

Hi, I'm Nicholas di Benedetto

he/him

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EDUCATION

MA, Art History, CUNY Hunter College, New York, NY (expected May 2026)

Thesis: "Queering Arcadia: Baroque Land and Body in Andrea Sacchi's *Portrait of Marcantonio Pasqualini*"

Advisor: Dr. Christian K. Kleinbub

BA, Art History, *cum laude*, Edinboro University, PA, 2012

Thesis Project: "Galerie Adler: An Exhibition Catalogue" inspired by Marcel Broodthaers's *Department of Eagles*

Advisor: Dr. Charlotte Wellman

Coursework, English Writing, Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA, 2008–2009

Languages

- Italian: Moderate to advanced reading proficiency; research and translation of scholarly and archival materials; basic speaking
- Latin: Moderate reading knowledge (self-directed study; comparative philological focus)
- French: Moderate reading proficiency

Research Experience

Independent Thesis Research, Rome, Italy (September 2025)

- Research conducted at the American Academy in Rome Library on Andrea Sacchi, the allegory of Marsyas, and classical reception literature unavailable in the U.S.
- Site visits to Vatican Museums, Capitoline Museums, Galleria Borghese, Palazzo Farnese, Palazzo Barberini, major archaeological sites of the historic center, and extensive early modern churches across the city
- Private tour of Palazzo Ripetta with Prof. Giovan Battista Stanza, examining Andrea Sacchi frescoes discovered in 2011 and now housed in a private residence

Research Interests: Early modern Italian art, particularly seventeenth-century Rome; landscape and the male nude; eros, embodiment, and early modern anatomical and sexual theory; ancient Mediterranean visual and material cultures and their afterlives (*Nachleben*); ancient and early modern Rome and the Roman Campagna; Dionysian and Apollonian iconography (Pan, satyrs, Marsyas, Silenus); queer theory, ecofeminist and posthumanist historiography; and the reception of classical, Renaissance, and Baroque art in nineteenth- and twentieth-century art history, especially in the work of Alois Riegl, Heinrich Wölfflin, and Aby Warburg.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Lecturer / Teaching Assistant, Hunter College, New York, NY

ARTH 111: Introduction to the History of Art (Fall 2023 with Professor Tara Zanardi; Spring 2024 with Professor Hendrik Dey)

- Instruction for approximately 90 undergraduate students per semester in a global art history survey from antiquity to the present
- Assigned primary and secondary texts for discussion
- Produced lectures, discussion prompts, quizzes, and exams; proctored and graded all assessments
- Supervised semester-long research papers, guiding students from their thesis formulation through peer review and final submission
- Held weekly office hours, virtual and in-person

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

“Listening to Juan de Pareja: An Ecocritical Approach to Baroque Portraiture and Material.”
College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, February 2024

Chair, Hunter College MA Thesis Showcase

In collaboration with the Art History MA Student Organization (MASO) and the Department of Art & Art History, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025

RESEARCH & INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMMING

Co-Founder and co-Facilitator, Queer Ecologies Research Collective (QuERC)

Summer Residencies hosted by Mildred’s Lane Inc., Narrowsburg, NY / Beach Lake, PA

- QuERC is a mutable organization for cross-pollination and community-building within the trans-disciplinary field of queer ecology, originating in 2023
- Co-designed and co-facilitated intensive summer seminar-residencies of interdisciplinary cohorts of 8-12 participants per session:
 - *I. Land / Body / Eros* (July 2023)
 - *II. Creation / Becoming / Chaos* featuring a cabaret workshop with artist John Jarboe (July 2024)
 - *III. Gnosis / Initiates / Soma* featuring a guest lecture by foundational queer ecologist Timothy Morton (August 2025)
- Seminars were supported by Virginia Commonwealth University and NYU Gallatin School of Individualized Study
- Seminars culminated in a peer-reviewed glossary published by *Antennae: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture* and a public screening at New Ear, New York

- Delivered my own research at each session, ranging from the early modern body, ancient cosmologies, and ecological theories including:
 - “The Queer Pastoral in Early Modern Bodies and Landscape” (2023)
 - “Chaos: From Dada to Drag” (2024)
 - “La Conjuración Sacrée: The Embodied Threshold Between Investigation and Imagination,” a presentation including an iconological overview of Dionysian mystery cults frescoes at the Villa of the Mysteries, Pompeii (2025)

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Programs, The Brooklyn Rail, Brooklyn, NY (2020–2022)

Managed The Brooklyn Rail’s ongoing New Social Environment daily conversation series

- Produced approximately 600 virtual conversations with artists, curators, historians, critics, and theorists, with participants such as Shirin Neshat; Catherine Opie; Ai Weiwei; Martin Puryear; Rirkrit Tiravanija; Njideka Akunyili Crosby; Lynn Hershman Leeson; Laurie Anderson; Tony Oursler; Jacolby Satterwhite; Kent Monkman; Ron Athey; Yvonne Rainer; Raúl de Nieves; Gregg Bordowitz, among hundreds of others
- Designed and led large-scale international programming, including multilingual events with live translation
- Translated complex artistic, historical, and theoretical material into accessible public discourse
- Assisted in grant writing and presentations that secured a \$200,000 Terra Foundation grant

Curatorial Assistant, The Brooklyn Rail, Brooklyn, NY (2017–2020)

- Assisted with major curatorial initiatives, including *Artists Need to Create on the Same Scale That Society Has the Capacity to Destroy*, an ongoing curatorial project in collaboration with Lauren Bon and Metabolic Studio, with iterations as an officially selected Collateral Event of the 2019 Venice Biennale; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME (2019–2020), and Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ (2017)
- Served as Executive Assistant to Phong H. Bui, managing editorial, curatorial, and professional schedules

Advisory Council Chair of Development & Administrative Assistant, Mildred’s Lane Inc., Narrowsburg, NY / Beack Lake, PA (2023–2024)

Press & Publications Assistant, Petzel Gallery, New York, NY (2016–2017)

Gallery Assistant, Petzel Gallery, New York, NY (2013–2016)

Education Program Assistant, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA (2012)

Docent, The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA (2012)

Managing Editor of *Chimera: a Journal of Art and Literature*, Edinboro, PA (2011–2012)

Art History Department Tutor, Edinboro University, Edinboro, PA (2010–2012)

PUBLICATIONS

Nota bene: I publish and present under the surname di Benedetto; publications prior to this appear under Bennett.

Books

[editor] *Thought & Experience: The Collected Writings of Dorothea Rockburne* (forthcoming, Inventory Press, 2027).

Peer-reviewed articles

[editor & contributor] The Queer Ecologies Research Collective, “A Glossary of Terms for Queer Ecologies,” *Antennae: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture*, July 2024.

Re-published in *Histórias da Ecologia: Antologia* (Histories of Ecology: Anthology), Museu de Arte de São Paulo Assis Chateaubriand, 2025.

Interviews

“Gregg Bordowitz with Yasi Alipour & Nick Bennett.” *The Brooklyn Rail*’s New Social Environment, July 16, 2021.

“In Conversation: Penny Arcade with Nick Bennett.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, June 2020.

“In Conversation: Jeffrey Gibson with Nick Bennett.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, December 2018/January 2019.

“In Conversation: Felix Bernstein & Gabe Rubin with Nick Bennett.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, June 2018.

Reviews

“Brueghel’s Three Soldiers.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, May 2025.

“Derek Jarman: Blue.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, July/August 2023.

“Dear Lilit: Text Conversations with an Ancient Demon.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, May 2023.

“The Return of Printed Matter’s New York Art Book Fair—IRL.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, October 2022.

“Gregg Bordowitz’s *Some Styles of Masculinity*,” *The Brooklyn Rail*, December 2021/January 2022.

“Joyce Pensato: The Fizz Is Still Fizzing.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, February 2021.

“Documentary as Holistic Activism: Deia Schlosberg’s *The Story of Plastic*.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, October 2020.

“Saul Fletcher, Essays by Ralph Rugoff and Kristy Bell.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, May 2019.

“Genesis Breyer P-Orridge’s Brion Gysin: His Name Was Master.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, October 2018.

“The Blind Man.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, June 2018.

“Depero Futurista.” *The Brooklyn Rail*, April 2018.

AWARDS

Strypemonde Foundation Award for thesis research, Fall 2025

Strypemonde Foundation Fellowship, Fall 2023

Strypemonde Foundation Fellowship, Spring 2023

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

College Art Association

Italian Studies Association

Renaissance Society of America