

## Ecologies, Aesthetics, and Histories of Art (Florenz, 14 – 15 Dec 15)

Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz Max-Planck-Institut, Dec 14–15, 2015

Sugata Ray

Ecologies, Aesthetics, and Histories of Art I

International Conference at the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz Max-Planck-Institut, December 14-15, 2015

Conference website: [http://www.khi.fi.it/5273294/20151214\\_Ecologies](http://www.khi.fi.it/5273294/20151214_Ecologies)

Organized by Hannah Baader (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz/ Forum Transregionale Studien Berlin); Sugata Ray (University of California, Berkeley); Gerhard Wolf (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz)

Ecologies, Aesthetics, and Histories of Art is conceived as an intellectual laboratory to address the ecological and aesthetic dimensions of human interaction with geographical, geological, botanical, zoological, astronomical, and climatic formations from the micro to a planetary scale. How was the interrelationship between the nonhuman and the human visually configured in geographically distinct, yet often interconnected, terrains in different moments of history? How did striated knowledge-systems, the agentive qualities of matter, and aesthetic practices shape such configurations, topographies, and spatial orders? To what extent were particular aesthetic practices related to the economies of religious systems or social arrangements? What are the conceptual interconnections, or conversely interstices, between theories of nature, ecology, environment, and aesthetics? While literary ecocriticism has become a field of intense debate over the last decades, the ecological turn in visual culture studies is still at its early stage. The conference thus aims to bring art history, a discipline that has for long been concerned with notions of landscape, nature, materiality, and aesthetic processes, into this emerging conversation. The conference aims to act as a crucial interpolation in the conversation between ecological and aesthetic studies, envisaged here in a historical and transcultural perspective from the earliest known human interaction with the natural environment to the present day.

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Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai, Via dei Servi 51, 50122 Firenze  
Contact: [dirwolf@khi.fi.it](mailto:dirwolf@khi.fi.it)  
Free admission until capacity is reached

Program

December 14, 2015

10:00 Hannah Baader, Sugata Ray, Gerhard Wolf

## Welcome and Introduction

10:30 Felix Pirson | Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Istanbul

Nature, Religion and Urban Aesthetics in Ancient Pergamon

Chair: Hannah Baader

11:15 Break

11:45 Mimi Yiengpruksawan | Yale University

Environment, Contingency, and Improvisation at the Heian Court in the Time of the Supernova

12:30 Adam Herring | Southern Methodist University

Inca Sand: Towards An Ecology of Inca Architecture

Chair: Subhashini Kaligotla

13:15 Lunch Break

15:00 Lihong Liu | Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

The Path of Process: Lingered Wonder in mid-Ming Chinese Painting

15:45 Sugata Ray | University of California, Berkeley

From Viceregal New Spain to Mughal India: Rethinking Early Modern Animal Studies with Jahangir's Turkey Cock, ca. 1612

Chair: Meha Priyadarshini

16:30 Break

16:45 Michael Marder | The University of the Basque Country, Vitoria-Gasteiz

Architectural Amekhanian: Dwelling on the Hither Side of Economy

Chair: Brigitte Sölch

17:30 Break

18:00 Evening Lecture

Dipesh Chakrabarty | University of Chicago

Stories We Tell: Nature and Narrative in the Age of Global Warming

December 15, 2015

9:15 Timothy Ingold | University of Aberdeen

From Science to Art and Back Again: the Pendulum of an Environmental Anthropologist

10:00 Spyros Papapetros | Princeton University

Ornament as Portable Ecology

10:45 Margarete Pratschke | ETH Zürich

An Ecology of Art History? James J. Gibson's Ecological Approach to Visual Perception

Chair: Gerhard Wolf

11:30 Break

11:45 Sandy Prita Meier | University of Illinois

Crossings: Thinking Things and Territory in the Indian Ocean World

12:30 Hannah Baader | Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz/ Forum Transregionale Studien Berlin

Thalassic Ecology and Maritime Aesthetics

Chair: Costanza Caraffa

13:15 Lunch Break

15:00 Venugopal Maddipati | Ambedkar University

Urbanizing Finitude: Eco-Aesthetics, Architecture, Density, Death and the Possibilization of New Material Lives (India, circa 1975–2011)

15:45 Peter Schneemann | Universität Bern

Exhibiting Nature? Artificial Ecologies in Contemporary Art

16:30 Gerhard Wolf | Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

Ecologies and Aesthetics Between Endogenic and Exogenic Dynamics

Chair: Sugata Ray

17:15 Final Discussion

Reference:

CONF: Ecologies, Aesthetics, and Histories of Art (Florenz, 14 - 15 Dec 15). In: ArtHist.net, Dec 13, 2015  
(accessed May 18, 2024), <<https://arthist.net/archive/11718>>.