

Kiersten Neumann bio

Dr. Kiersten Neumann is an art historian, archaeologist, curator, and educator specializing in ancient West Asia (Near East), with a focus on Assyria and Persia, as well as connections with Arabia. She is Curator of the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures Museum, Research Associate at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, and Lecturer in the Department of Art History at the University of Chicago. Her publications, teaching, and speaking engagements explore sensory experience, ritualized practice, and visual culture, as well as museum practice, collecting histories, provenance research, and cultural heritage management and preservation.

She has curated numerous exhibitions, including Joseph Lindon Smith: The Persepolis Paintings (2022) • Making Sense of Marbles: Roman Sculpture at the OI (2022–2023) • and Artifacts Also Die (2023). She is also co-editor of The Routledge Handbook of the Senses in the Ancient Near East (2022). Kiersten has conducted archaeological fieldwork in Turkey (Tell Tayinat) and Greece (Ancient Agora of Athens) and collaborates on international museum, art, and cultural heritage projects. In 2024, she joined the Board of Trustees of the American Society of Overseas Research. Originally from Vancouver, Canada, she earned her B.A. and M.A. from the University of British Columbia and her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley.