

NOMIS Lectures at eikones (online, 7 Apr–12 May 21)

online / eikones – Center for the Theory and History of the Image, Apr 7–May 12, 2021

Friederike Zenker, Universität Basel

NOMIS Lectures at eikones – Center for the Theory and History of the Image

April 7 – 6:15pm–7:45pm (Basel, via Zoom)

Jakub Stejskal

The Authority of Images, The Authority of Art

Globally, images have been particularly effective in channelling social authority by visual means -- just think of votive figures or propaganda imagery. Images are effective because depiction proves to be very good at commanding our visual attention. Can a parallel be drawn between images and visual art that would explain the latter's authority qua art? That depends on whether we can come up with a viable notion of what it is that visual art does to command visual attention. I will explore some possibilities drawing on examples from various global art traditions.

Registration:

<https://unibas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJckd-6qqjoiGNdEBpLhm8hc2yh3weKXTR1a>

April 21 – 6:15pm–7:45pm (Basel, via Zoom)

Seth Barry Watter

Interaction Rhythms and Interaction Measurement: A Case of Competing Instruments

Instruments that record and measure the world perform their functions according to built-in criteria; and prolonged familiarity with one kind of instrument will generate a worldview in multiple senses. This talk develops ideas about instruments from a media-theoretical and -historical perspective. It looks at a set of methods for the study of conversation: sound-film microanalysis, interaction chronography, and pen-tracings made from an acoustic signal. Each aims to measure temporal units. Each can be pointed at the same conversation. Yet each can give rise to quite different ideas of what it is to be human in a world shared with others.

Registration:

<https://unibas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0kduGrpzMtHNQwFj022drYh8BlzRhcfkbl>

May 12 – 6:15pm–7:45pm (Basel, via Zoom)

Olga Shevchenko

"Get up, Grandpa!": Presence, Resurrection and Photography in the Immortal Regiment Movement

In what circumstances do photographs of the departed loved ones lead not to a lacerating awareness of irrevocable loss, but to a fantasy of recovery and resurrection? This talk approaches this

question ethnographically, through the analysis of a new tradition that has emerged in Russia in connection to Victory Day. It involves millions of people carrying the enlarged portraits of their veteran ancestors through the streets as part of the so-called Immortal Regiment marches. The tangible sense of co-presence with the long-gone war generation is a common theme in the media coverage on the march, and in the participants' own accounts of their experience. How this effect of co-presence is produced is the subject of my inquiry.

Registration:

<https://unibas.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUqceihqT8iE9yw6d1p2yPeRhkiwzRrZjLe>

Reference:

ANN: NOMIS Lectures at eikones (online, 7 Apr-12 May 21). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 7, 2021 (accessed Dec 28, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/33767>>.