

French Connection – French Contemporary Art (Cambridge, 24–26 July 08)

Olga Smith

The French Connection: New Perspectives on French Contemporary Art Conference

Winstanley Lecture Hall, Trinity College - Cambridge, University of Cambridge
24-26 July 2008

International conference on French contemporary art, The French Connection offers a platform to reflect upon the recent changes in French art as well as an opportunity for its further 'promotion'. This conference will also offer a space for reflection on the idea of 'national art', a questioning that opens onto a discussion of French identity, cross-cultural artistic practices, and disciplinary change.

Please find below the provisional programme. For more information and to register please visit <http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/60>

Convenors:

Olga Smith (University of Cambridge)

Jennifer Burris (University of Cambridge)

Administrative questions should be addressed to:

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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME:

THURSDAY 24TH JULY

19.00 - 19.15 Opening and Welcome

19.15 - 20.00 Catherine Millet (critic, Art Press)

Three Women Expose: Sex and Desire in the Works of Clarisse Hahn, Catherine Corringer and Isild Le Besco.

Chair: Jean Khalfa (University of Cambridge)

20.00 - 21.30 Pas d'histoires

Pas d'histoires brings together a selection of films by French or Paris-based filmmakers and artists of different generations working with documentary.

Challenging the stereotypical form of documentary films, these artists' critical vision is played out through the observation of existing communities

or through more direct interventions into current international political issues. Artists include: Joël Bartoloméo, Luidgi Beltrame, Clarisse Hahn, Thomas Hirschhorn, Jean-Charles Hue, Florence Lazar, Nicolas Moulin, Philippe Parreno, Noëlle Pujol, Jean Rouch, and Olivier Zabat.

Curator and Chair: Anne-Sophie Dinant (South London Gallery)

FRIDAY 25TH JULY

9.00 - 9.30 Registration

9.30 - 9.45 Opening and Welcome

9.45 - 10.30 Paul Ardenne (curator, Faculté des Arts (Amiens))

No Specificity

Chair: tbc

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee

11.00 - 12.30 Panel 1:

Intersections between contemporary philosophy and art

Nigel Saint (University of Leeds)

Georges Didi-Huberman's Fables du lieu: critique and creativity

Laura McMahon (University of Cambridge)

In Touch: Jean-Luc Nancy and Claire Denis

Jérôme Game (American University of Paris)

Rancière's phrase-image and some contemporary French visual art

Chair: Ian James (University of Cambridge)

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 15.15 Panel 2:

New movements in photography

Sophie Berrebi (University of Amsterdam)

A French Documentary tradition? Jean-Luc Moulène and surrealist photography

Geraldine McIlwaine (University of Sheffield)

Valérie Jouve: Sans Titre 9

Céline Robillard (Université Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne, curator)

Photographie plasticienne contemporaine: la "French Touch" et ses images de crise

Amanda Crawley-Jackson (University of Sheffield)

"To cross is called 'to burn': Yto Barrada and the unevenness of 'liquid modernity'

Chair: Olga Smith (University of Cambridge)

15.15 - 15.45 Coffee

15.45 - 16.30 Pascal Convert in conversation with Nigel Saint

16.30 - 17.30 Roundtable Discussion: Recent initiatives in the promotion and display of French art

Participants include: Sophie Claudel (French Embassy London), Suzanne Cotter (Modern Art Oxford), Clare Grafik (The Photographer's Gallery)

End of Conference, Day 1

19.30 Conference Dinner

Location: Saltmarsh Rooms, King's College

SATURDAY 26TH JULY

9.30 - 10.15 Alain Quemin (Université Paris-Est / Institut Universitaire de France / CNRS

(French National Center for Scientific Research))

The International Impact of the French Visual Arts: Is There Such a Thing as "The Death of French Culture"?

Chair: Jennifer Burris (University of Cambridge)

10.15 - 10.45 Coffee

10.45 - 12.15 Panel 3:

Art institutions: national and international changes

Antigoni Memou (Courtauld Institute)

Photographs of May 1968 in the Contemporary Museum: A Note on Politics and Aesthetics

Femke Van Hest (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris, France) / Erasmus University (Rotterdam, The Netherlands)

The role of nationality at contemporary art biennials: Case study on the participation of

French and Dutch artists

Vivian Rehberg (Parsons Paris School of Art and Design)

Mapping Institutional Critique in Paris Now

Chair: Alyce Mahon (University of Cambridge)

12.15 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 15.00 Panel 4:

Towards future models of exhibition and curating

Anaïs Bourquin (Université Paris-I Panthéon Sorbonne)

Passeurs d'oeuvres: Future Models of Curating in France

Brooke McGowan (University of Cambridge)

Forcener la forme: l'économie(s) et l'autre(s) de Nicolas Bourriaud

Isabelle McNeill (University of Cambridge)

Memory, Media and Intersubjectivity in the Recent Work of Agnès Varda

Chair: tbc

End of Conference, Day 2

15.30 Special Event (tba) followed by full-length film screenings

Reference:

CONF: French Connection - French Contemporary Art (Cambridge, 24-26 July 08). In: ArtHist.net, May 31, 2008 (accessed Sep 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/30422>>.