Multigraphic Graffiti Across Times and Cultures (online, 2 Jul 21)

online / Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Universität Hamburg, Jul 02, 2021
Registration deadline: Jul 2, 2021

Malena Ratzke, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

Online workshop on global graffitiing practices from Antiquity to the present day.

Scratched, Scrawled, Sprayed… and Drawn: Multigraphic Graffiti Across Times and Cultures
---
Leah Mascia, Malena Ratzke, Ondřej Škrabal, Lauren Osthof, The Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC), Cluster of Excellence „Understanding Written Artefacts" (Universität Hamburg), 20354 Hamburg (Deutschland)
Friday, 2 July 2021, 01:00 pm–05:00 pm CEST

One of the most striking features of graffiti is their multigraphic nature. Graffitists, whether in ancient or modern times, have often felt the need to involve more than one sign system. A pierced heart by a lover, a gameboard on the temple steps – images, symbolic, and diagrammatic signs share the space with written graffiti worldwide. In some cultures, pictures outweigh the amount of text. Pictorial elements are integral to our understanding of graffiti as a universal practice.
This workshop explores graffiti as written artefacts that undogmatically use different modes of representation. By highlighting both textual and pictorial elements and their relation to each other, we aim at overcoming the separate treatment or lack of attention that resulted from a division of labour among the 'textual' and 'visual' disciplines. In what kind of dialogue have different cultures engaged these two modes of expression? How can the evidence be categorised, documented, and analysed? A series of case studies will address these questions, showcasing evidence from ancient Nubia to contemporary Australia.

For the programme with abstracts and to register, please follow this link: https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/register-workshop8.html.

--
PROGRAMME

First Session: 01:00 pm–02:30 pm
Chair: Michael Macdonald (Oxford)

01:00-01:10 Michael Friedrich (Hamburg): Introduction and opening remarks

01:10-01:50 Sven Ouzman (Perth): Prose Has Its Cons: An Archaeological Understanding of Graffi-

ti as Material Culture – Lessons from the Global South

01:50-02:30 Polly Lohmann (Heidelberg): Seeing and Being Seen? Visibility, Affordance and the Roman ‘Graffiti Habit’

02:30-02:45 Coffee break

Second Session: 02:45 pm–05:00 pm
Chair: Mia Trentin (Nikosia)

02:45-03:25 Carlo Giovanni Cereti (Rome): Graffiti in the Iranian World: An Overview of the Middle Iranian Evidence

03:25-04:05 Adam Łajtar (Warsaw): Devotional Graffiti in Christian Nubia. Two Case Studies: Banganarti and Sonqi Tino

04:05-04:45 Alexey Kirichenko (Moscow): Beyond the Programmed? Multigraphic Content in Buddhist Monuments of Upper Burma

04:45-05:00 General discussion and concluding remarks

For further questions, please contact: malena.ratzke@uni-hamburg.de

https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/register-workshop8.html

Reference:
CONF: Multigraphic Graffiti Across Times and Cultures (online, 2 Jul 21). In: ArtHist.net, Jun 17, 2021 (accessed Nov 11, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/34383>.