BERLIN TRIP
ART HISTORY & VISUAL ARTS
BARNARD COLLEGE
PARTICIPANTS

ANISA TAVANGAR
CHLOE MORRIS
ECHO AINING MA
ELLA VISCARDI
GEORGIE TIANQI LI
HELEN HUILUN LIU
JACQUELINE TAVS
JEWEL BRITTON
JOSEPHINE HESTON
LILY ARZT
LINDSAY MANOCHERIAN
MAIA ROMAN
RACHEL HSU
SOPHIE KOVEL
FRIDAY
6:10 PM: Depart Newark, USA (EWR)

SATURDAY
7:55 AM: Arrive Berlin, Germany (TXL)
8:30 AM: Check in & Group Breakfast at hotel

1:30 PM: Pergamonmuseum
Bodestraße 1-3
The Pergamon Museum houses monumental buildings such as the Pergamon Altar, the Ishtar Gate of Babylon, the Market Gate of Miletus reconstructed from the ruins found in the Middle East, as well as the Mshatta Facade. The museum is subdivided into the antiquity collection, the Middle East Museum, and the Museum of Islamic Art. It is visited by approximately 1,135,000 people every year, making it the most visited art museum in Germany and one of the largest in the country.

2:45 PM: Alte Nationalgalerie
Bodestraße 1-3
The Alte Nationalgalerie's holdings include Romantic and Impressionist masterpieces as well as a world-class collection of works by Adolph Menzel. The museum's collection dates back to a gift from the banker Johann Heinrich Wilhelm Wagener to the Prussian state in 1861, a bequest of 262 works with an emphasis on Belgian history painting and the Düsseldorf school. However, this collection also included Caspar David Friedrich's "Lonely Tree" and Karl Friedrich Schinkel's "Gothic Church on a Rock by the Sea". Works of German Romantic landscape Painters are seldom show in the US. They are key to understanding German art and culture.

4:30 PM: Neues Museum
Bodestraße 1-3
Exhibits include the Egyptian and Prehistory and Early History collections, as it did before the war. The artifacts it houses include the iconic bust of the Egyptian queen Nefertiti.

6:30 PM: Dinner Barcomi's
with Cynthia Barcomi BC'85
Sophienstraße 21
Cynthia Barcomi was born in Seattle, Washington and graduated from Barnard College in 1985. She moved after graduation to Berlin, Germany to begin her career as a professional dancer. An avid cook and baker since childhood, Cynthia opened her first shop – a coffee roastery and bakery in 1994 and has not looked back since. In 1997 she opened her second shop, a Deli in Berlin-Mitte. She is the author of six best-selling cookbooks and has made numerous television appearances. She is interested in bridging the cultural gap between classic American cuisine and her love for Germany. Cynthia lives with her husband, the actor, Harvey Friedman and their four children in Berlin.
10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting

11:00 AM: Flea Market at Mauerpark
Gleimstraße 55
The flea market at Mauerpark has attained a cult status. All year long you can find everything from household goods to designer treasures. Food stalls offer delicious and affordable fare. Take a break from bargain hunting and kick back at the Schönwetter Club and enjoy, or participate in, open air karaoke. On warm days you see people sitting all around the park barbecuing, playing music and enjoying life!

3:00 PM: Studio Visit with Ilya Lipkin
Ilya Lipkin is a Berlin-based artist who was born in Riga, Latvia, and raised in New York City. His photographic work deals with the merging of public and corporate space, offering us a glimpse of our new social commons. Employing a cool, observational approach, he documents the continual flow of bodies through supermarkets, coffee shops, gyms, shopping centers, and banks, producing candid portraits of contemporary city dwellers immersed in a variety of mundane activities.

7:30 PM: Group Dinner at Barist
Am Zwirngraben 13
10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting

11:00 AM: Studio Visit with Maria Eichhorn
Maria Eichhorn’s art is known for it’s biting institutional interventions. In 2016 she shut London’s Chisenhale Gallery for a month as her solo show, effectively giving the staff paid time off. Her contribution to Documenta 14 was a project called the Rose Valland Institute, which sought to further research and document looted Jewish property. The institute is named for Rose Valland, a French art historian and member of the Resistance who tracked Nazi art theft during World War II.

4:30 PM: KW Institute for Contemporary Art
with Assistant Curator Maurin Dietrich
Auguststraße 69
KW Institute for Contemporary Art aims to approach the central questions of our times through the production, display, and dissemination of contemporary art.

8:00 PM: Dinner at Clärchens Ballhaus
Auguststraße 24
Clärchens Ballhaus is a former East Berlin ballroom in the Berlin-Mitte district of Berlin. It has protected status as a Berliner Kulturdenkmal (cultural monument). This Ballhaus is one of the oldest establishments in Berlin, having celebrated its 100-year anniversary in 2013.
TUESDAY

10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting

11:00 AM: Visit to Spike magazine with founder and Editor-in-Chief, Rita Vitorelli
Rosa-Luxemburg-Straße 45
Founded by the artist Rita Vitorelli in 2004, Spike is a bilingual English/German contemporary art magazine, online platform and event space. The flagship print magazine Spike Art Quarterly is aimed at sustaining a vigorous, independent and meaningful art criticism. Essays by leading critics and curators are complemented by other formats offering room for polemics, meditations, and short answers to urgent questions. Published four times a year, Spike offers its readers both intimacy and immediacy through an unusually open editorial approach that is not afraid of controversy and provocation. The event space Spike Berlin has become known for heated round-table discussions and high-profile talks, while Spike Online features up-to-the-minute reports, interviews, and photo essays from around the world.

4:00 PM: Studio Visit with Slavs and Tatars
Stephanstrasse 19
Slavs and Tatars is a faction of polemics and intimacies devoted to an area east of the former Berlin Wall and west of the Great Wall of China known as Eurasia. The collective's practice is based on three activities: exhibitions, books and lecture-performances. They have exhibited work at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Belgrade; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong; NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery; Kunsthalle Zurich; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York, among others.

7:30 PM: Dinner
**WEDNESDAY**

9:45 AM: Meet in lobby

10:30 AM: Hamburger Banhof Museum für Gegenwart
with Curators Anna Catharina Gebbers & Nina Schallenberg
*Invalidenstraße 50–51*

The Hamburger Banhof Museum für Gegenwart (Museum for Contemporary Art) is Berlin's most important exhibition space dedicated exclusively to contemporary art from the 1950s to the present. Since 1996 Hamburger has consistently consolidated its reputation as one of the world's most highly-regarded contemporary art museums.

2:00 PM: Gallery Visit
with Prem Krishnamurthy
*Ebersstraße 3*

Prem Krishnamurthy works at the intersection between art and design as a curator, designer, writer, and educator. From 2012 to 2017, he directed the independent space P! in New York City, which devoted itself to experimental exhibition formats and exploring the interrelations between design, architecture, art, and more. He is founder of the award-winning design studio Project Projects (2004–2017), now Wkshps, focusing on identities for art and cultural institutions. He has worked with such prestigious institutions as The Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Guggenheims Museum, Harvard University, The Jewish Museum, MoMA, RISD Museum, SALT, Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Yale University Art Gallery.

7:30 PM: STAATSOPER OPERA
*Unter den Linden 7*

This winter the The Berlin State Opera celebrated its 275th birthday in its newly renovated theater, the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, commonly referred to as Lindenoper, in the central Mitte district. Currently playing is Salome, Op. 54, an opera in one act by Richard Strauss. Based on Hedwig Lachmann's German translation of the French play Salomé by Oscar Wilde, the opera is famous (at the time of its premiere, infamous) for its “Dance of the Seven Veils”.

7:30 PM: STAATSOPER OPERA
*Unter den Linden 7*
THURSDAY

10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting

11:00: Gemäldegalerie (optional)
Matthäikirchplatz
The Gemäldegalerie boasts one of the world’s most important collections of European painting ranging from the 13th to 18th century. Masterpieces from all epochs in the history of art are on permanent display here, including paintings by Jan van Eyck, Pieter Bruegel, Albrecht Dürer, Raphael, Titian, Caravaggio, Peter Paul Rubens, Rembrandt, and Jan Vermeer van Delft.

3:00 PM: Studio visit with Nina Beier (optional)
Wassertorstrasse 62
Nina Beier was born in 1975 in Aarhus, Denmark, and lives and works in Berlin and has spent time in New York. For a show at Metro Pictures in 2015 she elaborated on her interest in the relationship between objects and their representation. Persistently tracking the status of images in our world, Beier develops a transmutable lexicon all her own. She extracts objects from their circumscribed settings and exposes their layers of historical, cultural and social information. She has been awarded the Prize of the Böttcherstraße, and her work was included in 13th Biennale de Lyon and the 20th Biennale of Sydney.

FRIDAY

9:45 AM: Depart Berlin, Germany
2:00 PM: Arrive Newark, USA

Other optional activities:

Jewish Museum Berlin
Sans Souci and the Neue Palais
The Scharf-Gerstenberg Collection
The Berggruen Museum
Schloss Charlottenburg
Museum fur Fotografie
Gropius Bau
Holocaust Memorial
ifa-Galerie Berlin
Julia Stoschek Collection
Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (n.b.k.)
Rachel Hsu

Berlin is a complex thread that has often tangled and broken in the fabric of history. As someone who is far more familiar with the Holocaust and the Cold War than she is with the contemporary scene in Berlin, I was eager to discover the ways in which Berlin has reclaimed its society in light of a turbulent past. The visit felt like a well-balanced mix of vacation and art historical education. I found myself getting to know my peers on a level I never had before (especially as someone doing a written thesis and not a studio thesis). Speaking to artists working in Berlin, especially Ilya Lipkin and Prem Krishnamurthy, was an invaluable experience. The Hamburger Bahnhof was unforgettable. Some of the most beautiful moments of the trip were those where we simply got to explore a historically rich environment after a day of educational visits. One night after the fantastic opera, I got authentic German food with Jacqueline, Maia, and Jewel. It was definitely the best evening of the trip!

Ella Viscardi

Traveling to Berlin with the senior visual arts class was a truly inspiring and informative experience. From studio visits with contemporary artists and designers to museum tours with prominent curators, each activity was very creatively stimulating and filled with insights about working in the art world. With graduation just a couple months away, the trip could not have been more timely; as I’ve been considering potential career paths to pursue in creative fields, input from this trip helped direct me towards specific paths I’d like to follow. Work-related feelings aside, it was also quite special to spend quality time with peers from my thesis class and our wonderful administrators.

Anisa Tavangar

This trip to Berlin was a very enriching opportunity to hear from working artists about their creative process and how they think through the ideas they explore in their work. In the midst of the senior visual thesis project, learning about these other artists was especially useful in codifying the goals for my own project. The opportunity to speak with individuals who work in such a range of mediums and with such different conceptual motivations helped me better understand the vast ways that artists apply their interests to their work. Speaking with curators and visiting museums and galleries in Berlin also really helped me with both my studio and written theses. Hearing these perspectives gave me new approaches to consider in my written thesis and offered insights into how to solve some formal challenges in my studio thesis. This trip also served as a great way to grow closer with my class and my professors, strengthening friendships and providing valuable time to speak with professors about my theses and upcoming graduation.
**Echo Ma**

I would say that my favourite part of the trip would be the visits to artists’ studios, which I haven’t had the opportunity to do in New York. I particularly liked our first studio visit, which opened me up to the difference between freelance photography and commercial photography. I also enjoyed our tours in the KW Modern and Hamburger Bahnhoff museums. The curation in the KW in particular generated a sense of reticence, and in a way challenged viewers to think harder about modern and contemporary art. Moreover, I think the opera adds a interesting mark on our trip as it gave us a different taste of Berlin life. I truly enjoyed our trip to Berlin and everyone’s accompany, which made this trip so much memorable!

**Sophie Kovel**

The Berlin Trip was informative culturally, artistically, and since I've been learning German, also linguistically. I was personally interested in Maria Eichhorn's installation for Documenta, and its accompanying Institute, Restitutionspolitik, which sought to return books confiscated by the Nazi regime to their owners, if possible, or their families. The visit to museums including the Pergamon, the Neues Museum, and the Alte Nationalgalerie gave insight into the massive collections Germany has amassed of Egyptian, Greek, and Iranian artworks and objects, as well as assembling German paintings such as those of Caspar David Friedrich.

Until this trip, I was not privy to how many cultural centers Berlin has — which has big sway on the way contemporary art galleries and museums are scattered throughout the massive city. I love the ways in which KW and the Hamburger Bahnhof both transformed preexisting structures into contemporary art museums — a margarine and train stations respectively.

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**Josephine Heston**

Growing up, my family spent our vacations in the Northeast so I have only just begun to travel outside the country as a young adult. The Visual Arts trip to Berlin allowed me to visit Europe for the first time, an experience I may not have been able to plan for myself for a while. As an Art History student, I have studied many of the artworks in Berlin in the form of slides or textbooks, but I found that there really is no comparison between images and the tangible object. Our discussions about the relationship between the viewer and the work, or the materials and techniques used to achieve a particular surface, were concretized by seeing them in person. Additionally, as an aspiring curator and writer, I believe it is essential to see art outside of your immediate context. Through our studio visits and gallery trips I was able to do exactly that, and to learn from people outside of my daily education about their unique perspectives and experiences. Overall, I am so thankful I was given the opportunity to learn more about a city that has such a vibrant arts community. The trip to Berlin expanded my art world vocabulary, allowed me to connect my education to places and people that can oftentimes feel distant, and provided practical experience in terms of visiting artists and institutions as a young scholar.

**Georgie Tianqi Li**

I really appreciate the department taking the seniors to Berlin during Spring break. The trip was amazing in so many ways. It gave us a chance to experience what Berlin was like, we got to visit world renown museums, we had great food, and most importantly, us seniors got to spend time together on a field trip and bonded over a great Spring break. I think what’s more important is that I got to know how contemporary artists are making livings all over the world. I definitely know more about my options after graduation and positions in the entire art world. This trip has significant meanings for seniors as we are graduating soon and about to make a living in the art world. Again, I really appreciate the department giving us the opportunity to make such a wonderful trip happen.
Lily Arzt
Traveling to Berlin with the Visual Arts theses majors was a culturally rich and invaluable experience. I enjoyed visiting the art institutions of Berlin but my favorite aspect of the trip was the studio visits. It was helpful and informative to be around new but somewhat established artists and to hear about their creative and intellectual processes. I was able to compare the differences and similarities between the artists’ practice - considering their material and conceptual choices - which gave me a new perspective on what it means to be a contemporary artist. Additionally, the structure of the trip worked well for me. Although each day we had several things to do, I still felt I was able to explore the city on my own time and was given space to be independent. Ultimately, it was an extremely pleasurable week, and one I’m not likely to forget soon.

Helen Huilun Liu
The Berlin trip with the Art History/Visual Arts department at Barnard was informative, inspirational and full of fun. Some of my favorite activities include studio visits with Slavs and Tatars, museum visit at the KW Institute for Contemporary Art and the Hamburger Bahnhof - Museum für Gegenwart Kunst, and the office visit at the Spike Magazine. Being able to see artists in their everyday working environment and to sense their excitement in devoting to their artworks inspired me to a great extent with my own artistic practice and ongoing projects; close encounters and meaningful conversations with museum curators, gallery representatives and industry professionals allowed me to gain some first-hand knowledge of the dynamics between artists, institutions, publications, and collectors. The various types of institutions and individuals we had the privilege to interact with offered me a profound insight into different professions in the art world, and helped me greatly in exploring my own career path.

This trip was also such a great opportunity for me to explore Berlin together with my fellow artists and professors. I was able to get to know other visual arts students better and what their career aspirations are over conversations on our way to our visits and dinner times. Although we might part ways after the imminent graduation, the relationships I was able to establish with people I went on the trip with will surely last beyond our time in college.
Jewel Britton

This spring break I had the absolute fortune of traveling to Berlin with a group of exciting and artistic peers. I was able to learn so much from the other students and professors on the trip, and enjoyed hearing about their own artistic projects. Throughout the week we visited multiple museums, galleries, and sites in the city, but the most influential to me was the various artist studio visits that were included. We saw several very different studios, with artists ranging from photographers to graphic designers. This highlighted the various definitions of what it means to be “an artist” in the present moment. Many of the artists we visited used intensive research through archives and primary sources to learn about a specific topic, very similar to those in the academic field. However, instead of using this research to create a piece of writing, they use art to communicate their research. This is something I found incredible fascinating and inspiring to apply to my own studies. This trip also highlighted a city with a thriving art scene, and inspired many of us to look into residencies or internships for the future.

During the week we were also able to have discussions with empowered women that work in other fields in the arts. We met with a woman that began her own art magazine, Rita Vitorelli at Spike, and two curators of modern and contemporary art. These discussions were enlightening, and the resulting conversations very thought provoking. We gained insight on what it is like to be a woman in the arts, and considered how the field is changing in many different ways. The schedule for the week was very well planned, and allowed us to see many facets of the art world -- even those I never thought I would be interested in turned out to be quite fascinating.

I feel very lucky to have had this international experience at this time in my life, and to share it with the group of people that went. This trip to Berlin will definitely have a lasting impact on my life, and I believe it is an experience that will guide my future in the arts.
Georgie Tianqi Li
I really appreciate the department taking the seniors to Berlin during Spring break. The trip was amazing in so many ways. It gave us a chance to experience what Berlin was like, we got to visit world renown museums, we had great food, and most importantly, us seniors got to spend time together on a field trip and bonded over a great Spring break. I think what’s more important is that I got to know how contemporary artists are making livings all over the world. I definitely know more about my options after graduation and positions in the entire art world. This trip has significant meanings for seniors as we are graduating soon and about to make a living in the art world. Again, I really appreciate the department giving us the opportunity to make such a wonderful trip happen.

Lindsay Manoucherian
The trip to Berlin that I went on with my peers this year for spring break was unforgettable. Since I am a transfer student, I decided not to study abroad a full semester as I wanted to enjoy the time I had on at Barnard while I was here. The Berlin trip for me was my study abroad and I absolutely loved it. Being a foreigner in a city was refreshing and invigorating. I loved being in a city with so much history and culture with my friends because we got to explore and learn everything together. The studio visits we took were special, intimate, and very useful. I had never visited an artist’s studio before; being in such a informal environment allowed for a very interesting conversation to develop. I also felt like I was able to gain insight into not only the work they shared, but also general advice on life and on pursuing an art career. Traveling with my fellow Art History/Visual Art major peers allowed me to get to know all of them better in a setting separate from the usual classroom. I also felt the trip allowed me to connect with my teachers in a more casual setting and allowed for conversations to bloom about their own lives and current artwork. I really enjoyed the museum visits we took and discussing the art with my friends while we were there and hearing their perspective. I have only traveled to Europe with my family before so this experience was quite new to me and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Berlin is an amazing hub for art and a very unique city. I loved getting food with friends, walking around the city and getting lost along the way, trying to find iced coffee, among many other things. I truly had an amazing time and will never forget my "study abroad" experience.

Jacqueline Tavs
I had a great time on the trip, all the visits felt meaningful and interesting. In particular I enjoyed Slavs and Tatars and the Hamburger Bahnhof. The curators at the Hamburger Bahnhof did a wonderful job describing their thought process while curating, which is something I feel like you never get to hear. I also really enjoyed Prem’s presentation of his work, because I feel like I learned a lot about a topic that I otherwise knew nothing about. I feel incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have gone on the trip.