Stanford



Emanuele Lugli

Associate Professor of Art and Art History

Art & Art History

Bio

BIO

Emanuele Lugli is an art historian who specializes in late medieval and early modern Italian painting, urban culture, trade, and fashion. His theoretical concerns include questions of scale and labor, the history of technology, and the reach of intellectual networks.

An expert in the history of measurements, Emanuele has written a trilogy on the topic. The first book, Unità di Misura: Breve Storia del Metro in Italia (Il Mulino, 2014), reconstructs the revolution triggered by the introduction of the metric system in nineteenth-century Italy. The second, The Making of Measure and the Promise of Sameness (University of Chicago Press, 2019), searches for the foundations of objectivity through an examination of how measurement standards were created, displayed, and envisioned by medieval communities. The third, Measuring in the Renaissance: An Introduction (Cambridge University Press, 2023), highlights measurement as a pervasive creative activity, which erases information as much as it generates it.

Emanuele has also written a study on hair and the bodily minuscule in shaping concepts of beauty and desire in Renaissance Florence, titled Knots of the Violence of Desire in Renaissance Florence (University of Chicago Press, 2023). He co-edited a collection of essays on the role of size in art making, titled To Scale, with Professor Joan J. Kee of the University of Michigan (Hoboken, Wiley-Blackwell: 2015). Currently, he is working on books about the idea of "love at first sight" and Italian painter Lavinia Fontana (1552-1614).

In addition to his academic research projects, Emanuele regularly writes for magazines and newspapers such as The Guardian, Slate, Il Sole 24 Ore, Domani, Vogue, and Vanity Fair.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Art & Art History

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Director, Public Humanities, (2025- present)

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Designing How We Live: Why Architecture is More Than Just Building: ARTHIST 105N (Spr)
- Fashion in New York: From Runway to Reality: SINY 44 (Win)

- Love at First Sight: Visual Desire, Attraction, and the Pleasures of Art: ARTHIST 119, ARTHIST 319, FRENCH 149, FRENCH 349, ITALIAN 149, ITALIAN 349 (Spr)
- Magic: ARTHIST 429 (Spr)

2025-26

- Art and Power: ARTHIST 5 (Spr)
- Citizenship in the 21st Century: COLLEGE 102 (Win)
- Fashion: ARTHIST 129, ARTHIST 329 (Win)
- Morality and the Visual Arts: MLA 392 (Win)
- Persona: The Artist as Fabricator of the Self: ARTHIST 417A (Spr)

2024-25

- Concepts of Modernity I: CLOSE READING: MTL 334A (Aut)
- Love at First Sight: Visual Desire, Attraction, and the Pleasures of Art: ARTHIST 119, ARTHIST 319 (Aut)
- Methods and Debates: ARTHIST 502 (Aut)
- Morality and the Visual Arts: ARTHIST 439 (Spr)
- The Italian Renaissance, or the Art of Success: ARTHIST 115, ARTHIST 315, ITALIAN 115A, ITALIAN 315A (Spr)

2023-24

- Dissertation Seminar: ARTHIST 670 (Win)
- Fashion and Other Disasters: ARTHIST 218, ARTHIST 418 (Spr)
- Humanities Research Intensive: ENGLISH 9R (Spr)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Emilia Cottignoli, Ty Davidian, Jessica Ryu, Maria Terss

Orals Chair

Joe Amato

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Harleen Kaur Bagga

Doctoral Dissertation Co-Advisor (AC)

Christian Gonzalez Ho

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **A newly discovered Anguissola portrait** *BURLINGTON MAGAZINE*
  Lugli, E.
  2024; 166 (1458)
- **Lavinia Fontana's Freedom** *ART HISTORY*
  Lugli, E.
  2023
- **Lavinia Fontana's Birth of the Virgin** *SOURCE-NOTES IN THE HISTORY OF ART*
  Lugli, E.
  2023; 42 (3): 200-210

- **Knots, or the violence of desire in Renaissance Florence**
  Lugli, E.
  2023
- **Learning Through Images in the Italian Renaissance: Illustrated Manuscripts and Education in Quattrocento (Book Review)** *MANUSCRIPT STUDIES-A JOURNAL OF THE SCHOENBERG INSTITUTE FOR MANUSCRIPT STUDIES*
  Book Review Authored by: Lugli, E.
  2021; 6 (2): 378-380
- **Fashion's Measure: Preaching, Chronicle-Writing, and the New Look of the 1340s** *Fashion Theory*
  Lugli, E.
  2021; 25 (2)
- **Decolonizing Art History** *ART HISTORY*
  Grant, C., Price, D., Bailey, D. A., Barringer, T., Basu, P., Beckwith, N., Bindman, D., Burke, J., Corey, P. N., D'Emilio, J., Elkins, J., Elsner, J., Hylton, et al
  2020; 43 (1): 8–66
- **The Ribbon Files: The Medici Project to Chart the Measurements of the Entire World** *I TATTI STUDIES*
  Lugli, E.
  2019; 22 (1): 143–81
- **The making of measure and the promise of sameness**
  Lugli, E.
  2019
- **THE HAIR IS FULL OF SNARES BOTTICELLI'S AND BOCCACCIO'S WAYWARD EROTIC GAZE** *MITTEILUNGEN DES KUNSTHISTORISCHEN INSTITUTES IN FLORENZ*
  Lugli, E.
  2019; 61 (2): 203-234
- **Charles Sheeler: Fashion, Photography, and Sculptural Form (Book Review)** *SCULPTURE JOURNAL*
  Book Review Authored by: Lugli, E.
  2018; 27 (2): 282-283
- **Metamorphic Heads: A Footnote on Botticelli's and Pollaiuolo's Mercanzia Virtues** *SOURCE-NOTES IN THE HISTORY OF ART*
  Lugli, E.
  2017; 37 (1): 26-36
- **Watery Manes. Reversing the Stream of Thought about Quattrocento Italian Heads** *Internet Archaeology*
  Lugli, E.
  2016; 42
- **Measuring the Bones: On Francesco di Giorgio Martini's Saluzzianus Skeleton** *ART HISTORY*
  Lugli, E.
  2015; 38 (2): 346-363
- **Scale to Size: An Introduction** *ART HISTORY*
  Kee, J., Lugli, E.
  2015; 38 (2): 250-266
- **Unità di misura: Breve storia del metro in Italia**
  Lugli, E.
  Il Mulino.2014
- **City and Cosmos: The Medieval World in Urban Form. (Book Review)** *IMAGO MUNDI-THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY*
  Book Review Authored by: Lugli, E.
  2010; 62 (2): 251

- **Hidden in Plain Sight: The Pietre di Paragone and the Preeminence of Medieval Measurements in Communal Italy** *GESTA-INTERNATIONAL CENTER OF MEDIEVAL ART*
  Lugli, E.
  2010; 49 (2): 77-95
- **BETWEEN FORM AND REPRESENTATION: THE FRICK ST FRANCIS** *ART HISTORY*
  Lugli, E.
  2009; 32 (1): 21-+
- **Connoisseurship as a system: Reflections on Federico Zeri's 'Due dipinti, la filologia a un nome'** *WORD & IMAGE*
  Lugli, E.
  2008; 24 (2): 162-175