**Biography**

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**Professional Biography: full curriculum vitae follows**

Loren Lerner is Professor Emerita of Art History at Concordia University. She has a multidisciplinary background in art history (MA, University of Michigan), library science (MLS, McGill University), and communication studies (PhD, Université de Montréal). Her main undergraduate teaching areas included nineteenth- and twentieth-century European, North American, and Middle Eastern art, with a focus on the history of cities, social issues, and collective memory. Topics ranged from political awareness and identity development to gender, class, the modern experience of otherness, nature, and sexuality. In her graduate courses, she emphasized ethnic, diasporic, and ethical consciousness in North American art-making, as well as curatorial practices related to Canadian art. Lerner was editor for *Afterimage: Evocations of the Holocaust in Contemporary Canadian Arts* and *Literature/Rémanences: Evocations de l'Holocauste dans les arts et littérature canadiens contemporains* (Montreal: Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies, Concordia University, 2002) and guest curator of *Memories and Testimonies/Memoires et Témoignages* (Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University, April 2002, travelling exhibition). In 2005, Lerner curated the Sam Borenstein retrospective exhibition at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, as well as *Picturing Her: Images of Girlhood / Salut les filles: La jeune fille en images* at the McCord Museum. She was the editor of *Depicting Canada's Children,* published by Wilfrid Laurier University Press in 2009. Journal articles and essays from 2007 to 2018 on images of young people appear in *Rethinking Professionalism: Essays on Women and Art in Canada, 1850-1970*, *Canadian Children’s Literature*, *Journal of Canadian Art History*, *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, *Girlhood Studies*, *Historical Studies in Education*, *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*, *Healing the World’s Children* and *Girlhood and the Politics of Place*.  An interest in Canadian art publications, first manifested in *Art and Architecture in Canada: A Bibliography and Guide to the Literature* (University of Toronto Press, 1991), led to her article on “William Notman’s *Photographic Selections* (1863),” analyzing this compilation as the first history of art book published in Canada. This article was published in *JCAH/AHAC* (2012). Research on the intersections of art and religion resulted in her guest editorship, in 2012, of a special issue on contemporary art and religion for *JCAH/AHAC* (2012). A pedagogical commitment to student web publishing has guided Lerner’s teaching and the development of websites such as "Public Art as Social Intervention: But Now I Have to Speak - Testimonies of Trauma and Resilience" funded by Canada Council, "Canadian Artists of Eastern European Origin" supported by a Canadian Heritage Multiculturalism Canada research grant, "Canada’s Got Treasures" funded by Industry Canada in association with the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN), "Family Works" financed by the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, "Metro Borduas, Ensemble, An Exhibition of Art and Jazz," "Canadian Portraits," and "Picturing Children and Youth: A Canadian Perspective" funded by the Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute of Studies on Canadian Art, as well as "Global Engagements in Contemporary Canadian Art: Thirty-Nine Exhibition Essays and Fifty-Five Artists," "Rethinking Visual Narration: Myths, Religious Stories, Fairy Tales, Legends and Other Collective Beliefs and Accounts in Contemporary Canadian Art," and "Envisioning Virtual Exhibitions" hosted on the Institute's CCCA Academy website. Her most recent publications are with Janice Anderson, Shannon Stride, and Karine Antaki, co-eds., *Craft and Craftivism: A Biographical Dictionary of Contemporary Clay, Fibre, and Glass Artists in Canada* (Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, 2025); with Karine Antaki, *Creating the Modern: Intersections of Art and Society in the Nineteenth Century* (Concordia University Library, 2024); and with Shannon Stride, eds. *Guide to Studying the Visual Arts in Canada* (Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, Concordia University, 2023).

**Education**

Ph.D., Communication, Université de Montréal, 1997. dissertation: "Managerial Sensemaking: A Semionarrative Analysis of Discourse in a Government Setting." [Open PDF](https://www.collectionscanada.ca/obj/s4/f2/dsk3/ftp04/nq21452.pdf)

M.L.S., McGill University, 1975. M.A., History of Art, University of Michigan, 1972. B.A., Honours, Fine Arts, McGill University, 1969.

**Areas of Expertise**

* History of Cities
* Nineteenth Century Art History
* Portraits and Portrayals
* Canadian Contemporary Craft and Craftivism
* Canadian Art History

**Research Activities**

Loren Lerner's current research interests focus on eBooks, including Canadian art studies, European modern art, portraiture, drawing, and Canadian contemporary crafts.

**Publications**

Co-editor with Janice Anderson, Shannon Stride, and Karine Antaki, *Craft and Craftivism: A Biographical Dictionary of Contemporary Clay, Fibre, and Glass Artists in Canada.* Montreal: Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, 2025. [Open Source](https://www.concordia.ca/research/jarislowsky/publications.html)

Lerner, Loren, and Karine Antaki, *Creating the Modern: Intersections of Art and Society in the Nineteenth Century*. Concordia University Library, 2024. [Open Textbook PDF](https://opentextbooks.concordia.ca/creating-the-modern/)

Stride, Shannon, and Loren Lerner, eds. *Guide to Studying the Visual Arts in Canada.* Guides to Canadian Art History, Art Education, Curatorial Studies, and Material Culture. (Montreal: Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, 2023). [Textbook PDF](https://spectrum.library.concordia.ca/id/eprint/991801/1/Studying-the-Visual-Arts-in-Canada.pdf)

Co-organizer with Janice Anderson and Martha Langford. Growing Canadian Art Histories. *Studying the Visual Arts in Canada*was launched on March 29, 2023, with an online panel of educators and curators, entitled “Growing Canadian Art Histories.” Guest speakers were Gentiane Bélanger, Elizabeth A. Cavaliere, Mark A. Cheetham, Tammer El-Sheikh, Cynthia Imogen Hammond, Cathy Mattes, Gwendolyn Owens, Erin Silver, and Carla Taunton, moderated by Martha Langford. [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mM_XqMiyZjY)

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"The Infant, the Mother, and the Breast in the Paintings of Marguerite Gérard."  In Martina Domines Veliki and Cian Duffy, eds.  *Romanticism and the Cultures of Infancy* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), pp. 65-90. [Chapter PDF](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/5velpmq3bbsymge9bwox3/Loren-Lerner-The-Infant-the-Mother-and-the-Breast-in-the-Paintings-of-Marguerite-G-rard.pdf?rlkey=vaowapip33c6ej7uxnhh5yelt&st=64iq8v6g&dl=0)

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 Editor. *Canadian Film and Video: A Bibliography and Guide to the Literature/Film et vidéo canadiens: bibliographie et guide de la documentation*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1997. (Also available through Concordia University Libraries, online database.)

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**Selected Academic Presentations:**

Las Vegas, City of the Atomic Age: Pop Culture and Protest Art (January 29, 2022) [Open Presentation Slides](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/c35s1du8jke62iej425kr/NTS-images-from-December-24-2021.pptx?rlkey=az3e0g9lt74cx9sw5strv7k83&st=729mz6o3&dl=0) [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MF_0Yg4C6wY)

An Analysis of the Text and Images of Jori Smith’s Charlevoix County, 1930: In Reference to the Ideas of Marius Barbeau and Dr. Norman Bethune,” part of Modernisms, Inside & Out: The Fourth Conference of the Canadian Women Artists History Initiative, 30 September - 2 October 2021, Toronto. [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UbQ-_WBKms)

Rousseau’s Influence on Greuze’s Depiction of the Moral Development of Boys, Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (CSECS), Quebec City (October 18, 2019).

Broken Nature and Las Vegas: Artistic Prophecies of Catastrophe and Extinction, UAAC, Quebec City (October 25, 2019). [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UbQ-_WBKms)

The Infant, the Mother, and the Breast in the Paintings of Marguerite Gérard, UAAC, Waterloo (October 26, 2018) [Open PDF](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/9wj9kupynhfpefpsxmflw/UAAC-Lerner-The-Infant-the-Mother-and-the-Breast.pptx?rlkey=u0v83q7wuoda8ngk2pp26nkpc&st=vlmfwje3&dl=0)

The Israeli Visual Narrative of Nationhood at World Fairs, Faces of Israel at Expo 67, Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, Concordia University (May 23, 2017). [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ftXhV8PNnY)

Family Works: A Multiplicity of Meanings and Contexts, UAAC Conference, UQAM (October 29, 2016)

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Lessons from the Library: Web Publishing as a forum for student empowerment and engagement,  Networked Art Histories Conference, Concordia University (October 21, 2016) [Open Source](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/5hvsyxessvsxyl48yb51y/Lessons-from-the-Library-Web-Publishing-as-a-Forum-for-Student-Empowerment-and-Engagement-October-19-2016-final.ppt?rlkey=ndndvf6fo4wb6mmny19sidfx9&st=r3lb2rgt&dl=0)

Teaching Jerusalem: an interview with Dr Loren Lerner, Concordia University (March 16, 2015) [Open Source](https://jerusalems.wordpress.com/2015/03/16/teaching-jerusalem-loren-lerner-concordia/)

Anna Dawson Harrington’s Drawings and Letters: Visual and Textual Elements of an Autobiography,” part of The Artist Herself: Broadening Ideas of Self-Portraiture in Canada. Third Conference of the Canadian Women Artists History Initiative (May 8, 2015), Queen’s University and the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston. [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqlJwoBWn3s)

Aging-Related Images: A Case Study of Marion Wagschal's Figurative Self-Portraits." Part of Imagining History: A Canadian Women Artists History Initiative Conference, May 3-5, 2012, Concordia University. [View Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLEr--pBdww)

Girlhood Innocence and Sexuality: How Canadian Artists Marisa Portolese, Angela Grossmann, and Fiona Smyth Resist and Contest New Media and Technology, 2010, McGill University. [Open PDF](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/mpdnf0t9yt04na3w8lpua/Innocence-Desmond-McGill-Nov-2010.doc?rlkey=r45yz29r3ecyzxlz1wdu7qu67&st=jxm4v4yy&dl=0)

Idea of Coming of Age on the Road: The Social Construction of Female Adolescence, Society for the History of Children and Youth Conference, 2009, University of California, Berkeley. [Open PDF](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/b1f59smdonwfsc1naqem6/Lerner-Idea-of-Coming-of-Age-on-the-Road-2009.doc?rlkey=wq049uhae3rz8hx8q1rdppxef&st=jyimvcj4&dl=0)

**Selected Public Presentations:**

The Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem: A Symbol of Three Faiths for Jews, Muslims and Christians, (January 2025) [Open Presentation Slides](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/juioz1y92lseuspu786j8/NUN-The-Dome-of-the-Rock-in-Jerusalem-For-Jews-Christians-and-Moslems.pptx?rlkey=8mgiqbsrmhysigwohcy91csx3&st=yb2jc78k&dl=0)

The Artistic Developments in Israeli Art from the Pre-state Years to the Present Day (May 2023) [Open Presentation Slides](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/e38q4pdo14s9r7balqvad/The-Artistic-Developments-in-Israeli-Art-from-the-Pre-state-Years-to-the-Present-Day.docx?rlkey=yxsxyg4dn1zc5c4o35o1jsx1v&st=utwj0d4e&dl=02023.ppt?rlkey=h46jyrvyj9527e4mbcvgt2wp0&st=s2f01c98&dl=0)

The Historical Origins of Passover and Its Symbolic Imagery in the Judaica of the Aron Museum (April 2021) [Open Presentation Slides](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/4x8g6d8kz9skbqkqri6sp/Aron-Museum-Passover-presentation.pptx?rlkey=rtfw8qzoz4v0dvqm7tsf9cgf2&st=81myyt20&dl=0)