

## Wort and Image: Elect Affinities (23.-27.9.2005, Philadelphia)

Macleod Catriona

Elective Affinities - Philadelphia, USA 09/05

x-post: H-Soz-u-Kult

International Association of Word and Image Studies, Philadelphia, USA

23.09.2005-27.09.2005, Philadelphia, USA

Deadline: 01.10.2004

International Association of Word and Image Studies: Elective Affinities

Philadelphia, 23-27 September, 2005

The title of the conference has been borrowed from Goethe's 1809 novel *Elective Affinities*. There, the term "elective affinities" is the subject of an energetic debate. A chemical term that was in currency from the late eighteenth century, in the novel it extends to human relationships, both intimate and political. Since this is a novel that foregrounds "mixed media" such as tableaux vivants (i.e. dramatic performances of artworks) and the picturesque garden, the concept of "elective affinities" also has profound implications for the relationship between words and images. Like the alkalis and acids of which Goethe's characters speak, words and images, though apparently opposed, may have a remarkable affinity for one another. At the same time, as one of the protagonists objects, such affinities are problematic, and "are only really interesting when they bring about separations." The conference seeks – in the spirit of Goethe's allusive discussion – to explore word/image interactions in literature and visual arts from a broad historical perspective, and also as they extend to fields as diverse as Political Science, Religious Studies, and History of Science.

The call for papers is available at:

<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/affinities/>

IAWIS invites submission of proposals for papers (250-300 words) to [affinities@ccat.sas.upenn.edu](mailto:affinities@ccat.sas.upenn.edu)

The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2004.

Please contact the organiser with any queries:

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#### Arts of the Book

1. Artists' Words
2. Artists and the Art World in Fiction
3. Word and Image in Printed Books
4. The Book and the Scroll: Forms of Printing and Publication
5. Book Design in the Digital Age
6. Breaking the Frame: From Comic-Strip to Graphic Novel
7. VVV-on-line: Verbal-Visual-Vocal Poetries in Hyperspace

#### Early Correspondences

8. Objects of Love – Material Tokens and Traces of Elective Affinities
9. Befriending Antiquity: The Renaissance Emblem
10. The Sight of Song: Meanings and Function of Medieval Musical Notation
11. Presenting the Visual: Repraesentatio/Ekphrasis/Descriptio/Hypnoia in Ancient and Medieval Literature and Theory
12. The Image of the Text in Medieval Art

#### Images of Harmony in Early Modern Europe

#### Political Inscriptions

14. Visualizing the Past: History, Literature, Spectacle
15. Word and Image in the Modern Public Monument
16. The New Prohibitions Against the Image: A Semiotic and Mediological Question

17. Image, Text, History

18. Cultural Translation Between Europe and Latin America – Borders and Exchange

19. National History: Text, Image, Rhetoric

20. Verbal and Visual Representations of Contemporary Islamic Culture

Scientific Imaging

21. Medical Case Studies

22. Words on Screen: Hierarchies of Text and Picture in Cyberculture

23. The Physical Universe

24. Explaining the Universe

Sacred Words, Sacred Images

25. The Jewish Book

26. Word and Image in Jewish Tradition

27. Reading Religious Texts

28. Graphic Sign, Symbol and Image: Seeing and Reading in Islamic Visual Culture

29. Indian Religious Art and Literature

30. Medieval Manuscripts and Early Modern Books

31. Reformation Iconology and Spectacle

32. Reading Religious Imagery in Nineteenth-Century Europe

Spaces, Places

33. Museum – Object – Text

34. Duchamp: Master of Word-&-Image Disruption

35. Reading and Writing the Site

36. Imagining Libraries

37. Reading and Seeing the Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century American City

38. Ornamental Texts and/ or Modernism?

## Photographic Texts

39. Unequal Partners: When Photographs Vie With Words in Journalism

40. Cinema and Photography: Time, Space, Theory

41. Photography and Prose Fiction

42. Theory of Photography, Psychoanalysis, and the Theory of Literature

Homepage <<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/affinities/>>

### Reference:

CFP: Wort and Image: Elecct Affinities (23.-27.9.2005, Philadelphia). In: Arthist.net, Jul 21, 2004 (accessed May 11, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/26496>>.