

JASON WEEMS

BIOGRAPHY AND PROJECT SYNOPSIS



Jason Weems is an assistant professor at the University of California, Riverside where he specializes in American art and visual culture from the colonial period to the present. His research focuses on often-overlooked images and visual interplays. Its goal is to illuminate the way that meaning is produced across levels of representation through overarching paradigms of visual experience. Ongoing projects include studies of changing conceptualizations of scale in American art and scientific imagery, the relationship between art and archaeological representation in the Americas, issues of camouflage in American culture during and after the World Wars, and the intersection of art and ideology during the New Deal. Weems's teaching addresses topics such as art and colonial encounter, regionalism and artistic tradition in the context of modernization, and theories of vision, materiality, and multisensory expression. He grew up in rural Iowa and completed his PhD at Stanford University.

As a Tyson Scholar at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Jason Weems will complete work on his current book manuscript, titled *Barnstorming the Prairies: Flight, Aerial Vision and Modernity in Rural America, 1920-1940* (University of Minnesota Press, forthcoming), which examines the development of modern aerial vision and its role in refiguring subjectivity, space, and culture across a spectrum of visual expression during the interwar years.

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