

Stone Summer Theory Institute (Chicago, 13-19 July 2008)

McGuire_Kristi Ann

Announcing the second annual Stone Summer Theory Institute:

What is an Image?

The School of the Art Institute Chicago, USA, July 13-19, 2008

This year's event is focused on fundamental questions: What makes visual objects different from written ones? What are images? What are pictures? The art world depends on these ideas, and yet they are rarely theorized.

Join us for a week of public lectures, panel discussions, and films, with a group of twenty international experts. Tickets are available on the website (www.stonesummertheoryinstitute.org) or at the door, and all tickets are half-price for students.

This year's faculty includes:

W.J.T. Mitchell (University of Chicago), one of the most influential theorists of words and images, and one of the founders of visual studies

Marie-José Mondzain (L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris), a brilliant scholar of sacred and profane images in Byzantium

Jacqueline Lichtenstein (Université de Paris IV Sorbonne), one of the world's authorities on the concepts of color and painting

Gottfried Boehm (Universität Basel, Switzerland), a major European researcher of images, and student of hermeneutics

James Elkins (School of the Art Institute of Chicago), organizer of the event, and writer on image theory and art

You are welcome to any or all of these public events:

Sunday, July 13, 1 PM - 2 PM, Morton Auditorium, Art Institute of Chicago

Introductory lecture: "Who Needs Words?" James Elkins This will be an

informal talk, to introduce the themes and people in the event. Elkins will summarize the principal theories of images, and talk about the faculty who will be presenting lectures.

Monday, July 14, 9 AM - noon, Ballroom, McLean Center, 112 South Michigan Avenue

Opening roundtable discussion with the faculty

A three-hour conversation, to introduce the problematic of the event.

The Faculty will discuss their approaches, and consider the principal ways of understanding images. Audience questions are encouraged, and the event (with questions) will be taped for the book.

Monday, July 14, 7:30 PM, Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue

Evening film and lecture

Marie-José Mondzain "What Does Seeing an Image Mean?"

The lecture will be preceded by a 75 minute German-language film, "Das Stahltier." A translation will be provided. Mondzain (L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris) is a brilliant scholar of sacred and profane images in Byzantium, and the inheritance of ideas of iconoclasm, idolatry, etc., in the present. The film she is showing was commissioned by the German propaganda ministry and then censored, in part for dwelling too much on the English origin of locomotion!

Wednesday, July 16, 7:30 PM, Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue

Evening lecture

Jacqueline Lichtenstein "Up Close and From Afar: Image and Painting"

Lichtenstein will discuss ways of understanding paintings, from the 18th century to the present. Lichtenstein (Université de Paris IV Sorbonne) is one of the world's authorities on the concepts of color and painting. She wrote a wonderful book, "The Eloquence of Painting," on the conceptualization of painting and color in the 17th c.

Thursday, July 17, 7:30 PM, Ballroom, 112 South Michigan Avenue

Evening film and lecture

W.J.T. Mitchell "Sounding the Idols of the

Present: Terrorism and Cloning"

Mitchell's lecture will be preceded by a screening of Errol Morris's

film "Standard Operating Procedure."

Saturday, July 19, 9 AM - 3 PM Price Auditorium, Art Institute of Chicago

Closing roundtable

This is a five-hour event (with an hour for lunch), in which the Faculty discusses the themes that have emerged during the week of seminars. Audience participation is encouraged; there will be a full hour for questions; they will be taped and may be included in the book that is produced after the event.

All information about the faculty, the event, and the book series is on the website,

<http://www.stonesummertheoryinstitute.org>

Reference:

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