

Thinking Colour Symposium (Oxford, 24 Jun 16)

University of Oxford, Trinity College, Danson Room, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BH,
Jun 24, 2016

Lucy Whelan

Thinking Colour is an interdisciplinary symposium bringing together academics, curators and artists to consider the philosophical relations between colour and thinking. Engaging with questions of colour in ways that exceed the discussion of specific cases and linguistic manifestations, it approaches colour through visual analysis, visual theory, critical thought, and comparative or transhistorical reflection. It asks questions such as: how do images think in/through colour? What is colour's affective power? How does colour relate to specific materialities? How can colour have agency? Is colour a device for – or even a form of – thinking? How can colour function in relation to thinking in artistic practice/research?

The day will consist of several talks delivered by invited international academics who are leading in this field. We are honoured to host Eric Alliez (Kingston University), David Batchelor (Royal College of Art), Laure Blanc-Benon (University Paris-Sorbonne), Natasha Eaton (University College London), Liz Watkins (University of Leeds), Paul Smith (University of Warwick), among other speakers. For a full programme, please visit: https://www.academia.edu/25077381/Thinking_Colour_Symposium_24_June_2016_Programme

The symposium is co-funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), and is held in association with Oxford Comparative Criticism and Translation (OCCT).

PROGRAM

9.00–9.30am | Registration, Danson Room, Trinity College Oxford

9.30–11am | Panel 1

Paul Smith (University of Warwick)

'Between': Wittgenstein, Grammar, and Colour Space

Natasha Eaton (University College London)

Dirty Whites: Meta-colour and South Asia

Responses from:

Justin Coombes (University of Oxford)

Susanne Komossa (Delft University of Technology)

11–11.20am | Coffee break

11.20–12.50pm | Panel 2

David Batchelor

The Chromatic Ecology of Munchkinland

Eric Alliez (Kingston University)

The Postconceptual Color: Daniel Buren

Responses from:

Judith Mottram (Royal College of Art)

Hanneke Grootenboer (University of Oxford)

12.50–1.50pm | Lunch break

1.50–3.20pm | Panel 3

Laure Blanc-Benon (University Paris-Sorbonne)

What if colour photography had been invented first?

Liz Watkins (University of Leeds)

'It suffices that colour lacerate': cosmetic memories in narrative cinema

Responses from:

Regina Lee Blaszczyk (University of Leeds)

Clara Masnatta (ICI Berlin Institute of Cultural Inquiry)

3.20pm–3.40pm | Coffee break

3.40–5.00pm

Round Table

Chair: Pandora Syperek (Paul Mellon Centre)

Tessa Laird (University of Melbourne)

Dying and Not-Dying, in Living Colour

Claudia Tobin (Royal Drawing School)

Virginia Woolf, Vanessa Bell, and the 'Violent Rapture of Colour'

Sophie Knezic (University of Melbourne)

Flesh of the World: Colour's Ontological Imperative

Rey Conquer (University of Oxford)

Knowing Colour, or, How Does a Colour Know When a Poem Is Finished?

Elodie Ripoll (Universität Koblenz-Landau / EHESS, Paris)

Visual, Symbolic, Poetic: the Three Elementary Functions of Colour Words

Open discussion and closing remarks.

Thinking Colour Symposium will take place in Trinity College, University of Oxford, Friday June 24,
9am–5pm

For further information and to register:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thinking-colour-an-interdisciplinary-symposium-tickets-24837795515>

Reference:

CONF: Thinking Colour Symposium (Oxford, 24 Jun 16). In: ArtHist.net, May 17, 2016 (accessed Jul 1, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/13003>>.