

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Corinna Wessels-Mevissen

Email: cwesselsmevissen@gmail.com; corinnawessels@yahoo.de

Professional Experience and Research Activities

- Since 10/2010 Independent Researcher; affiliated to the Department of Asian and Islamic Art History, Universität Bonn (since 3/2023); affiliated to the Asian Art Museum, State Museums of Berlin (until 12/2022); since 10/2021: researching certain aspects of early Gandhāran art, including the early development of the Buddha image
- 12/2020 – 5/2021 Series of 28 online lectures on Asian Art History, Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai (Survey course: Complete overview of the Art History of South Asia and neighbouring regions)
- 10/2009 – 09/2010 One-year Fellow, Morphomata Center for Advanced Studies – Genesis, Dynamics and Mediality of Cultural Figurations, University of Cologne, Germany; organization of the international workshop *Concepts of Time and Their Visual and Material Aspects – Focus Asia*, June 25–26, 2010
- 10/2008 Co-organization of the Panel “Ritual and Visuality” during the international conference “Ritual Dynamics and the Science of Ritual”, University of Heidelberg, Germany (together with Dr. Petra Rösch)
- 01/2008 – 09/2009 Independent Researcher and Visiting Lecturer in Indian Art History, Institute of Art History, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany (summer semester 2009)
- 08/2006 – 12/2007 Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art at the Museum of Indian Art, Berlin (since December 2006: Department of South, Southeast and Central Asian Art, Asian Art Museum, Berlin State Museums); one-year position, with a contract extension of five months
- 02/2004 – 07/2006 Independent Researcher; May through October 2005: full-time voluntary work at the Museum of Indian Art, Berlin State Museums
- 04/2003 – 01/2004 Guest Curator of the special exhibition *Anmut und Askese – Frühe Skulpturen aus Indien / The Sublime and the Ascetic in Early Sculptures from India*, Museum of Indian Art, Berlin State Museums (September 18, 2003 – January 4, 2004), displaying stone sculptures from Indian museums
- 04/2002 – 03/2003 Independent Researcher
- 10/2001 – 03/2002 Visiting Lecturer in Indian Art History, Institute of Indian Art History and Philology, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany (winter semester)
- 01/2001 – 09/2001 Independent Researcher
- 08/1998 – 12/2000 Local staff member (personal assistant to director, and librarian), Cultural Wing of the Embassy of India in Germany

University Degrees

- 1999 Doctorate in “Indian Art History” (*Indische Kunstgeschichte*, equivalent to South Asian Art History), Freie Universität Berlin; title of doctoral thesis: *The Formation and Early Development of the Brahmanical Group of Directional Guardian Deities in Indian Art (until c. 1000 A.D.)*
- 1989 Magistra Artium in Prehistoric Archaeology, Freie Universität Berlin; title of M.A. thesis: *Die schwarz-rote Keramik der Jagor-Sammlung. Zur typologischen und chronologischen Gliederung von eisenzeitlichen Fundkomplexen in Südindien* (Iron Age/Megalithic Black-and-Red Ware in the Jagor Collection, Museum of Indian Art, Berlin)
- Studies in Prehistoric Archaeology, Indian Art History, general Art History, and Indian Philology (languages: Sanskrit and Hindi) at Freie Universität Berlin and Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel, Germany

Publications

Monograph

- *The Gods of the Directions in Ancient India, Origin and Early Development in Art and Literature (until c. 1000 A.D.)*, Monographien zur indischen Archäologie, Kunst und Philologie, Vol. 14, Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag 2001 (revised doctoral thesis)

Editorship

- With Marianne Yaldiz, *Anmut und Askese — Frühe Skulpturen aus Indien. The Sublime and the Ascetic in Early Sculptures from India* (bilingual catalogue, German – English), Mainz: Philipp von Zabern, 2003
- With Axel Michaels *et al.*, *Ritual Dynamics and the Science of Ritual* (conference proceedings), Vol. IV: *Reflexivity, Media, and Visuality*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2011
- Guest editor of the thematic issue “Visuality of Indian Rituals”, *Mārg Magazine* Vol. 63, No. 2, Mumbai: Mārg, December 2011.
- With Dietrich Boschung, *Figurations of Time in Asia*, München/Paderborn: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 2012
- First editor, with Gerd Mevissen, *Indology’s Pulse: Arts in Context. Essays Presented to Doris Meth Srinivasan in Admiration of Her Scholarly Research*, New Delhi: Aryan Books, 2019

Editorial Collaboration

- Ulrich Wiesner, *Buddhisten – Jainas – Hindus: Auf der Suche nach dem Gottesbild. Die Sammlung Viktor und Marianne Langen* (exhibition catalogue), *Ethnologica*, Neue Folge, Band 25, Köln: Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum/Wolfratshausen: Edition Minerva, 2005
- Joachim Bautze and Raffael Gadebusch, *Picturesque Views. Moghul-Indien im Spiegel der Fotografie des 19. Jahrhunderts* (exhibition catalogue), Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2007

Academic Articles

- “Adichchanallur Reconsidered – A Typological Study of South Indian ‘Megalithic’ Pottery”, *Beiträge zur Allgemeinen und Vergleichenden Archäologie*, Vol. 11, Mainz: Philipp von Zabern, 1991 (1993), pp. 13–56
- “Some Remarks on the *Dikpālas* of the Early Pratīhāra Temples at Osiāñ”, *Festschrift Klaus Bruhn*, ed. by Nalini Balbir and Joachim K. Bautze, Reinbek: Dr. Inge Wezler Verlag für Orientalistische Fachpublikationen, 1994, pp. 597–622
- “Some Early Sets of *Dikpālas* (Guardians of the Directions) at Bādāmi – A Reassessment”, *South Asian Archaeology 1995. Proceedings of the 13th Conference of the European Association of South Asian Archaeologists, Cambridge, 5–9 July, 1995*, ed. by Raymond Allchin and Bridget Allchin, U.S.A.: Science Publishers Inc./New Delhi, Calcutta: Oxford & IBH, 1997, Vol. 2, pp. 731–743
- “Aṣṭadikpāla Ceilings in the Deccan: Some new Observations”, *Foundations of Indian Art. Proceedings of the Chidambaram Conference on Art and Religion, February 2001*, ed. by R. Nagaswamy, Chennai: Tamil Arts Academy, 2002, pp. 163–175
- “Die Hüter der Himmelsrichtungen in der indischen Kunst” (The Guardians of the Directions in Indian Art), *Baessler-Archiv, Beiträge zur Völkerkunde* 50, Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag, 2002 (2003), pp. 105–120
- “The Sublime and the Ascetic: Some Reflections on an Exhibition of Mathura Art in Berlin”, *Orientalism* Vol. 34, No. 9, Hong Kong: Orientations Magazine, 2003, pp. 56–60
- “Creative Legacy of the Nilgiri Hills, Terracotta Offerings from South Indian Megalithic Burials”, *Indian Terracotta Sculpture — The Early Period*, ed. by Pratapaditya Pal, *Mārg Magazine* Vol. 54, No. 1, Mumbai: Mārg Publications, 2002, pp. 20–31 (magazine); pp. 24–35 (monograph)
- “Note on a Monumental Khmer Gaṇeśa from Koh Ker, Cambodia”, *Indo-Asiatische Zeitschrift, Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für indo-asiatische Kunst* 9, Berlin: Reiter-Druck, 2005, pp. 11–13
- “*Naravyāla* – *Puruṣamṛga* – Sphinx, Preliminary Observations on an Iconographic Cluster in South & Southeast Asia”, *Vanamālā – Festschrift Adalbert J. Gail*, ed. by Klaus Bruhn und Gerd J.R. Mevissen, Berlin: Weidler Buchverlag, 2006, pp. 243–252
- “Deccani Ceiling Panels showing Aṣṭadikpālas and Naṭeśa: An Analysis”, *Kalhār (White Water-Lily). Studies in Art, Iconography, Architecture and Archaeology of India and Bangladesh (Professor Enamul Haque Felicitation Volume)*, ed. by Gouriswar Bhattacharya et al., New Delhi: Kaveri Books, 2007, pp. 221–233
- With Raffael Dedo Gadebusch, “Neue Glanzlichter der Skulptur Südasiens in der ständigen Ausstellung der Kunstsammlung Süd-, Südost- und Zentralasien” (new highlights of South Asian art in the permanent display of the Department of South, Southeast and Central Asian Art), *MuseumsJournal, Berichte aus den Museen, Schlössern und Sammlungen in Berlin und Potsdam* Vol. 21, No. 4, Berlin: Berliner Museen, 2007, pp. 20–23
- “‘Magic Worlds of Gods Enhanced’, New South Asian Sculptural Highlights in the Permanent Exhibition of the Asian Art Museum, Berlin”, *Indo-Asiatische Zeitschrift, Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für indo-asiatische Kunst* 11, Berlin: Reiter-Druck, 2007, pp. 8–18
- “*Rākṣasas* and *puruṣamṛgas* in the South-Western Corner of the Airāvateśvara Temple at Darasuram”, in: *Prajñādharma, Essays on Asian Art, History, Epigraphy and Culture, in Honour of Gouriswar Bhattacharya*, ed. by Gerd Mevissen and Arundhati Banerji, New Delhi: Kaveri Books, 2009, Vol. I, pp. 201–215

- “Innovation and Continuity: A New Temple for Kala Bhairava at Adichunchanagiri, Karnataka”, *Mārg Magazine* Vol. 60, No. 3, Mumbai: Mārg Publications, 2009, pp. 44–53
- “Festival Vehicles and Motif Lamps: Reflections on Visual Elements in South Indian Temple Ritual”, *Ritual Dynamics and the Science of Ritual, Vol. IV: Reflexivity, Media, and Visuality*, ed. by Axel Michaels et al., Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2011, pp. 567–597
- “The Early Image of Śiva Naṭarāja: Aspects of Time and Space”, *Figurations of Time in Asia*, ed. by Dietrich Boschung and Corinna Wessels-Mevissen, Morphomata Series, No. 4, München: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 2012, pp. 298–348
- “Introducing a God and His Ideal Form: A.K. Coomaraswamy’s ‘Dance of Śiva’, 1912/1918”, *Indo-Asiatische Zeitschrift, Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für indo-asiatische Kunst* 16, Berlin: Reiter-Druck, 2012, pp. 30–42
- “Divine Attributes and Emblems”, *Brill’s Encyclopedia of Hinduism*, ed. by Knut A. Jacobsen (editor-in-chief), Brill: Leiden, 2013, Vol. V, pp. 16–35
- “Not Yama, but Kubera: Identifying an Innovative Set of Directional Guardians at Darasuram, Tamilnadu”, *Ratnasri: Gleanings from Indian Archaeology, Art History and Indology: Papers Presented in Memory of Dr. N. R. Banerji*, ed. by Arundhati Banerji, New Delhi: Kaveri Books, 2015, pp. 115–122
- “Some Aspects of *Dīkpala* Representation in Karnataka”, *Ruvari: A Felicitation Volume Presented to Dr. S.V. Venkateshaiah*, ed. by Sheelakant Pattar, Gadag: Chaitanya Offset Printers, 2016, pp. 505–528
- “A Note on the Ceiling Designs in the Temples of Northern Karnataka, with Special Emphasis on the Lotus Blossom Motif,” in: *Temple Architecture and Imagery of South and Southeast Asia. Prāsādanidhi: Papers Presented to Professor M.A. Dhaky*, ed. by Paul Pandya Dhar and Gerd J.R. Mevissen, New Delhi: Aryan Books, 2016, pp. 123–137
- “The Iconography of the Guardians of the Directions (Dīkpalas): Evidence from the ruined outer Gopuram of the Airavateśvara Temple, Darasuram, Tamil Nadu”, *Iconography of the Hindus, Buddhists & Jains: Proceedings of the National Conference on January 8 & 9, 2016*, ed. by Nanditha Krishna, Chennai: C.P.R. Publications (C.P.R. Institute of Indological Research), 2016, pp. 318–324
- “A Small Composite Creature in Bronze from Kausambi in the Asian Art Museum, Berlin”, *Indology’s Pulse: Arts in Context. Essays Presented to Doris Meth Srinivasan in Admiration of Her Scholarly Research*, ed. by Corinna Wessels-Mevissen and Gerd Mevissen, New Delhi: Aryan Books, 2019, pp. 55–70
- With Adam Hardy, “Note on a Recently Reported Early Śiva Temple near Kothur (Telangana State)”. *Berliner Indologische Studien / Berlin Indological Studies* 24, 2019, pp. 265–278
- “Further Iconography-based Inquiries into the Early Naṭarāja Image”, *Re-envisioning Śiva Naṭarāja – A Multidisciplinary Perspective*, ed. by Anna Slaczka, Leiden: Brill, 2021, pp. 119–135
- “A ‘Pensive Bodhisatva’ holding a Wreath, from Takht-i-Bahi, Pakistan (Formerly, in the Museum für Völkerkunde, Berlin): Object History and Art Historical Study”, *Indo-Asiatische Zeitschrift, Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für indo-asiatische Kunst* 26, 2022, pp. 36–51
- “Aesthetic Refinement by Successive Incorporation of ‘Extraneous’ Features: Towards a Typological-Stylistic Sequence of Early Gandhāran Buddha Images in Stone, 1st–3rd Centuries”, *Ancient Pakistan* 33, 2022, pp. 101–134

Book Reviews

- “A. Ghosh: An Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology, 2 Vols., Leiden 1990”, *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung* 87/6, Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1992, pp. 573–575
- “Udayaravi S. Moorti: Megalithic culture of south India, Varanasi 1994”, *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung* 90/2, Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1995, pp. 203–206
- “H.-J. Weisshaar, H. Roth und W. Wijeyapala (Hg.): Ancient Ruhuna. Sri Lanka-German Archaeological Project in the Southern Province, Vol. I, Mainz 2001”, *Orientalistische Literatur-zeitung* 98/2, Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 2003, pp. 293–296

Miscellaneous Publications

- Hindi–German Glossary for a novel, T.N. Murari, *Der Sahib. Der große Indien-Roman*, Bergisch-Gladbach: Gustav Lübbe, 1989, pp. 525–528
- Lexicon entry on prehistoric ceramics in India, *Brockhaus Enzyklopädie*, 19th edition, Mannheim: Brockhaus, 1986–1994
- Translation and editing, R.N. Natarajarathina Deekshithar, “Der Tempel des Śiva-Naṭarāja”, *Deutsches Yoga-Forum* 6, Göttingen: Berufsverband der Yogalehrenden in Deutschland e.V. 2002, pp. 7–14
- Twenty-five encyclopaedia entries on the art history of South and Southeast Asia, *Brockhaus Enzyklopädie*, 21st edition, Leipzig/Mannheim: Brockhaus, 2005–2006
- With Raffael Dedo Gadebusch, “Nachruf Professor Dr. Herbert Härtel” (obituary), *Indo-Asiatische Zeitschrift, Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für indo-asiatische Kunst* 10, Berlin: Reiter-Druck, 2006, p. 145
- Two entries for the exhibition catalogue *Novos Mundos – Neue Welten, Portugal und das Zeitalter der Entdeckungen, Eine Ausstellung des Deutschen Historischen Museums (24.10.2007–10.02.2008)*, Berlin: Deutsches Historisches Museum, 2007, pp. 421–422
- Thirty-six catalogue entries for *Sparsha – Berührung der Sinne. Ritual und zeitgenössische Kunst aus Indien* (exhibition catalogue of a show combining traditional and ancient Indian art with contemporary works), Bochum: Kunstmuseum Bochum; Leipzig: E. A. Seemann, 2014, pp. 26–79