# **ArtHist** net

# "Skin", AAH Annual Conference (Manchester, 2-4 Apr 09)

Tamara Trodd

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Dr Tamara Trodd and Dr Cordelia Warr invite submisions to their conference session on the theme of 'Skin'.

The session will take place at the Association of Art Historians (AAH) Annual Conference in Manchester (UK), April 2-4, 2009. We welcome papers covering all historical periods and artistic media. Papers which treat the theme as a conceptual tool - for theorizing eg the boundaries between media, the interface with the viewer, or issues of space and embodiment in art - are also encouraged.

35th AAH Conference 2009 Intersections Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester 2 - 4 April 2009

Skin

Tamara Trodd, History of Art, Edinburgh University tamara.trodd@ed.ac.uk Cordelia Warr, Art History and Visual Cultures, University of Manchester cordelia.warr@manchester.ac.uk

As the outer covering of the body, skin is an opening onto the world at the same time as it is a container for our sense of our own interiority. Skin can be marked, broken, and pierced, all of which can be the occasion for, or result of, medical intervention, group-affiliation or religious conversion. Visually, we respond to skin with a sensory knowledge of what it feels like to touch and to be touched. At the same time, skin is the boundary of our social selves, marking out the borderzone where we take on inscriptions of social identity.

Psychoanalysts, doctors, photographers, film-makers, performance artists, sculptors, and painters have used and understood skin as a privileged location for articulation of the self and its histories. Skin can be both represented (in painting and sculpture, for example) and can raise questions relating to representation (skin as the support for paint and other media, skin as metamorphosed subject). 'Skin' may thus provide a useful model for

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theorising the interface between different media in the 'age of the post-medium condition'; as painting, sculpture and drawing are all re-made by their points of contact with each other.

A territory of visceral response and exchange, Skin is not bound by time or geography: instead, focusing on the visual, this session seeks to explore skin at the intersections of visual representation, medicine, performance, religion, sensory response and different media.

To submit a paper proposal for this session please click, download and return the AAH09 Paper Proposal Form (word) or AAH09 Paper Proposal Form (pdf)

For further details and to submit proposals please see <a href="http://www.aah.org.uk/conference/index.php">http://www.aah.org.uk/conference/index.php</a>
Deadline for Paper Proposals: 10 November 2008

### Reference:

CFP: "Skin", AAH Annual Conference (Manchester, 2-4 Apr 09). In: ArtHist.net, Sep 25, 2008 (accessed Sep 17, 2025), <a href="https://arthist.net/archive/30705">https://arthist.net/archive/30705</a>.