

# LUCÍA AYALA

Art & Astronomy Historian

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## Profile

Dr. Lucía Ayala (Spain, 1980), art historian, works on the reciprocal relationships of art and science, mainly in the contexts of European early modern art, astronomy, contemporary astrophysics and contemporary media art. In 2011, she got an European PhD in Art History, in cotutelle between the Humboldt University of Berlin and the University of Granada. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the Office for History of Science and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley.

Ayala has worked as an assistant professor in the Art History Department at the University of Granada, and as assistant director at the Media Center of Art & Design, Barcelona. She was an associate member of the research group "The technical image" in the Hermann von Helmholtz-Zentrum für Kulturtechnik at the Humboldt University of Berlin.

She collaborates regularly with artists and scientists, mostly around technological discourses and cosmology. She is co-author of the project "Liquid Things", funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF and hosted by the Art & Science Department of the University of Applied Arts, Vienna. She is a founder member of "Fluid Skies", a collaborative project together with the astrophysicist Dr. Jaime E. Forero-Romero and the artist Yunchul Kim.

Since 2015, Ayala is a Member of Parliament in Andalusia (Spain).

## Education

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 2012 - 2013 | Postdoctorate research<br>Office for History of Science and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley  |
| 2013        | Accreditation of PhD Lecturer / Assistant Professor (University teaching staff bodies assessment)<br>Spanish National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ANECA) |
| 2008 - 2011 | PhD in Art History (European Doctorate)<br>Humboldt University of Berlin and University of Granada  |
| 2006 - 2007 | Postgraduate research<br>Academy of Media Arts Cologne  |
| 2005 - 2006 | Specialization on Creation of Contents and Tutorization in Virtual Education Environments<br>Center of Virtual Educations, University of Granada                              |

- 2004 - 2005      Master on Curatorial and Cultural Practices in Art and New Media  
Media Center of Art & Design and Ramon Llull University, Barcelona
- 2004              CAP/Postgraduate Certificate in Education  
University of Granada
- 1998 - 2003      Bachelor of Art History  
University of Granada

## Work Experience

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- 2015              Conference; Conference Centre, Granada  
Forum of Andalusian Culture  
Organizer
- 2013              Popularization of astronomy; Los Andes University, Bogota  
Project *Astronomia periférica (Peripheral astronomy)*  
Advisory Board
- 2012 - ...        Editorial project; Researching, Training and Creativity Association  
Scientific journal "Revista Sonda: Investigación y Docencia en Artes y Letras"  
("Sonda Journal: Research and Teaching in Arts and Humanities")  
Member of the editorial board
- 2012              Research project; Art & Science Department, University of Applied Arts, Vienna  
Project *Liquid Things* (funded by Austrian Science Fund FWF)  
Key Researcher
- 2012              Scientific assistance; Kulturforum, Berlin  
Exhibition *Von mehr als einer Welt. Die Künste der Aufklärung*  
Curator adviser, author
- 2011 - 2012      Cultural management; Schering Stiftung, Academy of Sciences and Humanities,  
and Korean Culture Center, Berlin  
Project *Carved Air* (exhibition, symposium, concerts, talks), by *Fluid Skies*  
Researcher, curator and team member
- 2011              Cultural management; Art Laboratory Berlin  
Project *Time & Technology* (exhibitions and symposium)  
Curator assistant
- 2008              Cultural management; online magazine *Elniuton.com*  
*Analogize*, Vol. 8  
Editor, guest curator and art critic
- 2008              Cultural management; University of Granada  
Symposium *New Media and Socio-Cultural Reality in Contemporary Audiovisual  
Creation*

Working team

- 2007 - 2008 Cultural management; Sala Santa Inés, Seville  
International exhibition *Multimedia Images for a Complex World*  
Curatorial team
- 2005 - 2008 Intern professor, Institute for Art History at the University of Granada  
Fields: Art History (Modern & Contemporary Art, History of Drawing), Art Theory,  
Aesthetics, New Media, Museology
- 2005 - 2006 Cultural management; Media Center of Art & Design, Barcelona  
Direction assistant

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## Grants & Research Stays

- 2012 - 2013 Research fellowship by the DAAD (Postdoctoral Program of the German Academic Exchange Service)  
Post-doctoral position at the University of California, Berkeley
- 2010 - 2011 Scholarship by the Gerda Henkel Foundation (*Promotionsstipendium*)  
PhD at the Humboldt University of Berlin
- 2008 - 2010 Scholarship by the DAAD and laCaixa Foundation  
Postgraduate studies at the Humboldt University of Berlin
- 2006 - 2007 Scholarship by the Ministry of Education, Spain  
Research stay at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne
- 2005 Scholarship by the Ministry of Education, Spain  
Research stay at the Media Center of Art & Design Barcelona
- 2004 - 2007 Scholarship by the Ministry of Education, Spain  
FPU (Training of Professors)

## PhD Thesis

- Title Las imágenes de los *Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes* de Bernard Le Bovier de Fontenelle. Visualizaciones astronómicas de una pluralidad de mundos /  
Die Bebilderung der *Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes* von Bernard Le Bovier de Fontenelle. Astronomische Visualisierungen einer Vielzahl von Welten
- Area & subject Art History; Astronomy; Engraving; Early Modern and Modern Europe
- Advisors Prof. Dr. Horst Bredekamp  
Institute for Image & Art History, Humboldt University of Berlin  
Prof. Dr. Ignacio Henares Cuéllar  
Institute for Art & Music History, University of Granada
- Degree Doctor philosophiae by the Humboldt University of Berlin

	Doctor philosophiae and European Doctorate by the University of Granada
Grade	Summa cum laude
Award	Special Doctorate Award, University of Granada

## List of publications

### • Refereed articles and refereed book chapters

- 2015 "Cosmology After Copernicus: Decentralisation of the Sun and the Plurality of Worlds in French Engravings", in Wolfgang Neuber, Thomas Rahn and Claus Zittel (eds.), *The Making of Copernicus. Early Modern Transformations of a Scientist and His Science*, Leiden/Boston: Brill, publication series Intersections, Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture, Vol. 36, pp. 201-226.
- 2014 "Cosmological and Cosmopolitan Ideas of a Plurality of Worlds in the Early Enlightenment: Fontenelle, Juan Olivar and Bernard Picart", in Sonja Neef, Henry Sussman and Dietrich Boschung (eds.), *Astroculture: Figurations of Cosmology in Media and Arts*, Munich: Fink, pp. 45-60.
- 2014 "The Universe in Images: an Art Historical Approach to the Plurality of Worlds", in Nicholas Campion and Rolf Sinclair (eds.), *Culture and Cosmos. A Journal of the History of Astrology and Cultural Astronomy: The Inspiration of Astronomical Phenomena*, Wales: Culture and Cosmos & Sophia Centre Press, Vol. 16 Nr. 1 and 2, pp. 283-303.
- 2013 "Computer Simulations in a Cosmological Context", co-authored with Jaime E. Forero-Romero, in Eckhart Arnold and Juan Duran (eds.), *Computer Simulations and the Changing Face of Scientific Experimentation*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, pp. 172-192.
- 2013 "Worlds and Systems in Early Modern Europe", in Michael J. Way and Deidre Hunter (eds.), *Origins of the Expanding Universe: 1912-1932*, San Francisco: Astronomical Society of the Pacific Conf. Ser., Vol. 471, pp. 193-204.
- 2012 "Die Vielheit der Welten", in Moritz Wullen, Michael Lailach and Jörg Völlnagel (eds.), *Von mehr als einer Welt. Die Künste der Aufklärung*, Berlin: Michael Imhof Verlag, pp. 51-57.
- 2011 "Visualising Matter and Cosmologies: an Example Based on a Transhistorical Approach", co-authored with Jaime E. Forero-Romero, in *Column 7*, Sydney: Artspace, pp. 76-82.
- 2011 "El pluriverso en la historia del arte", in *Anales de Historia del Arte*, Madrid: Complutense University, pp. 57-67.

• **Books**

- 2012 (editor and author) *Yunchul Kim. Carved Air*, Berlin: argobooks, Vol. 3, Ernst Schering Foundation's Publication Series.
- 2012 (author) *Las imágenes de los Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes de Bernard Le Bovier de Fontenelle / Die Bebilderung der Entretiens sur la Pluralité des Mondes von Bernard Le Bovier de Fontenelle*, Granada: Granada University Press.

• **Non-refereed articles, catalogue texts and other contributions**

- 2016 *PODEMOS: Una historia colectiva*, Manuel Guedán (ed.), Madrid: Akal.
- 2012 „Kunst ist nicht dazu da, spröde naturwissenschaftliche Theorien aufzuhübschen!“, interview with Lucía Ayala, by Katharina Helwig, in *KUNST Magazine*, Vol. 1211: Physik, Berlin: KUNST Verlag, pp. 8–13.
- 2012 "Fluid Mechanics in Maelstrom", in Roman Kirschner (ed.), *Maelstrom*, Berlin: Revolver, pp. 27–53.
- 2012 "Cuerpo, tecnología y sueños en los inicios de la Era del Telescopio", in Guillermo Cano Rojas (ed.), *Exhibition catalog Líquidos a 37°*, Valencia: Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, pp. 36–41.
- 2010 "The emancipated Instant (Visionary Telephantization of the Performance when Random Deceives Itself)", in *Elniuton.com*, n. 11.
- 2010 "Surpassing Human Nature. Reinventions of and for the Body as a Consequence of Astronomical Experiments in 17th and 18th Centuries", in *Metaverse Creativity*, Vol. 1, n. 1, Bristol: Intellect Journals, pp. 101–113.
- 2009 "Theo Jansen's Strandbeesten. The intelligent body or analogized cognition", in *Elniuton.com*, n. 10.
- 2009 "Transmediale.09: Deep North. Una mirada desde el Sur", in *Elniuton.com*.
- 2008 "Getting Dirty with Streaming. Or How to Mutate the Digital without Splashing", Editorial for the digital magazine *Elniuton.com*, n. 8.
- 2008 "Ralf Baecker: Is the Universe an Analogue Computer?", in *Elniuton.com*, n. 8.
- 2008 "Markus Kison: When Neurobiology and Web 2.0 are Transformed into Art", in *Elniuton.com*, n. 8.
- 2008 Interviews with Aram Bartholl, atofactory, and Ralf Baecker, in *Elniuton.com*, n. 8.
- 2008 "El artista obediente. Una visión crítica de las metodologías de archivo e historización del arte electrónico y digital", in *Congreso Internacional de Patrimonio*

*y Expresión Gráfica, V Bienal Universitaria Internacional*, Granada: University of Granada Press.

- 2008 "Medios para niños sin miedos", in Jesús Rubio Lapaz and Ximena Hidalgo Vásquez (eds.), *Simposio Internacional Nuevos Medios y Realidad Sociocultural en la Creación Audiovisual Contemporánea*, Granada: Editorial Universidad de Granada, pp. 159–170.
- 2008 Several texts (15) for Jesús Rubio Lapaz (ed.), *Exhibition Catalog Imágenes multimedia de un mundo complejo. Visiones desde ambos lados del Atlántico*, Granada: Centro de Cultura Contemporánea de la Universidad de Granada.
- 2006 "Reflexiones acerca de las interrelaciones culturales: algunas propuestas de artistas mexicanos actuales", in *La multiculturalidad en las artes y en la arquitectura*, Vol. 1, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria: Anroat, pp. 153–158.
- 2006 Interview with Fran Ilich, co-authored with Sara Costantini, in Magazine *Art.es*, n. 9.
- 2005 "Interactividad simbólica en la obra de Rafael Lozano-Hemmer", in *Interacción*, Madrid: Thomson/Paraninfo.
- 2005 "Margarita Schultz: Estética de las producciones digitales. ¿Una nueva ontología?", in *Report of the symposium Art & Media*, Barcelona.

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## Lectures, talks, and seminars

- 2015 "Art, History and Science: A Dialog through Practices, Theories and Times", *Seminar of Astronomy and Space Sciences*, Bogota: Auditorio del Museo de Arte del Banco de la República.
- 2014 "The Fluid Materiality of the Sky", *European Society for Astronomy and Culture (SEAC) 2014: The Materiality of the Sky*, Valletta: Malta University, Old University Building.
- 2014 "The Dark Ages of Cosmic Structure Research", *International Astronomical Union (IAU) Symposium 308: The Zeldovich Universe. Genesis and Growth of the Cosmic Web*, Tallin: Tallinn University Conference Centre.
- 2014 "International Convergence Project: Art & Science", *Academy Program for Training Curators*, Seoul: Korean Institute for Advance Studies (KIAS).
- 2014 "Historia - Arte - Ciencia", Granada: Department of Art History, University of Granada.
- 2013 "Art, History & Science: Dialogs across Practices, Centuries and Theories", Ankara: Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture (FADA), Bilkent University.
- 2013 "The picture of the Universe in Early Modern Europe", *Physics Colloquium*, Ankara: Department of Physics, Middle East Technical University.

- 2013 "Observing the large-scale structure of the Universe in Early Modern Europe", Honolulu: Institute of Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Manoa.
- 2013 "The large-scale structure of the Universe before the 20th century", *Astronomy Colloquium*, Las Cruces, NM: Department of Astronomy, New Mexico State University.
- 2013 "Fluid Skies: An interdisciplinary view on the structure of the Universe from astrophysics, art, and history", in *The Eighth International Conference on The Inspiration of Astronomical Phenomena*, New York: American Museum of Natural History.
- 2013 "History of the large-scale structure of the universe until 1980", *Astronomy Colloquium*, Tõravere (EE): Tartu Astronomical Observatory.
- 2013 "Fluid Skies: Between art, history, and cosmology", in *LASER, Leonardo Art/Science Evening Rendezvous*, San Francisco, CA: University of San Francisco.
- 2013 "Visual Genealogy of Modern Cosmology: an Overview", *Meeting Astronomy Department Lunch*, Berkeley, CA: Astronomy Department, University of California.
- 2013 "Genealogy of LSS images, or How to combine history, art and astronomy", seminar in Las Cruces, NM: Department of Astronomy, New Mexico State University.
- 2013 "Observadores del cosmos", keynote in Bogota: Planetarium.
- 2013 "Fluid Skies: Art, History, and Astronomy", keynote together with Yunchul Kim and Jaime E. Forero-Romero, Bogota: Planetarium.
- 2013 "Fluid Skies", seminar together with Yunchul Kim, Bogota: Los Andes University.
- 2013 "Astronomy, art and history: Some reflections from the image of the modern Universe in Europe to contemporary cosmology", in *International Conference Images, Artistic and Scientific*, Seoul: Korea Institute for Advanced Study.
- 2012 "Space, time and structure. Galactic redshifts in a historical context", in *International Conference Origins of the Expanding Universe 1912–1932*, Flagstaff, AZ: Lowell Observatory.
- 2012 "Das Aufgeklärte Universum. Astronomische Bilder von der Pluralität der Welten im 18. Jahrhundert", in *Veranstaltungsreihe zur Ausstellung Von mehr als einer Welt. Die Künste der Aufklärung*, Berlin: Kulturforum.
- 2012 "On the plurality of worlds. Images of a new cosmos", in *Brownbag colloquium*, Berkeley, CA: Center for Science, Technology, Medicine & Society at the University of California.

- 2012 "Imaging in the Era of the Telescope: a Brief Overview", in Specialist Discussion Meeting *The History of Astronomical Imaging*, London: Royal Astronomical Society.
- 2012 "Carved Air: The fluid materiality of the cosmos from the perspectives of astrophysics, art, history, and philosophy", seminar co-authored with Yunchul Kim, Berlin: Technische Universität, Institut für Philosophie, Forschungsgruppe Literatur und Wissenschaft.
- 2011 "Wenn der Himmel zur Erde kommt. Öffnungen und Tücher als Medium in astronomischen Bildern", in International Conference *Bild-Riss: Textile Öffnungen im ästhetischen Diskurs/The Image Split: Textile Openings in Aesthetic Discourse*, Zurich: Kunsthistorisches Institut der Universität Zürich.
- 2011 "Cosmological and cosmopolitan ideas of a plurality of worlds in the early Enlightenment", in Conference *Astromorphomata: Sternenwissen und Weltbürgertum in Medien und Kultur*, Cologne: Internationales Kolleg Morphomata.
- 2011 "Expanding Universes. Simulations of the large-scale structure of the Universe", co-authored with Jaime E. Forero-Romero, in *SimTech Workshop: Computer Simulations and the Changing Face of Scientific Experimentation*, Stuttgart: Institute of Philosophy, University of Stuttgart.
- 2010 "Visualising Matter and Cosmologies", co-authored with Jaime E. Forero-Romero, in *New Imaging: Transdisciplinary Strategies for Art Beyond Media. The First International Conference on Transdisciplinary Imaging at the Intersections Between Art, Science and Culture*, Sydney: Artspace.
- 2010 "The plurality of worlds in images", in *The Seventh Conference on the Inspiration of Astronomical Phenomena*, Bath: Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution.
- 2010 Knowledge and Visual Culture, *International Workshop of Young Researchers*, Madrid: Institute of History, Center of Social and Human Sciences, CSIC (Spanish National Research Council).
- 2010 *II Encuentro Complutense Jovenes Investigadores de Historia del Arte*, Madrid: Complutense University.
- 2010 "The images of the 'Entretiens sur la Pluralite des Mondes'", in *Visual Culture & Global Practices – 45th Annual Comparative Literature Conference*, Long Beach, CA: California State University.
- 2009 "Surpassing human nature", in *Uncyborgable? AmberConference. Science, Art and Technology*, Istanbul: Modern Art Museum.
- 2009 "Only in fiction. Cinematographic Transnationality in Aljafari and Steyer", in International Conference *Transnacionalidad, diáspora y globalización en la cultura visual contemporánea*, Madrid: Autonoma University.



- 2008 "Inner Sounds/Body-Transmitters. Resonances trough the Body", in *2nd Symposium on Materials and New Technologies in Arts*, Madrid: Fine Arts Postgraduate Program, Complutense University.
- 2008 *International Conference on Heritage and Graphic Expression*, Granada: University of Granada.
- 2006 "Digital art as bridges between cultures: the example of Latin America (a new art for a changing society)", in *22nd Comparative Education Society in Europe (CESE) Conference*, Granada: University of Granada.
- 2006 *16th National Conference on Art History (CEHA)*, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.
- 2005 *1st National Conference on Informatics (CEDI) Interaction 2005*, Granada: University of Granada, Department of Informatics.

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### **Political Activity**

- 2015 - ... Member of Parliament in Andalusia (Spain)
- 2015 - ... Member of Podemos' Citizen Council of Andalusia
- 2014 - 2017 Member of Podemos' National Citizen Council  
Coordinator of the National Area of Scientific Policies and R&D