"History of the Senses", Fall Lectures GHI Washington DC

Vera Lind

GHI Washington

German Historical Institute
Washington, D.C.
Lecture Series - FALL 2001

The History of the Senses

Seeing, smelling, touching, hearing, tasting - the world discloses itself to humans through the senses. Although this appears to be a highly individual process producing as many realities as there are people, it is also shaped by shared cultural norms and assumptions. What smells good in one society might be considered a bad odor in another. Likewise, what was an exquisite taste for 17th-century gourmets might be intolerable for modern tongues. With the growing interest in the history of the body, scholars have recently begun to explore the history of sensual experiences in different periods and cultures. They are producing fascinating work that is providing new insight into human culture and values. Our fall lecture series will highlight some of their findings.

Robert Juette
Institut fuer die Geschichte der Medizin der Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stuttgart The Five Senses During and After Industrialization Thursday, September 20, 5-7 pm

E. Ann Matter
University of Pennsylvania
Visionary Science in Medieval Germany: Hildegard von Bingen`s SCIVIAS Tuesday, October 2, 5-7 pm

David Howes
Concordia University
Freud`s Nose: The Denigration of Olfaction and the Birth of Psychoanalysis Thursday, October 18, 5-7 pm

Emily Thompson
University of Pennsylvania

The Reverberations of History:
The Culture of Listening and the Reconstruction of the Past
Thursday, November 1, 5-7 pm

Marjorie O' Rourke Boyle
University of Toronto
Adam´s Finger: Michelangelo`s Touch?
Friday, November 16, 5-7 pm

Constance Classen
Concordia University
Chocolate Ice Cream and Hot Orange Light: A Tasteful Exploration of
Modern Art Thursday, December 6, 5-7 pm

All lectures will be held at the German Historical Institute
1607 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Refreshments will be served at 5 p.m. Lectures begin at 5:30 p.m.

Metro: Red Line to Dupont Circle
(Use Q Street North exit)

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Reference:

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