

## MARTHA ELENA ROMERO RAMÍREZ

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### 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Year of birth:** June 7th, 1965

**Nationality:** Mexican

### 2. RECENT AFFILIATION

2012 to date *Instituto de Investigaciones Bibliográficas, Biblioteca y Hemeroteca Nacionales, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (IIB-BNM-HNM, UNAM)*. Mexico City, México.

[Institute of Bibliographic Research, National Library and Newspaper Collection of Mexico, National Autonomus University of México]

Full time researcher.

Research lines and studies: Book archaeology and bookbinding history; use and conservation of documental heritage; information access and conservation of books.

1997 to date *Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía (ENCRyM)*. Mexico City, Mexico.

[National School of conservation, Restoration and Museography]

Senior lecturer. Research Seminar and Book Conservation Seminar. BA Degree in Conservation and Conservation and Care of Library Collection Heritage Diploma Program, Mexico City, Mexico.

### 3. EDUCATION

#### a) Degrees

23 Oct. 2013 PhD, with the thesis *Limp, laced-case binding in parchment on sixteenth-century Mexican printed books* (archaeological study and history of bookbinding ). University of the Arts London, Camberwell College, London, UK. Under the supervision of Prof. Nicholas Pickwoad.

16 Oct. 1991 Degree in *Pharmaceutical Biology Chemistry*. Universidad La Salle, Mexico City, Mexico.

## b) Diplomas

- 2018 Diploma *Cultural Heritage. Definitions, discussion and challenge*. Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. Coordinación de Antropología, Mexico City, Mexico.  
[National Institute of Anthropology and History]

## 4. PREVIOUS IMPORTANT AFFILIATIONS

- 2016-18 *Manager of Preservation and Reprography Department of Hemeroteca Nacional de México*, Mexico City, Mexico.  
Responsible to design, plan and launch the new Preservation and Reprography Department, based on ethics, legal and preservation/conservation principles; organize and set up working areas, distribute and co-ordinate activities and tasks, organize team-work, work planning, budgeting, administrative work.
- 2015-16 *Coordinator of the Biblioteca Nacional de Mexico*, Mexico City, Mexico.  
Co-ordinate the six departments in which the Library is organized (Acquisition, Cataloguing, Inventories, Information Service, Antique Collection and Conservation); co-ordinate academic, administrative and technician staff; planning and budgeting; promote the National Library, its collections and maintain relationship with other national libraries around the world; co-ordinate the National Digital Library; administrative work.
- 2001-02 *Manager of Conservation and Restoration Department of the Biblioteca Nacional de Mexico*, Mexico.  
Responsible of planning, organizing, assigning tasks, co-ordinate and supervise the academic and technical activities of the Department staff; monitoring and follow up the development and observance of conservation programs, plans and policies; establish work relationship with other similar cultural and academic institutions, both national and abroad; develop training programs; administrative work.
- 1994 to date *Freelance as conservator and bookbinder*. Mexico.  
Planning, organizing, assigning tasks, co-ordinate and supervise conservation work; establish work relationships with cultural institutions which could be potential clients; customer support in conservation advise; planning and budgeting conservation projects, according to each institution needs; conservation and bookbinding bench work for books.

## 5. PROJECTS INTO WHICH YOU WERE INVOLVED (selected)

### a) As a book conservator and bookbinder

- 2014-19 *Museo Frida Kahlo*, Mexico City, Mexico.  
Conservation of the personal library of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Conservation condition survey of the Historic Archive. Record, analysis, and interpretation study of the material features of the book property of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera.
- 2010 *Biblioteca Pública, "México"*. Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, (CONACULTA), Mexico City, Mexico.  
Stabilizing four hundred books of the José Luis Martínez Collection.

*Biblioteca Nacional de Antropología e Historia*. Mexico City, Mexico.

- Conservation of *Códice Porfirio Díaz*. Technical adviser for microbiological attach control in pre- and post-Hispanic codices.
- Advisor about manufacture techniques of pre- and post-Hispanic codices.

2009 *Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público*, Mexico City, Mexico. Conservation of two works made by Francisco Toledo.

1996-2000 *Instituto de Biología, Herbario Nacional, Facultad de Veterinaria y Facultad de Medicina, UNAM*, Mexico. Bookbinding and conservation of books of the antique collections.

## **b) Research projects**

2019 to  
date *History of the notebook in Mexico, 18th and 19th centuries*.  
Colegio de San Ignacio de Loyola Vizcaínas, Mexico City, Mexico.

2012 to  
date *The bookbinding in the Mexican bibliography* (in progress).  
IIB-BNM-HNM, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico.

2011-15 *Limp, laced-case binding in parchment on sixteenth-century European printed books hold at the National Library of Mexico* (Archaeology study).  
Biblioteca Nacional de Mexico, Mexico City, México.

2011-15 *Antique repairs in sixteenth-century European printed books hold at the National Library of Mexico* (Archaeology study).  
Biblioteca Nacional de Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico.

2014 *Notebooks in Latin of Jesuit students hold by the National Library of Mexico, a bibliophilological approach*. (Archaeology study).  
Biblioteca Nacional de México, Mexico City, Mexico.

2012-14 Design of flexible book cradles.  
National Newspaper Collection, Mexico City, Mexico.

## **6. TEACHING**

1997 to  
date Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía (ENCRyM).  
BA Degree in Conservation and Conservation and Care of Library Collection Heritage Diploma Program, Mexico City, Mexico.

2012 to  
date *Lecturer of the Investigation Seminar*. Teaching research skills for conservators of cultural objects and research and/or conservation projects proposals.

*Conservation and Care of Library Collections Heritage Diploma*. Teaching Condition survey and stabilizing of book collections; bookbinding description and record, and conservation treatments for contemporary books. Co-ordinate teachers staff and design teaching material for on-line Diploma program.

- 1997-2012 *Lecturer and manager of the Book Conservation Seminar.* Responsible of design, review and update study program; co-ordinate work of teacher staff of the Seminar; planning and organizing professional practice for students, both around the country and abroad; collaborate with other colleagues in the design, planning and organization of the on-line Conservation and Care of Library Collection Heritage Diploma; teaching bookbinding history, bookbinding record and description, book conservation theory and techniques and to write technical reports and budgeting.
- 2000-12 *Senior teacher. Bookbinding workshop.* Teaching historic and contemporary bookbinding techniques and material use in bookbinding craft and its interpretation.

### **Other Diploma Programs**

- 2012 *New Trends in Conservation of Record Materials Diploma.* Coordinator and teaching bookbinding conservation, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2003-12 *Antique Books Studies Diploma.* Teaching conservation and management of book collections, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico.

### **Teaching abroad**

- 2015 Course *Minimum intervention on limp, laced-case binding in parchment.* Biblioteca Nacional de Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2013-14 *Book conservation and bookbinding advisor; endbands and leather flexible binding workshop.* MA in Conservation, University of the Arts London, Camberwell College of Art, UK.
- 2005 Course *Lacing and taking techniques for bookbinding.* Paper and Book Intensive 2005, Main, USA.

### **Training courses**

- 2018 Course *Bookbinding record and description.* IIB-BNM-HNM, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2017 Course *Bibliographic heritage and research.* IIB, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2014 Course *Identifying and describing structure and decoration of artistic bindings sixteenth to nineteenth centuries.* Biblioteca Nacional de México, Mexico.
- Workshop *Writing a research proposal.* ENCRyM, Mexico.
- 2010-11 Workshop *Box and enclosures making for books and paper conservation and Conservation treatment for antique and modern books.* Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, UNAM, Mexico.

## 7. MOST IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Romero (2020) Romero, Martha: El Patrimonio Documental en la Biblioteca Nacional de México. In: Boletín de la Biblioteca Nacional de México, 6 (2020), pp. 75-79

Romero (2017) Romero, Martha: La BNM en la Memoria del Mundo de la UNESCO. In: Bienes Comunes: 150 años de la Biblioteca Nacional de México en 150 objetos, coord. by Pablo Mora, Mexico 2017, p. 393

Romero & Enríquez (2017) Romero, Martha & Enríquez, Luis: Diplomado en atención al patrimonio bibliográfico. Escuela Nacional de Conservación. In: Estudios sobre conservación, restauración y museología, coord. by Yumari Pérez & Guadalupe de la Torre, Mexico 2017, pp. 5-14

Romero & Valdez (2016) Romero, Martha & Valdez, Hilda Julieta: Cuadernos de apuntes escolares jesuíticos sobre cultura latina de la Biblioteca Nacional de México, un acercamiento bibliofilológico. In: Progressus. Rivista di Storia Scrittura e Società, III, 5 (2016), pp. 61-86 - <https://www.rivistaprogressus.it>

Conservación de documentos (2015) Conservación de documentos analógicos y digitales, coord. by Martha Romero, Donostia - San Sebastian, 2015

Romero (2015) Romero Ramírez, Martha: Los materiales empleados en la encuadernación de los libros mexicanos del siglo XVI: fuente de información histórica y documental In: De la materialidad a la conservación del patrimonio documental, ed. by Marina Garone & Adriana Gómez, Mexico, 2015

Romero (2015) Romero, Martha: A sixteenth-century Mexican manuscript and its binding as evidence for encounter of two cultures. In: Care and conservation of manuscripts 15, ed. by Matthew James Driscoll & Ragnheiour Mósésdóttir, Copenhagen 2015, pp. 153-166

Romero (2013) Romero, Martha: European influence in the binding of Mexican books of the sixteenth century. In: Suave Mechanicals. Essays for the History of Bookbinding, Vol. 1, ed. by Julia Miller, Michigan 2013, pp. 383-412

Romero (2013) Romero, Martha: Mínima intervención: concepto actual, práctica de siempre. In: Memoria 2o Coloquio Internacional sobre líneas de trabajo en Materia de Conservación y Restauración de Bibliotecas y Archivos. Hacia la preservación del patrimonio documental, coord. by Belem Clark & Adriana Gómez, Mexico 2013, pp. 315-334

Romero (2012) Romero, Martha: Los testigos del libro. Su rescate, conservación y utilidad. In: De patrimonio documental y Bibliotecología en México. Diversas miradas, coord. by Rosa María Fernández, Mexico 2012, pp. 89-93

Romero, Enríquez & Cruz (2012) Romero, Martha, Enríquez, Luis & Cruz, Gabriela: Manejo de plagas en colecciones con soporte de papel. Translated from Pinniger, D. (2012) Managing pests in paper-based collections, London, 2012

## 8. ACTIVE MEMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS

- 2017 to date Memory of the World Mexican Committee, UNESCO.  
Mexico City, Mexico.  
Secretary.
- 2019 to date Seminario para el estudio y conservación de la encuadernación.  
México, City, Mexico.  
Coordinator.
- 2020 Asociación Mexicana de Intérpretes del Patrimonio.  
Mexico City, Mexico.  
Active member.

## 9. AWARDS

- 2018 *In quarto. 25 años encuadernando y restaurando libros.* Galería López Quiroga, Mexico.  
Retrospective exhibition. Recognition of 25 years of work as bookbinder, book conservator and teacher.
- 2015 *Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México.*  
Economic support to participate as keynote speaker and teacher at Encuentro Nacional del Libro Antiguo y Raro, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2014 *Dirección General de Cooperación e Internacionalización de la UNAM*  
Economic support to participate as speaker at Fifteenth International Seminar on The Care and Conservation of Manuscripts, Denmark, Copenhagen.
- 2008-2011 Scholarship extended by Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACyT), for studies of PhD Research Degree at the University of the Arts London, London, UK.
- 2002 Scholarship extended by *Centro del Bel Libro Foundation* for participating in two courses: Conservation of wooden board bindings and Conservation of textile covers on bindings, given at Centro del Bel Libro, Ascona, Switzerland.
- 2001 Honorary Member of the Bookbinding and Book Conservation Education in the European Community. *EMBOTRAINE Project*, (Enhancement of the Bookbinding Training in Europe), Ghent, Belgium.