

the Davis.

DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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**THE DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE
APPOINTS
EVE STRAUSSMAN-PFLANZER
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CURATORIAL AFFAIRS
& SENIOR CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS**

WELLESLEY, Mass. –**Eve Straussman-Pflanzer** has been named the Assistant Director of Curatorial Affairs and Senior Curator of Collections at the Davis Museum at Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

“Eve brings to the Davis an expertise in Italian Renaissance and Baroque painting, sculpture and works on paper, along with a broader knowledge of European and American art up to the nineteenth century,” said **Lisa Fischman**, Ruth Gordon Shapiro ’37 Director of the Davis. “Her specialization in women artists and patrons and gender issues will be of particular interest to the Wellesley community. I am very enthusiastic about her abilities to support and strengthen the museum both strategically and substantively.”

In her new position, Straussman-Pflanzer will work with Fischman to oversee all curatorial matters at the museum, and to define the vision and direction for the collections, curate exhibitions, edit publications and create programs that draw on and/or expand the missions of the institution. She will supervise the curatorial team, coordinating closely with other Davis departments as well as with faculty, students, and staff on the Wellesley College campus.

Most recently Straussman-Pflanzer was the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Associate Curator of European Painting and Sculpture before 1750 at The Art Institute of Chicago, where she curated the upcoming Fall 2013 exhibition *Violence and Virtue: Artemisia Gentileschi’s “Judith Slaying Holofernes,”* which entailed bringing the painting from the Uffizi Gallery in Florence to Chicago; and played an integral role in the important acquisition of Bolognese artist Ludovico Carracci’s *Vision of St Francis*. Before that she was a research assistant at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she gained a great deal of experience that will be of immense value at the Davis.



Straussman-Pflanzer received her Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, in 2010, advised by Linda Nochlin and Keith Christiansen. Her thesis examined the art patronage of Medici Grand Duchess Vittoria della Rovere (1622-1694). A revised chapter of that work, focusing on the first Medici woman court artist Camilla Guerrieri Nati will be published in a forthcoming volume dedicated to new archival discoveries on early modern Italian women artists.

Her introduction to museum work was as a docent at the Smith College Museum of Art, where she received her undergraduate degree. She began her career as an intern at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in the summer of 1998, where she continued on as a research assistant until 2009. She was instrumental in coordinating the Met's 2008 exhibition *Art and Love in Renaissance Italy*.

In addition to her curatorial work, Straussman-Pflanzer has taught courses on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century European art at The City College of New York (CCNY), the School of the Art Institute, and for the University of Chicago. She remains active in the field of art history by writing essays, book and exhibition reviews, and by presenting papers or chairing panels at scholarly conferences, including the College Art Association (CAA) and the Renaissance Society of America. (RSA).

About the Davis.

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that cultivates visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

The Davis collections, including some 11,000 objects, span global history from antiquity to the present and include masterpieces from almost every continent. Today, the holdings are housed in an extraordinary museum building, designed by Rafael Moneo, winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize. In addition to dynamic presentations of the permanent collections, and installations that support specific coursework and research interests, the Davis hosts a rotating series of engaging temporary exhibitions and programs organized to inform, delight, and challenge visitors.

About Wellesley College

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across

the campus enliven the community with world-class programming— classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2300 undergraduates from every state and 75 countries.