

## Art and the Mind (Univ of Southern California 19, Feb 2012)

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Feb 19, 2012

Deadline: Nov 28, 2011

Karen Huang

"Art and the Mind: Neuroaesthetics, Phenomenology, and the Experience of Vision"

15th Annual Art History Graduate Student Symposium

University of Southern California

February 19, 2012

### Keynote Speakers:

David Freedberg, Pierre Matisse Professor of the History of Art and Director of the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University

Antonio Damasio, David Dornsife Professor of Neuroscience and Director of the Brain and Creativity Institute, University of Southern California

The graduate students in art history at USC are pleased to invite submissions for the annual symposium, which will take place at USC in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 19, 2012 (Please note that the annual conference of the College Art Association commences three days later in the same city). Graduate students will give twenty-minute paper presentations and participate in a panel discussion.

Neuroaesthetics and Neuroarthistory are hotly debated terms, considered by some to be art history's newest methodology. Others have turned to phenomenology to draw out the affective power of artworks. This conference proposes an understanding of the work of art primarily through the experience of vision and cognition, an endeavor that began with Michael Baxandall's "Period Eye." How does the viewer encounter the work? What changes when such an encounter is prolonged? Does neuroscience alter aesthetic experience? Can "beauty" be quantified and measured? Can Kant's universal principles of aesthetic experience be understood through neurobiology?

We welcome topics from all time periods and global regions. Papers may address the encounter with art, take up neuroaesthetics as a methodology, or historicize the confluence of science and aesthetics. Interested participants should submit a CV and abstract of no more than 500 words to [artandthemind@college.usc.edu](mailto:artandthemind@college.usc.edu) by November 28, 2011. Successful applicants will be notified by December 12th.

### Reference:

CFP: Art and the Mind (Univ of Southern California 19, Feb 2012). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 27, 2011 (accessed

Jul 12, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/2145>>.