

Art and Power: Patronage and Politics (Stanford, 23 Feb 18)

Stanford University, Stanford Humanities Center, 424 Santa Teresa St, Stanford, CA 94305, Feb 23, 2018

Andrei Pesic

Art and Power: Patronage and Politics in Europe from the Old Regime to the Present
Interdisciplinary conference

This conference examines the history of state arts patronage in Europe and its ramifications in the present. Presentations on literature, music, theater, and the visual arts will provide an interdisciplinary examination of the origins and the tensions underlying the European model of state arts funding, along with a contemporary perspective on how and why European governments seek to support the arts today by the Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy in the United States. The panels will address questions such as: How have the arts been used to secure domestic political legitimacy or project power internationally at different times? What kinds of art are deemed worthy of support, and what artistic forms have been excluded from such patronage? What are the different historical genealogies of this state patronage, and what do they tell us about why Europe remains committed to centralized state funding of the arts when that of the United States is wavering?

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PROGRAM

9am

Introduction: Dan Edelstein

9:15-10:45am

Panel 1: Representations of Power in the Old Regime

Sarah Grandin (Harvard University)

"'To Preserve and Augment': Printing the Cabinet du Roi, 1670"

Chandra Mukerji (UCSD)

"Meaning vs. Imagination in the Art of the Sun King: Sculpture, themes, and political possibility"

Gerardo Tocchini (Università Ca' Foscari, Venice)

"The Aristocratic Romance: Greuze's 'Bourgeois' Scenes"

11am-12:30pm

Panel 2: Patronage, Circulation, and Institutions

Rahul Markovits (École Normale Supérieure)

"Actors of soft power: French theatre and the paradoxes of cultural grandeur in eighteenth-century Europe"

Audrey Calefas-Strebelle (Mills College)

"Turkish and French delights: From Turkish origin to French manufacture, the circulation of artefacts and savoir faire in French-Ottoman cultural diplomacy"

Andrei Pesic (Stanford)

"Patronage on the Cheap: Monopolies and Enlightenment Cultural Markets"

2-3:00pm

Art and Power Today: France's Cultural Policy.

Presentation and Discussion

Bénédicte de Montlaur (French Embassy in the U.S.) in conversation with Matthew Tiew (Stanford Arts Initiative)

3:15-4:45pm

Panel 3: After the Revolution: Rethinking Art and Power in the New Regime

Robert Morrissey (University of Chicago)

"Enlightenment and Liminality: Mme de Staël, Victim as Arbiter of Taste and Glory"

Anne Higonnet (Barnard College of Columbia University)

"Sumptuary law failure, fashion magazine success"

Heather Hadlock (Stanford)

"Verdi's Aida from Italian tourist to French resident: Paris, 1876-1880"

Organizers: Dan Edelstein and Andrei Pesic

Reference:

CONF: Art and Power: Patronage and Politics (Stanford, 23 Feb 18). In: ArtHist.net, Feb 13, 2018 (accessed Apr 22, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/17359>>.