Theresa Costello CV

EDUCATION

The University of Amsterdam – Amsterdam, the Netherlands 2021 - 2023
Advanced Professional Programme
Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage: specialisation in Glass and Ceramics

The University of Amsterdam – Amsterdam, the Netherlands 2019 - 2021
Master of Science
Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage: specialisation in Glass and Ceramics
| Thesis topic: Diagnostic Investigation into a Cracking Phenomenon on the Mouthpieces of Seventeenth-Eighteenth Century Glass Horns
| Recipient of the Rijksmuseum-Migelien Gerritzen 2021 Master thesis award

Trinity College Dublin – Dublin, Ireland 2015 - 2019
Bachelor of Arts – First Class Honours
TSM Ancient History and Archaeology & History
| Thesis topic: Re-Examining Roman attitudes towards infant and early childhood death through analysis of material culture of burials (Awarded first degree)

EXPERIENCE

Costello Conservation – Arnhem, the Netherlands September 2023- present
Glass and Ceramics Conservator
| Independent freelance conservator

The Allard Pierson – Amsterdam, the Netherlands February 2024-April 2024
Bospette Fellowship for Roman Glass
| Carried out research using RTI to analyse production marks on Roman glass vessels

Corning Museum of Glass – Corning, New York May 2023-July 2023
Internship with Conservators
| Assisting with daily conservation tasks & independent treatments on objects ranging from ancient to contemporary

The Allard Pierson – Amsterdam, the Netherlands January 2023-April 2023
Internship with Glass, Ceramics, & Plaster Conservator
| Assisting with daily conservation tasks & independent treatment of a white-ground lekythos

Strawbery Banke Museum – Portsmouth, New Hampshire July 2018-2019
Volunteer Cataloguing, Restoration & Conservation
| Cataloguing and conserving ceramics from seventeenth to twentieth century

SKILLS

Practical Treatment of Glass & Ceramic Objects: Independent experience with conservation and restoration treatment of a wide range of ceramic and glass objects (see portfolio).

Documentation: Proficient use of hardware and software for documentation including normal light, UV, microscope, as well as experience with RTI. Writing proposals and condition/treatment reports for projects.

Analysis: Experience with visual, microscopic, RTI, fractographic, and UV analysis. Have worked with specialists to carry out ion-chromatography, XRF, SEM-EDX, and colour measurement (spectrophotography).

PUBLICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

Interim Meeting ICOM-CC Glass & Ceramics Working Group [2022]
An article and presentation titled “Application of Interdisciplinary Analyses in Diagnosing a Cracking Phenomenon on Seventeenth-Eighteenth Century Dutch Glass Horns”.

Magazine of the Cultural Heritage Agency: “Conditie van gebouwkunst” [2022]
Entry on group project during post-Masters programme which focused on the Rotterdam Central Post Building and creating a scan tool for monumental artworks. Tijdschrift van de Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, No. 3, 2022.

Magazine of the Cultural Heritage Agency: “Het mysterie van het mondstuk” [2023]
Article on the investigation conducted into the cracking phenomenon on the 17th-18th century glass horns. Tijdschrift van de Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed, No. 2, 2023.

GLAS2023 Conferentie van de Glasgenoten [2023]
Presentation titled “Cracking the Code on Cracks in Mouthpieces of 17th to 18th century Glass Horns”.

CMoG Blog Post: “A Fugitive Color: Frederick Carder’s Mandarin Yellow” [2023]
Blog post about independent research conducted during internship into the composition of Steuben Glass called “Mandarin Yellow”. https://blog.cmog.org/2023/08/15/a-fugitive-color-frederick-carders-mandarin-yellow/

Jaarboek Stichting het Historisch Gebruikglas Symposium [2023]
Presentation titled “Glass Post Horns: Possible Uses & Conservation Considerations”
Article titled “Seventeenth-eighteenth century glass post horns: possible uses illuminated by their mouthpieces”.

Magazine of the Vrienden van het Allard Pierson: “Een oliefles vol verhalen: Nieuwe inzichten bij de restauratie” [2023]
Article in Nr. 128 – NAJAAR 2023, about the treatment of a 5th century BCE white-ground lekythos I carried out during my internship with the Allard Pierson.

The Association for the History of Glass Autumn Research Meeting [2024]
Presentation titled “Documenting physical evidence of Roman glass production with Reflectance Transformation Imaging” about Allard Pierson Bospette Fellowship for Roman Glass research.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Bospette Fellowship for Roman Glass [2024]
Three-month long research fellowship with the research question: “Can Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI) of surface marks left on Roman vessel glass be used as a tool for documenting and studying Roman glass production? Results showed that RTI is a useful tool to study Roman glass production techniques.

Investigation into Frederick Carder’s Mandarin Yellow [2023]
During internship at the Corning Museum of Glass, conducted independent research into the conservation issues surrounding the Mandarin Yellow glass from Steuben Glass by Frederick Carder. The glasses have issues with improper annealing, and so are brittle and prone to cracking, but also are undergoing atmospheric deterioration.

Investigation into Dyes and Epoxy Resins [2022]
Research project with the research question: “Do blue Orasol and Lanaset dyes experience colour change when used to dye conservation-grade epoxy resins HXTAL-NYL-1 and Araldite 2020?”. The stability of different combinations of blue dyes and epoxy resins were studied. The research documented any colour changes to inform future treatment involving dyed fills for glass objects.

Diagnostic Thesis Investigation into Glass Post Horns [2021]
Diagnostic investigation into a cracking phenomenon found on the mouthpieces of 17th-18th century glass horns. XRF, ion-chromatography, reconstructions with a glassblower, and fractography were utilised to discover that the cracks were not due to deterioration but were inherent to the making process. The Master of Science thesis can be downloaded from the University of Amsterdam library here: https://scripties.uba.uva.nl/search?id=c5095659