

## Brittany Nicole Cox (b. USA, 1985)

Tel: 001.206.617.5799 | mechanicalcurios.com | bcox@mechanicalcurios.com

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### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Illuminating lost techniques used by ornamental turners of previous centuries for turning wood and ivory pieces, such as the Coburg Ivories.
  - Holography as related to guilloché on metal works.
  - Mechanical magic apparatus used and made by magicians past.
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### EDUCATION

#### **MA, Museum Studies**

**July 2013**

West Dean College, University of Sussex, West Sussex, England

*Dissertation title:* "A Preliminary Investigation into Materials used for Bellows Coverings in Smoking Automata"

*Committee:* Lorna Calcutt, David Dorning, Matthew Read

#### **Conservation of Clocks Post-Graduate Diploma, distinction**

**July 2012**

West Dean College, West Sussex, England

*Additional training in the following areas:*

- Leather Conservation training with The Leather Conservation Centre
- Papier-mâché under the tutelage of David Farrer
- Organ Building under the tutelage of Andrew Butterworth
- Silversmithing under the tutelage of John Norgate

#### **Conservation and Restoration of Clocks Diploma**

**July 2011**

West Dean College, West Sussex, England.

*Additional training in the following areas:*

- Gilding under the tutelage of Judy Wetherall
- Silversmithing under the tutelage of John Norgate
- Blacksmithing under the tutelage of Andrew Smith
- Hand engraving under the tutelage of Wayne Parrot
- Wood working and dovetailing under the tutelage of Tom Kealy and Norbert Gutowski
- Lacquering under the tutelage of Francis Brodie
- Techniques in Horological polishing and finishing with Charles Frodsham & Co Ltd
- Mechanical music repair under the tutelage of Alan Godier

#### **Watchmakers of Switzerland Training and Education Programme Certification**

**August 2010**

Watch Technology Institute, Seattle Washington, USA, 2010

#### **Swiss American Watchmakers Training Alliance Certification**

**August 2010**

Watch Technology Institute, Seattle Washington, USA

#### **Certified Watchmaker of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, CW21 Certification**

**August 2010**

Watch Technology Institute, Seattle Washington, USA

#### **BA, Philosophy, Cum Laude**

**May 2008**

University of Texas at San Antonio, USA

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### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Micro-mechanics and manufacture with Phillip Peck, Mitchell Peck, Abington, PA

**2017**

Manufacture of singing bird mechanisms with Efim Shargorodsky, New Holland, PA

**2017**

Mount making workshop with James Hascall, Mount Making Focus, Seattle, WA

**2017**

Traditional clockmaking with David Lindow, Lindow Machine Works, Lake Ariel, PA

**2015 /2016**

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Professional Associate of the American Institute of Conservation  
of Historic and Artistic Works and Self-Employed Conservator**

**2012 - Current**

*Memoria Technica, Seattle Washington, USA*

Horological conservation and restoration of automata, mechanical music objects, mechanical magic, and complicated clocks and watches. Assessment and stabilization to full, in-depth conservation and analysis, as well as bespoke services. Client outreach, management, finances, public engagement, responsible for conservation interns, build out of workshop, and curriculum development for classes.

**Planetary Environment Exploration Team, NASA** **October 2019**

Bench training for the manufacture and assembly of instruments for planetary environments, Goddard Space Flight Center, Green Belt, MD, USA.

**Conservator, Seattle Art Museum** **November 2015**

Custom key fitted for medieval period chest, Seattle, WA, USA

**Conservator, Seattle Art Museum** **October 2014**

Assessment, treatment, documentation of the mechanical components of Claes Oldenburg Ice Bag Scale B, Pop Departures Exhibition, Seattle, WA, USA

**Project Manager, Harmon Horological Workshop Catalogue and Liquidation** **2013 - 2014**

*Wolcott, Connecticut, USA*

Assessment, cataloguing, valuation, and sale of contents of 5,000 square foot workshop, including thousands of tools, books, and other horological ephemera.

**Junior Conservator, West Dean College** **2012**

Cataloguing, assessment, documentation, cleaning, reassembly of the National Trust Anglesey Abbey's complicated musical automaton Pagoda clock, UK

**Conservation Internship, Museum Speelklok** **2012**

Conservation of automata and mechanical music objects, Netherlands

**Project Developer/Funding, West Dean College** **2010 - 2012**

Research, grant writing, assessment, cross disciplinary collaboration and proposals for Temple Newsam's George Pyke Clock Conservation Project

**Guest Curator, Handel House Museum** **2010 - 2013**

Research and development of "The Triumph of Time over Music: George Frideric Handel and Charles Clay's Musical Clocks"

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## TEACHING & ADVISING

**Guilloché Instructor and Private Tutor, Memoria Technica** **2015 – Current**

Developed curriculum for advanced and beginner's engine turning classes with support of Watch Technology Institute and The University of Washington Art and Sculpture Department. Collaboration with specialists in the field as visiting tutors.

**Tutor/Event Lead, The Field Trip Society** **2017-Current**

Toy Automata, guilloché, and musical box classes

**Tutor/Event lead, Girl Scouts of Western Washington** **2017**

Toy automata class and history of horology, developed for earning a horology badge

**Tutor/Event lead, Atlas Obscura** **2016 - 2018**

Guilloché, Mechanical Music, Cardboard Automata workshops for adults and children

**Guest Tutor, Watch Technology Institute, Seattle WA** **2012 – 2013**

Visiting tutor, lecturer on specialist topics in antiquarian horology

**Short Course Tutor, Terrarium Craft, West Dean College** **2012**

Developed short course on botany and terrarium craft, taught over one day

**Organizer/Tutor, One day Watchmaking Workshop, West Dean College** **2011**

Developed one day workshop for interested staff and students to bring and learn about a family heirloom and the history of watchmaking

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## ACADEMIC HONOURS AND AWARDS

Finalist, Museum of Arts and Design Inaugural Burke Prize **2018**

Awarded the Antiquarian Horological Society (AHS) Prize **2012**

Outstanding work performed on an automaton ship

Awarded the West Dean College Chairman's Prize **2012**

Conservation work performed on automata

Recipient of a Women's Jewellery Association Scholarship **2012**

MA studies at West Dean College

Recipient of a Scholarship from the York Foundation for Conservation and Craftsmanship **2012**

MA studies at West Dean College	
Recipient an Edward James Foundation Scholarship	2012
MA studies at West Dean College	
Monument Trust Scholar	2011-2012
Academic Year including full tuition and accommodation fees, West Dean College	
Recipient of an Edward James Foundation scholarship	2011-2012
Recipient of the St Roche's Scholarship	2010-2011
Academic Year including full tuition and accommodation fees, West Dean College	
Recipient of a Women's Jewellery Association Scholarship	2010-2011
West Dean College	
Awarded a travel grant, Furniture History Society	2011
Research relating to a dissertation on royal clocks by Charles Clay, John & George Pyke	
Who's who, Dean's List, and Presidents list	2004-2007
Distinguished for academic achievement, UTSA	
Lifetime membership to Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honour Society	2005
Based on academic achievement, UTSA	
Lifetime membership Alpha Chi National Honour Society	2005
Based on academic achievement, UTSA	
Lifetime membership Mortar Board	2005
Based on academic achievement, UTSA	

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## PUBLICATIONS

- Cox, Brittany N. Ed. Daniel Bunyard. London: Penguin, manuscript in preparation.
- Cox, Brittany N. and David Lindow. "Looking at Guilloché in Conservation." American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works Post Prints, 2018.
- Cox, Brittany N. and Al Collins. *Sacred Geometry: A 16<sup>th</sup> Century Coloring Book*. Seattle: Memoria Technica, 2016.
- Cox, Brittany N. and Al Collins. *Sacred Geometry: Book of Receipts*. Seattle: Memoria Technica, 2016.
- Cox, Brittany N. "George Frideric Handel and Musical Clocks." Furniture History Society Newsletter, No.190, May 2013.
- Cox, Brittany N. "God Save the King - The Automaton Ship and Silver Shagreen Case." Antiquarian Horology, Volume 33, Issue 5, September 2012.
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## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition forthcoming, *Good Witch/Bad Witch*, Museum of Museums, Seattle Washington, October 2020.

*Cochlea, Snail* on display at Museum of Arts and Design, NY, New York. "The Future of Craft Part 2". October 2018 - March 2019. Details: <https://madmuseum.org/exhibition/burke-prize-2018>

Children's Museum of Manhattan, NY, New York. "It's About Time: A Career in Gears -Magician or Mechanic." November 2018 - ongoing. Details: <http://cmom.org/exhibitions/#its-about-time>

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### PRINT MEDIA

- Gulati, Shweta. National Geographic Magazine, pending publication 2020.
- Freidenrich, Emily. "The Antiquarian Horologist." Almost Lost Arts, Chronicle Books, September 2019.
- DeTillio, Samantha. Metalsmith Magazine. June 2019. "Mechanical Magic: The Automata of Brittany Cox".
- Berbegal, Peter. "In the (Uncanny) Valley of the Dolls." Strange Frequencies: the Extraordinary Story of the Technological Quest for the Supernatural, Penguin Books, 2018, pp.15-34.
- Kearns, Kristin. 2018. Burke Prize, exhibition catalogue. October 3, 2018 – March 17, 2019, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY.
- McClune, Danielle. ARCADE Magazine. 13 November 2018. "Designing Time: Antiquarian Horology and the Meaning of Craft." Available online at: <http://arcadenw.org/article/designing-time>

- Reddinger, Paige. Robb Report: Muse. 22 October 2018. "Ever Met an Antiquarian Horologist? How Brittany Nicole Cox brings the robots of yesterday back to life." Available online at: <https://robbreport.com/muse/discoveries/meet-an-antiquarian-horologist-2824090/>
- Liffman, Taz. Smith Journal. Summer 2018. "A Matter of Time."
- Craighead, Caroline. Seattle Magazine. March 2018. "On the Clock."
- Seim, Carrie. "Ahead of Her Time. Horologist Q & A." NY Post, Alexa Magazine, The Watch Issue. October 2017.
- The Stranger, Cortes, Amber. 6 September 2017. "Person of Interest: Antiquarian Horologist Nico Cox's World of Mechanical Clocks and Automaton Birds." Available online at: <http://www.thestranger.com/person-of-interest/2017/09/06/25390373/person-of-interest-antiquarian-horologist-nico-coxs-world-of-mechanical-clocks-and-automaton-birds>
- The Independent, Pozniak, Helena, 10 May 2012. "Conservation Courses: Breathe life into old treasures." Available online at: <http://www.independent.co.uk/student/postgraduate/postgraduate-study/conservation-courses-breathe-life-into-old-treasures-7733183.html>

## RADIO/TELEVISION

- Culyba, Michael. Director. Keeper of Time, in production.
- Larson, Margaret. Host. New Day Northwest. 4 September 2019. Available online at: <https://www.king5.com/article/entertainment/television/programs/new-day-northwest/almost-lost-arts-book-emily-friedenrich-horologist-brittany-nico-cox/281-efb27dd8-87cb-4ffd-a7bb-60fd14fb5c55>
- Roach, Stephen. Makers and Mystics podcast. 5 October 2018. Available online at: <http://www.makersandmystics.com/makersandmystics/2018/10/5/s4-e10-nico-cox-on-the-art-of-keeping-time>
- Karlinksy, Malia. Interview by Malia Karlinksy. Komo. Seattled Refined. 25 April 2017. "Seattle's Own Brittany Nicole Cox is one of the few Antiquarian Horologists in the world." Available online at: [https://sinclairstoryline.com/renderer/seattlerefined/people/seattles-brittany-nicole-cox-bringing-amazing-automata-back-to-life?LatestContent&\\_id=1524687317838](https://sinclairstoryline.com/renderer/seattlerefined/people/seattles-brittany-nicole-cox-bringing-amazing-automata-back-to-life?LatestContent&_id=1524687317838)
- Family, Farhod and Andrew Lampard. Interview by Andrew Lampard. CNN. Great Big Story. 21 March 2017. "A Craft of Future Past: Mastering Antiquarian Horology." Available online at: <http://www.greatbigstory.com/stories/fixing-restoring-and-preserving-cutting-edge-machines-of-the-past>
- Guppy, Nancy. Interview by Nancy Guppy. Art Zone. Seattle Channel. 24 February 2017. "The Magical World of Brittany Nicole Cox." Available online at: <http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos?videoid=x70829>
- Spitzer, Gabriel. Interview by Gabriel Spitzer. KPLU. News for Seattle and the Pacific Northwest Blog. 28 August 2015. "Seattle Horologist Masters Clockwork to Make Time Travel and Stand Still." Available online at: <http://www.kplu.org/post/seattle-horologist-masters-clockwork-make-time-travel-and-stand-still>
- Spitzer, Gabriel. 22 August 2015. "Ticking Clock: Sound Effect Episode 33." Audio blog post. *News for Seattle and the Pacific Northwest*. KPLU 88.5. Available online at: <http://www.kplu.org/post/ticking-clock-sound-effect-episode-33>

## WEBSITE PUBLICATIONS

- FHH Journal. Bazemore, Cait. 24 January 2020. "Brittany Cox, an exceptional horological conservator – part two." Available online at: <https://journal.hautehorlogerie.org/en/brittany-cox-an-exceptional-horological-conservator-part-two/>
- FHH Journal. Bazemore, Cait. 23 January 2020. "Brittany Cox, an exceptional horological conservator – part one." Available online at: <https://journal.hautehorlogerie.org/en/brittany-cox-an-exceptional-horological-conservator-part-one/>
- Atlas Obscura. Infrequently Asked Questions, November 2019. Available online at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZeu63dDmzM&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZeu63dDmzM&feature=emb_logo)
- Dialogue. Boshernitsan, Rimma. 16 March 2019. "Time Well Spent." Available online at: <https://www.in-dialogue.co/dialogue-voices-archive/2019/5/12/horologist-brittany-nicole-cox>
- The Naked Watchmaker. 22 October 2018. "People 12 Questions: Brittany Nicole Cox, Antiquarian Horologist." Available online at: <https://www.thenakedwatchmaker.com/people-brittany-cox-1>
- Watchonista, Meier, Jérôme. 27 February 2018. "Events: Brittany Nicole Cox Lecture at The Horological

- Society of New York.” Available online at: <https://www.watchonista.com/articles/events/events-brittany-nicole-cox-lecture-horological-society-new-york>
- Hodinkee, Manousos, Nicholas. 27 February 2018. “Happenings: Brittany Nicole Cox to Lecture at the Horological Society of New York.” Available online at: <https://www.hodinkee.com/articles/Brittany-nicole-cox-horological-society-of-new-york-lecture>
- Worn and Wound, Alexandersen, Christian. 1 August 2017. “Interview: Mechanical Magic with Antiquarian Horologist Brittany Cox.” Available online at: <http://wornandwound.com/interview-mechanical-magic-antiquarian-horologist-brittany-cox/>
- Worn and Wound, Ryvin, Ilya. 11 May 2017. “Around the Web: Meet Brittany Nicole Cox, Antiquarian Horologist.” Available online at: <http://wornandwound.com/around-the-web-meet-brittany-nichole-cox-antiquarian-horologist/>
- Hodinkee, Pulvirent, Stephen. 23 February 2017. “How to Make Complicated 18th Century Clocks Work (and Look) like New Again.” Available online at: <https://www.hodinkee.com/articles/atlas-obscura-recommended-reading-clock-restoration>
- Atlas Obscura, Holmes, Tao Tao. 6 February 2017. “How an Antiquarian Horologist Brings Tiny Machines Back to Life.” Available online at: <http://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/how-an-antiquarian-horologist-brings-tiny-machines-back-to-life>
- Museums + Heritage, 27 March 2015. "Ground-Breaking Work to Restore 250-Year-Old Anglesey Abbey Clock Completed." Available online at: <http://www.museumsandheritage.com/advisor/news/item/4157>
- BBC News, 24 March 2015. "Anglesey Abbey pagoda clock in 'ground breaking' restoration." Available online at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-32016832>
- Radiolab Blogland, Levy, Lynn, June 2014. “The Timekeeper’s Things.” Available online at <http://www.radiolab.org/story/timekeepers-things/>
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## CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, University of Washington Visiting Artist Lecture, Seattle, February 2020.
- Speaker, University of Washington Visiting Artist Lecture, Seattle, November 2019.
- Speaker, The Museum of Jurassic Technology, Los Angeles, November 2019.
- Speaker, The Interval by the Long Now Foundation, San Francisco, August 2019.
- Speaker, University of Washington Visiting Artist Lecture, Seattle, May 2019.
- Speaker, Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum Historic Morse Design Lecture Series, *Designing the Sublime: Mechanism, risk, & wonder*, New York, May 2019.
- Speaker, Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, *Designing Time*, New York, June 2018.
- Speaker, Creative Mornings, *Craft*, Seattle, June 2018.
- Speaker, Seattle Metals Guild, *Guilloché: Its History and Application*, Seattle, April 2018.
- Speaker, Horological Society of New York, *Horological Conservation: A Preliminary Study of Bellows Materials in Smoking Automata*, New York, March 2018.
- Organizer & Speaker, *The Magic of Horology*, Horological Lecture Series in partnership with the Stimson Green Mansion Historic Trust House, Seattle Washington, 2018 - Ongoing.
- Representative, West Dean College, American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works Conference, May 2017.
- Speaker, Ornamental Turners International Symposium, *Engine Turned Pottery*, Denver Colorado, 2016.
- Speaker, Ornamental Turners International Symposium, *Holography as Related to Guilloché*, Denver Colorado, 2016.
- Speaker, American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Canadian Association for Conservation Joint Conference, *Looking at Guilloché in Conservation*, Montreal, Canada 2016.
- Speaker, AutomataCon, *Restoring Antique Automata Panel*, Morris Museum New Jersey, USA, 2016.
- Panel Moderator and Speaker, AutomataCon, *Clockworks: Horology Tools and Techniques*, Morris Museum New Jersey, USA 2016.
- Speaker, National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, *Musical Clocks by Charles Clay*, Seattle, WA, 2014.
- Speaker, *Antique Automata*, Seattle Opera, The Tales of Hoffman, USA 2014.
- Speaker, Western Association of Art Conservation Conference, *Conservation Methods and Materials used for Smoking Automata*, Seattle Art Museum, USA 2013.
- Speaker, National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, *Fine Automata and Mechanical Music*, Seattle, WA 2013.

Speaker, Antiquarian Horology Society, *Temple Newsam House's George Pyke Musical Clock*, UK, 2011.

Speaker, Handel House Museum, *Clocks by Charles Clay and John and George Pyke featuring original music by Handel*, UK, 2011.

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## COLLECTIONS

Guilloché Coasters set of 10, private collection, UK.

Guilloché Coasters set of 4, private collection, Sammamish, WA.

Guilloché Mineral Stands, limited edition of 10, private collections.

Guilloché Drawing Spinning Tops, limited edition of 15, private collections.

Limited edition of 24 signed book set with guilloché bookmark, private collections.

Wooden engine turned box, private collection, San Antonio, Texas.

Fox automaton toy, private collection, Seattle, WA.

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## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Working volunteer at Bowes Museum servicing and assessing the condition of permanent collection pieces, UK, 2011.

Working volunteer at Windsor Castle assessing the Crystal Casket organ clock by Charles Clay, UK, 2011.

Working volunteer at Temple Newsam House servicing and assessing the condition of a ca. 1765 automaton organ clock by George Pyke, UK, 2011.

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## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), Professional Associate (active)

Western Association for Art Conservation (WAAC) (past member)

Antiquarian Horological Society (AHS) (active)

American Watchmakers - Clockmakers Institute (AWCI) (past member)

Ornamental Turners International (OTI) (active)

Musical Box Society International (MBSI) (past member)

Washington Watch and Clockmakers Association (WWCA) (past member)

National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) (past member)

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References available upon request.