

Helga Kessler Aurisch
Curator of European Art
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Helga Kessler Aurisch was born in Germany and moved to New York at the age of ten. She attended Smith College and subsequently pursued graduate studies at the University of Vienna, Austria, and at the University of Freiburg, Germany, where she received her M.A. and Ph. D. in art history. She worked in Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York at the beginning of her career, before joining the staff of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in 2004.

At the MFAH she has organized or acted as organizing and co-curator for numerous exhibitions of French and German 19th century art. She has published widely, lectures frequently on 19th and early 20th century European art and culture. She is presently preparing collection catalogues for the Edith A. and Percy S. Straus Collection and for the John and Audrey Jones Beck Collection.

Exhibitions:

2000 – *Romantics, Realists and Revolutionaries, Masterpieces from the Museum of Fine Arts, Leipzig*

2007 - *The Masterpieces of French Painting from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1800-1920*

2008 - *In the Forest of Fontainebleau: Painters and Photographers from Corot to Monet*

2009 - *Houston, Tranquility Base here, the Eagle has landed*

2010 - *German Impressionist Landscape Painting*

2011 - *Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Masterpieces from the National Gallery of Art*

2013 - *The Age of Impressionism: Great French Paintings from the Clark Art Institute*

2014 - *Monet and the Seine: Impressions of a River*

2015 – *Habsburg Splendor: Masterpieces from Vienna's Imperial Collections*

2016 – *High Society: The Portraits of Franz X. Winterhalter*

2018 – *Tudors to Windsors: British Royal Portraiture from Holbein to Warhol*

2019 – *Vincent van Gogh: His Life in Art*

Berthe Morisot: Impressionist Original

Monet to Picasso: A Very Private Collection