

Art in Context: Collaborating around the Collection

Symposium Speaker Bios

Carissa Dougherty leads the knowledge management program at The Morton Arboretum, a 1,700-acre living tree laboratory, research hub, education center, event venue, and museum just west of Chicago. Nearly all of her work—which includes organizational learning, digital asset management, information architecture, change management, and engagement strategy—involves intense cross-institutional collaboration and no small amount of cat-herding. Before entering the public gardens realm, Carissa managed digital projects at the Art Institute of Chicago for over ten years; her projects included two mobile apps, a collections website, a digital [wayfinding system](#), and an in-gallery interactive platform.

Dr. Christopher Nygren is Director of the Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program and assistant professor of Renaissance and Baroque Art in the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of Pittsburgh. He earned a B.A. with honors from the University of Notre Dame and completed his M.A. and Ph.D. (with distinction) at Johns Hopkins University. His research focuses on the intersection of religion, philosophy, and art in the Italian Renaissance, and it has been featured in *The Art Bulletin*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Word & Image*, and *Modern Language Notes*. Over his career, he has received fellowships from the Kress Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, the Delmas Foundation, and the National Science Foundation. His teaching encompasses a wide array of themes, periods and geographies including Italian art from 1200 to 1700, the pre-modern Mediterranean, and art in early modern Iberia. His forthcoming book, [Titian's Icons: Charisma, Tradition, and Devotion in the Italian Renaissance](#), will be published by Penn State University Press in May 2020.

Dot Porter, Curator of Digital Research Services in the Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, participates in a wide-ranging digital humanities research and development team within the context of a special collections department. Dot's projects focus on the digitization and visualization of medieval manuscripts. Dot holds Master's degrees in Medieval Studies and Library Science and started her career working on image-based digital editions of medieval manuscripts. She has worked on a variety of digital humanities projects over her career, focusing on materials as diverse as ancient texts and Russian religious folklore, providing both technical support and scholarly expertise.