

Art & Anthropology Symposium (Los Angeles, 2-3 May 17)

Getty Research Institute Lecture Hall, Getty Center, May 2-03, 2017

Alexa Sekyra, The Getty Research Institute

The global turn in art history seems to be intensifying a rapprochement with anthropology, leading to a more deliberate inclusion of untraditional, vernacular, and indigenous arts. This process challenges both the canons of art and the methodologies in the different elds of art history, as the two disciplines adapt to the analysis of the cultural production of art and material culture from around the world.

This two-day symposium will explore past and present relationships between the disciplines of art history and anthropology. What might a more anthropological history of art, or a more art-historical anthropology, offer? What can the disciplines learn from one another? How might a collaboration of art-historical, anthropological, and archaeological methodologies help us understand and rewrite the histories of art, material objects, and artisanal practices?

Advance registration is not required. Limited seating.

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.

9:15 a.m.

CHECK-IN AND COFFEE

WELCOME

Thomas W. Gaehtgens, Getty Research Institute A. Alexa Sekyra, Getty Research Institute

INTRODUCTION

Gary Urton, Harvard University Susan Dackerman, Getty Scholar

SESSION ONE

Moderator: Susan Dackerman, Getty Scholar

An Art of Anthropology: Re-Directing Our Gaze on the Object of Analysis

Gary Urton, Harvard University

Ways of Seeing at the Crossroads of Art History and Anthropology

Polly Roberts, University of California, Los Angeles

When Pictures are Present: The Iconology of Depiction and the Anthropology of Images

Whitney Davis, University of California, Berkeley

LUNCH

SESSION TWO

Moderator: Gary Urton, Harvard University

Prehistory as a Modern Idea

Elke Seibert, Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte, Paris

Comparing Mass-Production in Antiquity in India with the Mediterranean and China

Naman Ahuja, Getty Scholar

"The Ladder of Art Lies Flat"—Yolngu Art and Discourse on Abstraction

Howard Morphy, Getty Scholar

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION THREE

Moderator: Matthew Robb, Fowler Museum

Drawing on Museums: Early Visual Fieldnotes by Franz Boas and the Anthropology of Art

Aaron Glass, Getty Scholar

The Indigenous Other: Native Photography's Desires and Discontents

Nancy Marie Mithlo, Occidental College and Autry Museum of the American West

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.

9:35 a.m.

CHECK-IN AND COFFEE

WELCOME

A. Alexa Sekyra, Getty Research Institute

SESSION FOUR

Moderator: Charlene Villaseñor Black, University of California, Los Angeles

Iconography, Oral Traditions, and Mesoamerican Writings

Carlo Severi, Getty Scholar

Currencies of Wealth and Fame: The Social Lives of Luxury Objects in Aztec Mexico

Patrick Hajovsky, Getty Scholar

Inka Non-Imagery in Paris, 1878

Carolyn Dean, Getty Scholar

LUNCH

SESSION FIVE

Moderator: Saloni Mathur, University of California, Los Angeles

African Red, African Blue
Richard Fardon, SOAS University of London

The City Beneath: A Century of Los Angeles Graffiti
Susan Phillips, Pitzer College

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION FIVE, CONTINUED
Moderator: Saloni Mathur, University of California, Los Angeles

True Value: Keeping the World Together in the Study of (African) Art
Peter Probst, Getty Scholar

I Want You, Church in My Heart
Theaster Gates, Artist

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout Group A: The Malvina Hoffman Papers
GRI Special Collections Reading Room Led by Susan Dackerman, Getty Scholar
Breakout Group B: Anthropology and Early Photography
Department of Photographs Study Room Led by Mazie Harris, J. Paul Getty Museum

Please use sign-up sheet in GRI Lecture Hall lobby

Reference:

CONF: Art & Anthropology Symposium (Los Angeles, 2-3 May 17). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 26, 2017 (accessed Aug 26, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/15344>>.