

Elena Fumagalli is Full Professor of Art History in the Department of Studies on Language and Culture of the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia. She teaches courses in Early Modern History of Art, Social History of Art, Comparative History of the Art of European Countries (the latter in French).

She has worked mostly on the history of painting in Italy in the early modern period, especially in the seventeenth century, and on art patronage and collecting practices. She has published essays on the history of palaces and villas in Rome, Florence, Naples, Modena, with a special focus on large-scale decorations and the display of art. For many years, she has been working on the patronage and collecting practices of many important families of the Antico Regime (Borghese, Medici, Este). Another field she has focused on is genre painting, and especially still lifes. In recent years, she has worked on the social aspects of the lives of artists and on the profession of painter in Italy in the sixteenth and seventeenth century. Her work has led to numerous conferences, publications, and exhibitions in important museums such as the Uffizi, the Galleria Palatina in Florence, and the Musée Fesch in Ajaccio.

Education

After obtaining an undergraduate scholarship from the Fondazione Lemmermann in Rome (1985-1986), Elena Fumagalli graduated *summa cum laude* at the Università degli Studi di Firenze in 1986 (main advisor prof. Mina Gregori; co-advisor Prof. Joseph Connors, Columbia University). She obtained a doctoral degree in 1992 (III cycle, Università La Sapienza, Rome) and a Master Diploma in History of Modern Art from the Scuola di Specializzazione in Archeologia e Storia dell'arte of the Università di Siena, in 1997.

She was *pensionnaire* at the Academie Francais in Rome (1991-1992), holder of a post-doctoral fellowship from Università di Bologna (1993-1995), Fellow at Villa I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, Florence (1995-1996). She worked in Naples at the Seconda Università di Napoli as Assistant Professor (1997-2000) and as Associate Professor (2000-2005). Since a.a. 2005-2006 she has been working as Associate Professor at Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia. She is Full Professor from 2018.

Main Research Experiences

From the mid-1980s, Elena Fumagalli has been working with international research groups and especially French. For more than thirty years, she has been collaborating with the Académie de France in Rome, as author and editor of publications, member of scientific committees for exhibitions and A level journals (*Studiolo*).

From 2003 to 2010, she was a member of the international research group which produced the volume *Painting for Profit. The Economic Lives of Seventeenth-Century Italian Painters* (Yale University Press, 2010)

Since 2014, she has been participating in the international research project PICTOR (EPHE Paris; Université de Genève, Barcelona, Zaragoza, Gand, Modena, Toulouse, Perpignan), which focuses on the professional and social lives of Western European painters in the sixteenth century from a comparative perspective.

Since the 1990s, she regularly collaborates with Florence state museums organizing temporary exhibitions and editing catalogs.

At a national level, she has participated in projects financed through PRIN funds (2008) and through university FAR funds (2011, 2015, 2019 and 2022).

Scientific positions

She has organized and curated the exhibitions *L'arme and gli amori. La poesia di Ariosto, Tasso e Guarini nell'arte fiorentina del Seicento* (Florence, Palazzo Pitti, 21 June-6 January 2002, with Massimiliano Rossi and Riccardo Spinelli); "*Filosofico umore*" e "*maravigliosa speditezza*". *Pittura napoletana del Seicento dalle collezioni medicee* (Florence, Uffizi, 18 June 2007-6 January 2008); *Florence au Grand Siècle entre peinture et littérature* (Ajaccio, Musée Fesch, 30 June-4 October 2011, with Massimiliano Rossi).

She has been a member of scientific committees for various exhibitions in Italy: *Natura morta a palazzo e in villa. Le collezioni dei Medici e dei Lorena* (Firenze, Galleria Palatina, June-October 1998); *Villa Medici. Il sogno di un cardinale. Collezioni e artisti di Ferdinando de' Medici* (Rome Academie Francais, 18 November 1999-5 March 2000); *I Teatri del Paradiso. La personalità, l'opera, il mecenatismo di Giulio Rospigliosi (papa Clemente IX)* (Pistoia, Museo civico, 22 October 2000-7 January 2001); *Nelle antiche cucine* (Villa medicea di Poggio a Caiano/PO, Museo della natura morta, 4 July-25 October 2015).

Since 2002 she is on the editorial board of the journal "Studiolo".

Since 2011 she is one of the editorial board of the journal "Paragone Arte". Since November 2024, she is Editor of "Paragone Arte" (with Mina Gregori).

Since 2010 she is a member of the Scientific Committee for the series *Museologia e Museografia 'Le Voci del Museo'* (Edifir, Florence).

Since 2022 she is member of the editorial board of "Intrecci d'arte", journal of the Department of Arts, University of Bologna.

Since 2022 she is member of the Scientific Committee for the series "Progetto collezionismo in Galleria Borghese".

Since 2024 she is member of the Scientific Committee for Arthena.

She serves as anonymous referee for numerous journals and has been official evaluator for national and international research projects.

In the year 2020, she was a member of the national commission for the compilation of the guidelines of the National Research Programme 2021/27, with regard to the field Historical Literary and Artistic Disciplines in the field 'Humanistic Culture Creativity Society of Inclusion'.

Since 2019 she is a member of the SHS-4 (Sciences Humaines et Sociales) committee of the Belgian Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS).

Since 2022, she is a member of the scientific committee of the Musée du Grand Siècle.

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

She was Director of DHMoRe (Interdepartmental Research Centre on Digital Humanities, University of Modena & Reggio Emilia) from April 2019 to October 2020.

She was a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in the years 2020/2024. In 2024 she was reelected for the years 2025/2028.

From Novembre 2024 she is Vice Director of the Department of Studies on Language and Culture.

Teaching activities

She has held courses in undergraduate programs, graduate programs, and specialization schools at the universities of Calabria, Firenze and Udine.

She has been a member of the national doctoral commissions (Alma Mater Università di Bologna, Firenze, Napoli Federico II, Padova, Pisa, Roma Tre, Salento, Salerno, La Sapienza Università di Roma, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, SUM Istituto italiano di Scienze Umane, Tuscia) and international ones (European University Institute, Firenze; École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris)

In 2012 she was Directeur d'étude invité at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris.

Since 2011/12 she is a member of the Academic Board of the PhD in History of art, cinema, audiovisual media and music of the Università degli Studi di Udine. (except for 2018/19-2020/21, when she was a member of the Academic Board of the PhD in Scienze umanistiche of the Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia).

Other

Since 2009 she has been co-opted member of the Italian CIHA (Comité International d'Histoire de l'Art), where she served twice as Treasurer in the Board of Directors.

In 2016 she received the Prix du Rayonnement de la Langue et de la Littérature françaises from the Académie Française of Paris for her more than thirty-years of collaboration with French institutions and leading figures in history of art.

In 2018 she was appointed Accademica d'Onore of Accademia delle Arti del Disegno of Florence, category of Art History.