

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Approved by the
Regents
May 21, 2015

Nadja Rottner, assistant professor of art history, Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of art history, with tenure, Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2009	Columbia University, New York, New York
M.A.	1998	Karl-Franzens Universität, Graz, Austria
Certificate	1999	Pedagogic Academy of the Diocese Graz-Seckau, Graz, Austria

Professional Record:

2009 – present	Assistant Professor of Art History, Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2007 – 2009	Instructor, Visual Studies Department, California College of the Arts, Oakland, California

Teaching: Professor Rottner is rated significantly capable in teaching. She has regularly taught an introductory art history survey, has offered a suite of upper-level courses in her area of specialization of modern art (including a new course on Twentieth Century Tradition of Collage, Montage, and Assemblage), has covered on two occasions the 400-level methods seminar, and is currently teaching the 400-level Museum Practice Seminar that will result in a student-run exhibition in the Berkowitz Gallery. She also co-taught the interdisciplinary course Studies in Detroit Culture in winter 2014. The numerical scores on Professor Rottner's student evaluations have risen over the years as a result of her extensive efforts to improve and enhance her teaching.

Research: Professor Rottner is rated excellent in her research. She has established herself as an expert on the American artist Claes Oldenburg, publishing an edited anthology on Oldenburg in the distinguished October Files series from the MIT Press and two essays on the artist, including one in the prestigious *Oxford Art Journal*. She has also published extensively on modern Latin American artists, with three articles or essays in print or in press, and another under review. Her external reviewers praise her for expanding our understanding of Oldenburg and his circle by examining lesser-studied works and under-appreciated influences on his art; for her focus on modern art's multi-media and performative elements; for the incorporation of Latin American artists into what has been the overwhelmingly European- and American-focused study of modern art; and for the clarity of her writing, whether she is describing complex or ephemeral works, summarizing sophisticated theoretical concepts, or analyzing the piece under scrutiny. Reviewers further predict her in-progress book on Oldenburg, rooted in extensive interviews with the artist as well as archival research, will make a mark in the field and significantly reshape how Oldenburg's oeuvre is regarded.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Claes Oldenburg. Boston: The MIT Press, 2012. 206 pages.

“Object Lessons,” in Nadja Rottner (Ed.), Claes Oldenburg, pp. 173-206.

“Oldenburg’s *Moveyhouse*: Performing a Cinema Without Film,” *Oxford Art Journal*, vol. 31, no. 1, 2012, pp. 1-18.

“The Imagistic Theater of Robert Whitman,” Modern Drama, vol. 58, no. 1, 2015 (in press).

Service: Professor Rottner is rated significantly capable in her service. She has been a good and conscientious citizen, performing the majority of her service in the discipline and department. She has served on three search committees in the fine arts area, represented fine arts at the department executive committee in 2011-12, acted as assessment coordinator for art history since 2012, and has played an active role in the advising of art history majors and the review of LEO lecturers. She has taken the initiative to create and maintain the fine arts Facebook page used to advertise courses, lectures, and other events both on and off campus.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “When put together with Professor Rottner’s excellent ability to place Oldenburg’s models of vision and aesthetic experience within various avant-garde and intellectual traditions, this kind of research shows her promise as a scholar and suggests her book project on Oldenburg will contribute much to our understanding of artists’ responses to cultural conditions of the late 20th century.”

Reviewer B: “As it stands, her 2012 October Files essay collection (including both primary texts and more recent scholarly studies) is arguably the single most important resource on Oldenburg available.”

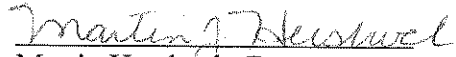
Reviewer C: “I find Dr. Rottner’s scholarship to be of a very high quality. Her research is systematic and thorough, and her writing combines detailed formalist analyses of works of art with careful attention to the theoretical, stylistic, and literary sources and inspirations for those works. Her publications offer an extensive and original study of trends in mid-twentieth century art by examining the confluence of what have traditionally been treated as discrete movements: expanded cinema, pop art, happenings, op art, conceptualism, and performance.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Rottner is one of a new generation of historians of contemporary art at the forefront of consolidating and expanding a new attitude towards art history based on intertwined histories across nations, regions and continents.”

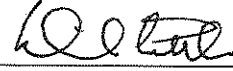
Reviewer E: “Professor Nadja Rottner has produced a substantive body of work over the past several years. Moreover, she is writing on an original cross section of art, artists, and art movements from Europe, as well as North and South America.”

Reviewer F: “Rottner has a distinct viewpoint which I am confident provides a significant contribution to the field. She deals with an interesting range of artists, and she handles all of their very different practices with assurance. She has a broad and acute historical and theoretical knowledge. And she writes with great exactitude and clarity about difficult material.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Rottner is an innovative scholar committed to continuing development as a teacher. We are very pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Nadja Rottner for promotion to associate professor of art history, with tenure, Department of Literature, Philosophy, and the Arts, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.



Martin Herschok, Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



Daniel Little, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

May 2015