

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Ellen H. Belcher, PhD

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### CURRENT POSITION:

Associate Professor & Special Collections & Reference Librarian (2018-present)

Assistant Professor & Special Collections & Reference Librarian (2004-2018), tenured 2009

Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

As Special Collections Librarian, I develop, manage and provide access to our collections of [Rare Books](#), [Manuscript Collections](#) and [College Archives](#). I am also manage and catalog our [Digital Collections](#) and digitized [books on the Internet Archive](#). As Reference Librarian, I provide reference assistance to the John Jay community and outside researchers and liaison to [accessibility challenged students](#), [Gender Studies](#), [Anthropology](#) and [Art and Music](#) depts. I also write and update several [web-based research guides](#) on topics relating to John Jay curriculum and our [Special Collections](#).

### EDUCATION

Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

PhD 2014 – Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology. Dissertation title: [Embodiment of the Halaf: Sixth Millennium Figurines from Northern Mesopotamia](#)

MPhil 1998 – Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology, Carolingian Manuscripts, Theory of Style

MA 1996 – Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology Thesis title: *The Red Sea Route: Interconnections between 4<sup>th</sup> Millennium Mesopotamia & Egypt*

Columbia University, School of Library Service

Adv. Cert. 1992 – Preservation of Library and Archival Materials

MS-LS 1990 – Rare Books, Archives and Special Collections

Drew University, College of Liberal Arts

B.A. 1984 – Art History

### PUBLICATIONS

Belcher, E. and K. Croucher (in press) "Daily Negotiations with Materiality: Re-Assembling Halaf Ornamentation." Chapter in, PMMG Akkermans and B. During (eds.) *Style and Society in the Later Prehistory of the Ancient Near East, in Honour of Olivier Nieuwenhuys*. (Leiden: PALMA/Sidestone Press).

Belcher, E. (2021) "Peopling Pots and Potting People: Anthropomorphic Vessels in the Halaf Culture and Chalcolithic Anatolia." Chapter 19 in, R. Özbal, M. Erdalkıran and Y. Tonoike (eds.) *Neolithic Pottery from the Near East: Production, Distribution and Use*. Istanbul: Koc University Press, pp. 257-272.

- Croucher, K and E. Belcher. (2017) “Prehistoric Figurines in Anatolia (Turkey).” Chapter 20 in, T. Insoll, Ed. *Oxford Handbook of Prehistoric Figurines*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. pp. 443-467.
- Belcher, E. (2016). “Identifying Female in the Halaf: Prehistoric Agency and Modern Interpretations.” *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory*. doi: [10.1007/s10816-016-9291-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10816-016-9291-1)
- Belcher, E and K. Croucher. (2016) “Exchanges of Identity in Prehistoric Anatolian Figurines.” In, R. A. Stucky, O. Kaelin & H. P. Mathys (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 9th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (9th ICAANE)*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, Vol. I, pp. 43-56. [http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj\\_pubs/57/](http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/57/)
- Belcher, E. (2011) “Halaf Bead, Pendant and Seal ‘Workshops’ at Domuztepe: Technological and Reductive Strategies.” In, E. Healey, S. Campbell and O. Maeda, Eds. *The State of the Stone: Terminologies, Continuities and Contexts in Near Eastern Lithics*. Studies in Early Near Eastern Production, Subsistence and Environment (Berlin: ex-Oriente.) 13: 135-143. [http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj\\_pubs/72/](http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/72/)
- Belcher, E. and Sexton, E. (2008) “Digitizing Criminals: Web Delivery of a Century on the Cheap.” *OCLC Systems & Services: International Digital Library Perspectives*. 24/2: 116-132. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/10650750810875467>
- Belcher, E. (2008) “Crime in the Library! The Special Collections of Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY: A Repository Profile.” *Metropolitan Archivist* 13/2: 25-28. [http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj\\_pubs/121](http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/121)
- Belcher, E. (2007) “Fifth Millennium Anthropomorphic Figurines in Southeastern and Central Anatolia: Comparative Museum Research,” *Arastirma Sonuçları Toplantısı* 25/3: 233-246. [http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj\\_pubs/71/](http://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/71/)

## DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS

- Belcher, E. (2016 - present) *Halaf Figurines Project: A Catalog of Figurines Excavated from Sixth Millennium Northern Mesopotamian Sites in Syria and Turkey*. Released: 2016-08-18. Open Context. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6078/M7736NTG>
- Belcher, (2015 – present) *Lost Ornaments Survey of NYC*. From a restriction in movement, a string is broken, a fastening is pulled and an ornament is lost. This is a walking and biking archaeological survey of the context of tiny lost ornaments in the big city.
- Lloyd Sealy Library Digital Collections*: Released in 2014, I am content manager and the principal metadata cataloger for thousands of digital assets made available here, digitized from our Special Collections. <http://dc.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/>
- Belcher, E. (2016) *Digitizing Policing: Opening Access to Law Enforcement Resources*. This ongoing project, in part grant funded, offers digital access to library resources on law enforcement resources.
- Belcher, E. (2016) *Law Enforcement News Digital Library*: Released in 2016, this webpage provides digital access to all issues of *Law Enforcement News*, published by John Jay College, 1975 – 2005 and now available digitally on the Internet Archive.

Belcher, E. and Sexton, E. (2007) *Crime in New York 1850-1950 Digital Library*. Released in 2007, this grant-funded scholarly resource was the Library's first digital project, which provided unrestricted access to primary archival resources from two collections held in Lloyd Sealy Library's Special Collections. <https://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/crimeinny>

Selected Library Research Guides (LibGuides):

2013-present [continually updated] *Guide to Resources on NY Prisons and Jails*

<http://guides.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/NYPrisons> - guide receives over 15,000 views a year.

2012-present [continually updated] *Guide to NYPD Historical and Current Research*

<http://guides.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/nypd> - guide receives over 20,000 views a year

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK PROJECTS**

Tell Kurdu Excavations Antakya, Turkey - Beads, Pendants and Figurines specialist. Have contributed chapters on figurines and beads and other ornaments to the forthcoming publication of the 1999-2001 Halaf excavations, sponsored by Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey. Excavations have resumed in 2021 and are now ongoing.

Boncuklü Höyük Excavations, Konya, Turkey <http://boncuklu.org/> - Beads and ornaments specialist for this 9-8<sup>th</sup> millennium site, sponsored by Liverpool University, UK. Participated in 2017 field season, excavations are ongoing. Responsible for contributing chapter on beads and other ornaments to the publication in collaboration with Emma Baysal.

Barcın Höyük Excavations, Bursa, Turkey <http://www.nit-istanbul.org/projects/barc-n-hoyuk-excavations> Beads and ornaments specialist for this 7<sup>th</sup> millennium site, sponsored by Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey and the Netherlands Archaeological Institute (NINO) participated in 2014, 2016 and 2019 seasons. Responsible for contributing chapters on beads and other ornaments and figurines in collaboration with Emma Baysal and Aysel Arslan.

Lost Ornaments of NYC Survey, New York City <http://lostornaments.tumblr.com/> Ongoing contemporary urban archaeology project documenting and analyzing assemblages of found ornaments throughout New York City. Project director 2015-present

Domuztepe Excavations, Kahramanmaraş, Turkey <http://domuztepe.org/> Small finds specialist and archaeologist at this Halaf and early ceramic excavation (6<sup>th</sup> millennium), sponsored by the British Museum and Manchester University, UK. Participated in 1996 - 2011 seasons. Have contributed chapters on figurines and beads and other ornaments to forthcoming publication.

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS, PANELS AND INVITED LECTURES**

*Daily Negotiations with Materiality: Re-Assembling Halaf Ornamentation*. Presented with Karina Croucher, at Style and Society in the Later Prehistory of the Ancient Near East A Symposium in Honour of Olivier Nieuwenhuys, Leiden, Netherlands, November 16, 2021.

*Ordinary Makers & Assemblages/Extraordinary Vessels*. Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Syracuse, NY, May 3, 2019.

*Anthropomorphic Ceramics in the Halaf and Neolithic Anatolia.* Third International Workshop on Ceramics from the Late Neolithic Near East, Antalya, Turkey, March 8, 2019.

*'Doing Small Finds': Discoverability and Interpretation of the Miniature in Archaeological Discourse.* [Theoretical Archaeology Conference of North America, Toronto, Canada](#) (TAG-Toronto) accepted to the ["Scale of Things" Session](#). May 19, 2017.

*Discoverability of Small Things: Historiographies of prehistoric Mesopotamian comparanda.* [British Association of the Archaeology of the New East \(BANEA\), Glasgow, Scotland](#), UK January 2017.

Panel discussant. [Police, Public Safety & Computing: Reflections of a Trail Blazer](#), John Jay College 10/19/2016.

*Beads, Pendants and Ornaments at Barcin Höyük. New Results & New Questions.* Barcin Höyük Symposium and Workshop, Istanbul, Turkey, December 10, 2016

*Identifying Halaf: Embodiment and Adornment in Sixth Millennium Mesopotamia.* [Archaeological Institute of America 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting/AIA 2015](#), (session 6C) San Francisco, California, on January 8, 2016.

*Unlearning Function in Prehistoric Figurines: New Methodologies and Theoretical Approaches.* Paper presented at the [UK Theoretical Archaeology Conference/TAG Bradford](#), Bradford, England, on December 16, 2015.

*Breaking the String: Losing Beads in Tight Places.* Paper presented at the [North American Theoretical Archaeology Conference/TAG-NYU](#), New York City, on May 23, 2015.

*Identifying Female in the Halaf: Prehistoric Agency and Modern Interpretations.* Paper presented at the [20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of European Association of Archaeologists/EAA](#) (session T06S020), Istanbul, Turkey, on September 12, 2014.

*Exchanges of Identity in Prehistoric Figurines.* Paper presented with Karina Croucher at the [9<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East/ICAANE 9, Basel, Switzerland](#), May 2014.

*Identifying Halaf in the Syrian Jazirah.* [Paper presented at the British Association for the Near Eastern Archaeology/ BANEA, Reading, UK](#), January 2014.

*Re-Considering Intention in the Object Biography of Broken Halaf Figurines.* Paper presented at the [Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Chicago \(TAG Chicago\)](#) May 11, 2013.

*Sexing the Halaf: Divining Female Agency in late Neolithic Mesopotamia.* Paper presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, Buffalo, NY (TAG Buffalo) on May 19, 2012.

*Imagining the body as a sum of its parts: Prehistoric body-parts & modern meanings.* Paper presented at the Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference Berkeley, CA (TAG-Berkeley) on May 7, 2011

*Consuming Halaf Body Imagery: Constructed Commodifications of Halaf Figurines.* Paper presented at the 7th International Congress on Archaeology of the Ancient Near East/ICAANE 7 on April, 2010.

*Parts of the Whole: Disembodied Imagery in the Halaf.* Paper presented at Interpreting the Late Neolithic of Upper Mesopotamia, Leiden University, Netherlands on March 27, 2009.

Speaker and Panelist *Feminist Archaeologist Panel*. [\[recording on SoundCloud\]](#) In conjunction with *The Fertile Goddess* exhibit at The Elizabeth A. Sackler Galleries for Feminist Art. Brooklyn Museum. March 14, 2009.

*Is There a Halaf Bead Typology and Technology? Examples from the British Museum Collections*. Paper presented at Near Eastern Bead Technology Workshop. British Museum, London, England January 12, 2009.

*Diminutive Embodiment: Considering Figurines as Halaf Bodies*. Paper presented at the 1<sup>st</sup> annual North American Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference, New York City (TAG-NYC) on May 25, 2008.

*High versus Low: Visual Expression and Craft Production in the Definition of Social Relations and Status*. Paper co-presented with Dr. Karina Croucher at The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE), Rome, Italy, on May 6, 2008.

*Death and Life in Anatolia: the Prehistoric Settlement of Domuztepe*. Lecture presented to the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) Montclair University, NJ on March 25, 2008.

*The Halaf Beads and Pendants from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey): Technological and Reductive Strategies*. Paper presented at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Neolithic Chipped and Ground Stone Industries of the Fertile Crescent, Manchester, UK, March 4, 2008.

*Interpreting Halaf Figurines: Empirical Proposals*. Paper presented at British Association of Near Eastern Archaeologists (BANE), Liverpool, UK, March 1, 2008.

*Embodying the Halaf: Prehistoric figurines from Northern Mesopotamia*. Lecture presented to the Columbia University Center for Archaeology, New York City on February 21, 2008.

*The Beads, Pendants and Figurines from Domuztepe and Perspectives on Craft Production*. Papers presented at Domuztepe and its Environs, Cotsen Institute for Archaeology, U.C.L.A, Los Angeles, CA, September, 2007.

*Fifth Millennium Figurines from Central and South-Eastern Anatolia: Museum Research*. Paper presented at The 29th International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry in Turkey, Kocaeli, Turkey, June, 2007.

*Socializing with Late Neolithic Figurines from Northern Mesopotamia: [Re]Constructing Contexts and Typologies*. Paper presented at Social Life in the Past: Objects, Identity and Politics, Columbia University Center for Archaeology Conference, February, 2002.

*Standing through the Millennia: Figurines from 6th to 5th Millennium Mesopotamia*. Paper presented at The Fifth Millennium in the Near East Conference, Liverpool, U.K., November, 2001.

#### **CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP SESSIONS/PANELS ORGANIZED**

Session co-coordinator (with Philipp Rassmann): [Breaking and Broken: Envisioning Intention and Purpose from Fragments](#). Theoretical Archaeology Group, Chicago Conference (May 9-11, 2013)

Session co-coordinator (with Karina Croucher): [Present, Past and Future: Modern and Archaeological Bodies in Interpretation](#) Theoretical Archaeology Group Berkeley Conference (May 6-8, 2011)

Session co-coordinator (with Karina Croucher): *Embodiment, Material Culture and Identity in Prehistory*. Theoretical Archaeology NYC Group Conference, (May 23-35, 2008)

Workshop co-coordinator: *Digital Projects within CUNY Libraries*, Special Collections and Archives Roundtable Workshop of LACUNY/Library Association of CUNY. November, 2006

### **EXHIBITS CURATED**

2017 exhibit of Lloyd Sealy Papers in coordination with [Lloyd George Sealy Panel Discussion](#) 2/27/2017.

2016 exhibit of the Papers of Scott Hovey in coordination with [Police, Public Safety & Computing: Reflections of a Trail Blazer](#), John Jay College 10/19/2016

2016 exhibit of Records of the Fortune Society in coordination with [Celebrating 50 Years and the Gift of the Fortune Society Papers panel discussion](#) 4/11/2016

2012- present, Library Exhibits Coordinator, Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College.

2005-present, *New Acquisitions and Featured Collections from the Library and Special Collections*. Ongoing rotating exhibitions, Lloyd Sealy Library, John Jay College,

2008-9 Consultant-curator for [The Fertile Goddess](#). On exhibit December 19, 2008-May 31, 2009, The Herstory Gallery, Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, Brooklyn Museum.

### **GRANTS & AWARDS RECEIVED**

Institutional grants benefitting Lloyd Sealy Library

2015-2016 *Digitizing Policing: Opening Access to Law Enforcement Resources*. \$5,000 [METRO Digital Conversion Grant, 2015/2016](#)

2011-2013 [Digitization of NY State Related Criminal Justice Books by Archive.org](#) \$3,000  
Awarded from Metropolitan New York Library Council

2006 *Crime in New York 1850-1950 Digital Library*. \$8,750 Awarded, [“Digital Metro NY” grant from the Metropolitan NY Library Council](#)

Individual Research grants

2022-23 Fellowship Leave/Sabbatical (Full year of research leave awarded from John Jay College)

2022-2023 *Re-assembling Halaf Figurines from the Khabur Basin (Syria)*. \$3,500 Awarded  
PSC-CUNY Research Award TRADA-cycle 53.

2019-2020 *Being Halaf in the East: Sixth Millennium Figurines from Northern Iraq*. \$3,500  
Awarded PSC-CUNY Research Award TRADA-cycle 50.

2016-2017 *The Role of Ornaments in the Neolithization of Anatolia*. \$3,500 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award TRADA-cycle 48, #60161-00 48.

2016-2017 *Halaf Figurines Data Publication*. \$1,000 awarded, Open Access Grant, John Jay College Office for the Advancement of Research

2015-2016 *Ornaments and Adornment in Prehistoric Anatolia: A Comparative Analysis*. \$3,500  
Awarded, PSC CUNY Research Award TRADA-cycle 46.

2013-2014 Fellowship Leave/Sabbatical (Full year of research leave awarded from John Jay College)

2013-2014 *Identifying Embodiment and Adornment in Sixth Millennium Anatolia*. \$3,500  
Awarded PSC CUNY Research Award TRADA- cycle 44.

2010-2011 *Analysis, Conservation and Publication of Halaf Ornaments and Figurines from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey) & Tell Kurdu (Antakya, Turkey)* \$4,440 Awarded PSC CUNY Research Award PSCREG-cycle 41.

2009-2010 *Excavation and Analysis of Halaf Ornaments and Figurines from Domuztepe (Kahramanmaraş, Turkey)*. \$2,150 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-cycle 40.

2008-2009 *Materials Analysis of Archaeological Samples from Domuztepe*. \$1,000 Awarded, John Jay College Faculty Research Assistance Program

2008-2009 *Trafficking by Subscription & Screenings: A Bibliographic and Cinematic History of the U.S. White Slavery Scare*. \$3,375 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-cycle 39.

2006/7 *Comparative Study of Late Neolithic Figurines from Central Anatolia*. \$2,000 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-cycle 37. [renewal]

2005/6 *Comparative Study of Late Neolithic Figurines from Southwestern Anatolia*. \$3,990 Awarded, PSC-CUNY Research Award PSCREG-cycle 36.

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Peer-reviewer, *Breaking Images: Damage and Mutilation of Ancient Figurines* (Oxbow Press)

Peer-reviewer, [Journal of Anthropological Archaeology](#) (Elsevier)

Peer-reviewer, [Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnection](#)

Appointed Co-Chair, Digital Libraries Special Interest Group 2008-2010  
Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO)

Appointed Professional Planning Group Strategic Task Force Member 2008-2010  
Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO)

### **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Appointed Member, John Jay College Middle States Review, Working Group 2, Ethics and Integrity 2021-2022.

Appointed Member, John Jay College COVID-19 Campus Re-Opening Committee 2020-2022.

Elected Member, John Jay College Committee on Student Interests 2019-2022

Elected Member, John Jay College Public Safety Advisory Council. 2018-2022

Elected John Jay College Union Delegate, [Professional Staff Congress-CUNY](#), 2017-2022  
Campus Health and Safety Union Representative 2020-2022

Elected at-Large Member 2015--2018 John Jay College Faculty Senate and College Council

Elected Co-Chair, 2005-2007; 2015-2017, LA-CUNY Archives and Special Collections Roundtable

Chair, Middle States Review, Evidence Room Committee 2012-2013

Elected at-large Member 2007-2009, John Jay College Elections Committee

Elected departmental representative 2005-2008, John Jay College Undergraduate Standards Committee

Fundraising Coordinator 2005, *Open Access: Payers and Players*, LA-CUNY Institute Planning Committee

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Website Content Manager and Volunteer <https://GhostBikes.org>

Blog Content Manager and Volunteer <https://morrisjumelcats.tumblr.com/>