India and the West". Presented at the University of Chicago Department of Anthropology Alumni Conference.
- December, 1992, "Authenticity and Authorship in South Indian Architectural Practice." Presented at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in San Francisco.
- November, 1992, "A Body of Knowledge: Sastra and Practice in South Indian Temple Construction" Presented at the annual South Asian Studies Conference at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.
- June, 1992, "Tamil Nationalism and the Rhetoric of Science in Modern Temple Architecture". Presented at the annual Conference on Religion in South India held at the University of San Francisco.
- February, 1992, "Monumentality and Mastery in the Art of South Asia". A paper presented at the symposium "The Monument, Memory Mastery and Mourning", held at the Tacoma Art Museum and sponsored by the University of Washington, Tacoma, in conjunction with the UW Seattle Center for the Humanities.
- February, 1992, "Constructing Temples and Contesting Powers in Tamil Nadu". A paper presented at the SACPAN (South Asia Colloquium of the Pacific Northwest) conference held at the University of Washington, Seattle.
- April, 1991, "Aesthetic Categories of Contemporary Sculptors and Architects in South India". A paper presented at the American Committee for South Asian Art Symposium at the Smithsonian, Washington D.C.
- April, 1989, "The Srirangam Rajagopuram: Contemporary Temple Construction in South India". Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Washington D.C.