

Art, Classicism, and Discourse (Leeds, 15–16 Nov 19)

Henry Moore Institute, Nov 15–16, 2019

Registration deadline: Nov 16, 2019

Kirstie Gregory, Henry Moore Institute

What is ordered about 'classicism'? Who benefits from an ordered, stable canon of classicism in art and literature? Is classicism, in art, architecture, archaeology and academia truly the realm of the dead white men (to borrow from the title of Donna Zuckerberg's 2018 book, *Not All Dead White Men*)?

This conference seeks to challenge, reassess, and provoke discussion on the position of 'classicism' in art following Winckelmann's seminal text on the topic in 1755 through to the present day.

Winckelmann's ordered, teleological histories of art have been thrown into disarray by 265 years of new archaeological discoveries; every generation develops its own 'classic' and its own canon. Technologies of communication, dissemination, modification, and reproduction offer artists and academics new media for their engagement with classicism, art, and the world; previously unrepresented populations and individuals have more access to academia, art, and classics than ever before, but not without opposition.

Bringing together artists and scholars across career stages working in a range of fields, this conference challenges the notion of the 'classic' as stable, ordered, or unchanging.

The conference will be held alongside a Henry Moore Institute retrospective exhibition of the work of Edward Allington (1951-2017), which considers the creative engagement of Allington with the cultures of classicism.

PROGRAMM

Friday 15 November, 1 - 7:30pm

1pm

Welcome and Introduction

Dr Melissa Gustin (Henry Moore Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow)

Session 1: *Nachleben der Antike*

Chair: Prof. Charles Martindale (University of York)

1:15pm

Afterlife of Antiquity – Lost in Translation?

Dr Han Lamers (University of Oslo)

1:45pm

Classicist Rationality? Karl Philipp Moritz and the 'Fantastic' Foundations of German Neo-Classicism

Tilman Schreiber (Friedrich-Schiller Universität, Jena)

2:15pm Break

Session 2: Ruskin/AntiRuskin

Chair: Prof. Liz Prettejohn (University of York)

2:30pm

The Stones of the South: Ruskinian Aesthetics for 'Classical' Marble

Alexander Kuszyk (University of Cambridge)

3pm

Classical Sculpture and Victorian Polemics: Falkener versus Rauch and Ruskin

Dr Clemence Schultze (Durham University)

3:30pm Tea and Coffee served

Session 3: Queer Classics

Chair: TBC

3:45pm Queer Loss, Queer Classics: A.E. Housman's "Lost Country"

Prof. Jennifer Ingleheart (University of Durham)

4:15pm "Art Knows How to Sculpt the Form of Beauty, Improving Life and Blending the Days":

Queering Sculpture in the Poetry of Constantine Cavafy

Joe Watson (University of Durham)

5 - 6pm Opportunity to view the exhibition Edward Allington: Things Unsaid at the Henry Moore Institute

6 - 7pm Keynote Lecture: Translating the Classics

Prof. Emily Wilson (University of Pennsylvania)

Saturday 16 November, 10am - 5:30pm

10am Opening Remarks

Dr Melissa Gustin

Session 4: Modernism

Chair: Dr Clare O'Dowd (Henry Moore Institute)

10:15am "After the Fable, the Moral": Classical Statuary and Modern Sculpture Revisited

Jonathan Vernon (Courtauld Institute of Art)

10:45am Contemporary Classicism as the Aftermath of Postmodern Conceptualism? A Critical

Historicisation

Dr Christian Drobe (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)

11:15am Louise Bourgeois' Debased Classicism

Dr Alexandra Parigoris (University of Leeds)

11:45am Break

Session 5: Artists' Roundtable

Chair: Dr Melissa Gustin

12pm The Reason Being

Zachary Eastwood-Bloom

12:30pm Fit for Purpose: The Classical Millstone, the Classical Touchstone

Dr Richard Hollinshead (artist/University of Northampton)

1pm

Jessica Harrison

1:30pm Lunch (provided)

Session 6: Venus

Chair: Simon Marginson (University of York)

2:30pm A[ccelerationist] Venus? Gottfried Semper, Albert Moore and "Queer Rationality" in 1869

Dr Nick Shaddick (University of York)

3pm Surrealism/Classicism: Man Ray and the Motif of Venus

Carolin Goll (Universität Würzburg)

3:30pm Yves Klein's Classicism

Dr Molly Warnock (John Hopkins University)

4pm Tea and Coffee served

Session 7: Vernacular Classicisms

Chair: Rebecca Mellor (University of York)

4:15pm Animating Anxiety: Stage Sculpture and Middlebrow Classicism

Dr Rhiannon Easterbrook (University of Oxford)

4:45pm A "Celtic" Classicism? Classically-Influenced Sculpture in Nineteenth-Century Ireland

Dr Ciarán Rua O'Neill (University of York)

5:15 - 5:30pm Closing Remarks

Dr Melissa Gustin

Tickets

Tickets for this conference cost £20 / £10 concessions (students, unwaged or retired).

For more information please contact Kirstie Gregory, Research Coordinator

Reference:

CONF: Art, Classicism, and Discourse (Leeds, 15-16 Nov 19). In: Arthist.net, Oct 14, 2019 (accessed Apr 29, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/21821>>.