

Isabella Moritz

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PORTFOLIO

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EDUCATION

Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, NY

M.A.: Fashion and Textile Studies (FTS): History, Theory, and Museum Practice
Specialization in Conservation

Roanoke College, Salem, VA

B.A.: Art History, with Honors, Magna Cum Laude
Minors: French, Anthropology

EXHIBITIONS

Undressing Jane Austen's World

Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington DC
Role: Curator, Writer, Preparator, Installer

March 18–August 30, 2025

Worth: Inventing Haute Couture

Petit Palais, Paris, France
Role: Sub-contract Conservator

May 7–September 7, 2025

Fancy: Costumes, Characters, and the Richmond Masque

Valentine Museum in Richmond, VA
Role: Sub-contract Conservator

May 10, 2025–January 25, 2026

Sewn in America: Making, Meaning, Memory

Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington DC
Role: Fashion and Textiles Curatorial Assistant

March 22–December 3, 2024

Untying the Bow

The Museum at FIT, NYC

Role: Exhibit Designer, Press Contact, Catalog Essayist, and Tour Guide

March 1–24, 2024

PRESENTATIONS

“Perennial Pansies: A Case Study for Reconstruction as an Investigation and Conservation Technique for Altered Garments”

Emerging Professionals Talks

Washington Conservation Guild, Washington DC

<https://youtu.be/w2nW7KVfUj0?si=Y3InYsi9ii0YCG51>

3 April, 2025

“Perennial Pansies: A Case Study for Examining Late Nineteenth Century Alteration Practices”

Making, Meaning, Memory: A Sewn in America Symposium

Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington DC

https://youtu.be/BODEG1hr_Hc?si=tfji6mxeIyZhvWga

1–2 November, 2024

“Christmas Elves: A Fashion Evolution”

Making Holiday Magic: Iconic Christmas Fashions

Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington DC

6 December, 2024

““Darling, I’m a Nightmare dressed like a Day Dream.”: Scandals and Sexuality in Day Dreams (Portrait of Caroline Eakins) by Elizabeth Macdowell”

Genius was a Woman Senior Showcase

Roanoke College and Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, VA

10 December, 2021

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EXPERIENCE

- May 2024–Present* Conservator with Past Crafts: The Costume and Textile Specialists, Alexandria, VA
Conservation treatments with documentation of various nineteenth and twentieth century garments, needleworks, and other flat textiles from institutions and private clients.
- August 2024–Present* Museum Educator at the NSDAR Museum, Washington D.C.
Serve as an ambassador of the museum to visitors. Lead 3–4 tours of the 31 period rooms per day. Guide guest interactions through the current exhibition, *Sewn in America* and the study gallery, providing support for use of the SmARTify app and answering questions. Manage scheduling of tours through online platforms. Collect and report visitation and demographic data. Research and develop collection-related social media content and presentations. Assist with museum tasks such as data entry into database and SmARTify, gallery inventory, clock winding, and object installation. Develop and execute an independent project within specialty: the curation of a small exhibition *Undressing Jane Austen’s World* in the study gallery for Spring 2025.
- September 2024–February 2025* Conservator with Caring for Textiles, Washington D.C.
Conservation treatments with documentation of ten nineteenth and twentieth century garments intended for three-dimensional exhibition from a variety of institutions, as well as garments, quilts and flat textiles from private clients. Assist with conservation, preparation, and packing of garments for a travelling exhibition. Major projects included conservation of two Charles Frederick Worth Gowns from the Museum of the City of New York for the exhibition *Worth: Inventing Haute Couture* at the Petit Palais in Paris, France, May 7–September 7, 2025, and conservation of five ensembles for the exhibition *Fancy: Costumes, Characters, and the Richmond Masque* at the Valentine Museum in Richmond, VA, May 10, 2025–January 25, 2026.
- March 2023–March 2024* Exhibition Designer, Press Contact, Catalog Essayist, and Tour Guide at the Museum at FIT
Development of 2024 FTS Graduate Exhibition *Untying the Bow* from pitch to proposal to installation to engagement with the public once open. Researched and developed themes; designed exhibition space to accommodate 48 MFIT objects, 20 graphics, 5 large text panels, a timeline with 35 panels; designed the lobby space; created a detailed installation guide; assisted with installing text panels, graphics, lobby bow, and timeline; created interactive scavenger hunt; interviewed four times with the press; gave 5 tours to members of the press, students, and public; researched and produced a brief essay on an original topic related to the exhibition theme.
- June–August 2023* Fashion and Textiles Curatorial Assistant, NSDAR Museum, Washington, D.C.
Preparation for 2024 exhibit *Sewn in America*, under Alden O’Brien (Curator of Fashion and Textiles), including mounting 18 mannequins and several hanging/T-stand mounts for exhibit, handling more than 250 museum objects, producing 275 photographs of objects for exhibit catalog and database records, adding measurements and descriptions to the database, and devising textile/costume related content for Museum’s social media. 280 hours worked, 20 hours volunteered.
- August 2020–May 2022* Research Assistant in Ceramic Archaeology Lab, Roanoke College
Illustrated and processed Egyptian ceramic archaeological data under Dr. Leslie Anne Warden for analysis and publication. Preparation of semiannual research poster presentations.
- May 2021–May 2022* Researcher, Summer Scholars Grant Program and Independent Study, Roanoke College
“The Weight of Power: Dressing Ancient Royalty in Life and in Death”
Develop and execute an experiment testing the weight of the funerary garments of Queen Pu-abi in order to determine how their weight affected wearability; Consolidation of research into an academic article and formal presentation for Honors in Art History.
- January 2021–May 2022* Oral Historian/Podcast Editor, Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project, Roanoke, VA
Production of an oral history recorded interview and transcript with a local queer individual and production of a podcast episode utilizing archival oral histories for inclusion in the SWVA LGBTQ+ HP digital archive.

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SKILLS

DIGITAL: Microsoft Suite; Google Suite; Proficio Collections Management Database; FareHarbor Ticketing Platform; EventBrite Ticketing Platform; PeekPro Ticketing Platform; Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Lightroom; Digital Archaeological Illustration; Microfilm/fiche to Digital Processing; Physical to Digital Illustration Processing; Canva; Website building via Weebly, GoDaddy, and Digation; Audacity; iMovie

CONSERVATION/COLLECTIONS CARE: condition reporting, treatment proposal/reporting, adhesive treatment, overlay/underlay/encasing, infills/visual compensation, dyeing and textile painting, humidification treatments, vacuuming, wet cleaning, rug and carpet reweaving, fiber identification, object rehousing and handling, collections monitoring, pest management, collection survey, object photography, mannequin dressing, designing and producing storage mounts

MOUNTING & INSTALLATION: stitch mounting flat textiles, pin mounting flat textiles, making custom torso and invisible mounts for garments, making custom storage mounts for objects

FIBER ARTS: Conservation Hand Sewing, Weaving on a rigid-heddle loom, Crochet, Knitting, Embroidery, Garment construction—from a pattern and draped, Hand Sewing, Machine Sewing

VISUAL ARTS: Manual Archaeological Illustration (Mylar, Rapidograph technical pens, and india ink); Ceramics—wheel throwing and hand/slab building; Sculpture—Clay-building, plaster- and wood- carving, wire; Sheet film and 35mm film photography/development; Painting—Acrylic, Watercolor

PRESS FEATURES

- May 22, 2025 [“Jane Austen Exhibit Celebrates Beloved Author’s Literary Fashion”](#)
Madeline Weinfield, *Northern Virginia Magazine*
- March 28, 2024 [“Fit to be tied: why are bows absolutely everywhere in 2024?”](#)
Emma Russell, *The Guardian*
- March 6, 2024 [“A History of the Bow”](#)
WNYC *All of It* Broadcast
- January 18, 2024 [“The History Of The Hair Bow Dates Back To Neolithic Times”](#)
Marie Lodi, *The Zoe Report*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Institute of Conservation: Textile Specialty Group 2024–
Washington Conservation Guild 2024–
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society 2022–
Kappa Pi Honor Society, Kappa Beta Chapter, International Art Honors Society, 2021–
Xi Theta Chi Honor Society and Service Organization, Alpha Chapter, 2021–
Alpha Lambda Delta, Roanoke College Chapter, 2019–

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

- Symposium on Historical Dress: Collections, Collectors and Collaborations* 14–16 December, 2024
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, VA
- Making, Meaning, Memory: A Sewn in America Symposium* 1–2 November, 2024
Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington DC
- Archiving Fashion Conference: Mapping Fashion Collections* 11 November, 2023
Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, NY