

# MICHAEL SAPPOL

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## Curriculum vita

- Education*
- Ph.D., history, Columbia University, awarded with “Distinction,” May 1997
  - City University of New York Graduate Center, 1987-89
  - B.A., 1978, English, magna cum laude, City College of New York
- Pb.D. dissertation*
- “The cultural politics of anatomy in 19th-century America: Death, dissection, and embodied social identity” (Columbia University, 1997)
- M.A. thesis*
- “The uses of philanthropy: The New York Colored Orphan Asylum and its clients, 1837-1863” (Columbia University, 1990)
- Current position*
- Curator-historian, National Library of Medicine
  - Editor, Media & New Media Reviews, *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*
- Current Projects*
- Editor, *A Cultural History of the Human Body: 1800-1920* (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming); part of a 6-volume series; general eds.: William Bynum (Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College London), Linda Kalof (Michigan State University).
  - Book project: *Odd Cases: Medicine vs. the Body in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century America*.
  - Book project: *Man as Industrial Palace: Fritz Kabn, Medical Illustration & the Visual Rhetoric of Modernity*
  - Editor, *Medicine Goes to the Movies: Historical Medical Films from the Collection of the National Library of Medicine*. Multi-volume series of historical medical films on DVD, from the Silent Era to 1970, broken down into topics (Insects & Disease, Cancer, Psychiatric/Psychological Films, Tuberculosis, Public Health, Drugs & Alcohol, Sex Education & Venereal Disease, etc.).
- Publications*
- *Dream Anatomy* (forthcoming, 2006)
  - “Why the Dead are a Killer Act: The Cadaver as Smash Hit,” Op Ed commentary, *Los Angeles Times*, 6-14-2005
  - “Visionary Anatomies and the Great Divide: Art, Science and the Changing Conventions of Anatomical Representation, 1500-2004,” catalog essay, *Visionary Anatomies* (Washington, DC: National Academy of Sciences, 2004) [[http://www7.nationalacademies.org/arts/Visionary\\_Anatomies\\_Sappol\\_Essay\\_1.html](http://www7.nationalacademies.org/arts/Visionary_Anatomies_Sappol_Essay_1.html)]
  - “‘Morbid curiosity’: The decline and fall of the popular anatomical museum,” *Common-Place* 4.2 (1-2004)
  - “The anatomical mission to Burma: how the anatomical body became our body,” *Science* (10-10-2003) [<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/302/5643/232>]
  - *“A Traffic of Dead Bodies”: Anatomical Dissection and Embodied Social Identity in 19th-Century America* (Princeton University Press, 2002; pb ed. 2004)
  - “The foul altar of a dissecting table”: Anatomy, sex and sensationalist fiction in antebellum America,” *Transactions & Studies of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia*, sr. 5, 20 (1998): 65-97

*Exhibitions &  
Programs*

- Curator [exhibition]: *Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body*, National Library of Medicine, 2-16-2006 to 2-16-2008
- Curator [film program]: *Strong Medicine: Films from the Collection of the National Library of Medicine*, National Library of Medicine, Fall 2005
- Curator [film program]: *Psychiatric Cinema: Psychiatric and Psychological Films from the Collection of the National Library of Medicine*, Woods Hole Film Festival, 7-30-2003
- Curator [film program/workshop]: *Difficult Subjects: A Workshop on "Difficult" Medical Films from the Collection of the National Library of Medicine*, Woods Hole Film Festival, 7-30-2003
- Curator [exhibition]: *Dream Anatomy*, National Library of Medicine, 10-9-2002 to 7-31-2003
- Curator [exhibition]: *The Once and Future Web: Worlds Woven by the Telegraph and Internet*, National Library of Medicine, 5-2001 to 7-2002