

Working with the Works of León Ferrari (online, 9 Dec 21)

online / University of Kent, Dec 09, 2021

Registration deadline: Dec 9, 2021

Eve Kalyva

This online symposium explores León Ferrari's expansive oeuvre, and the fascinations and challenges of working with it. It follows a workshop at Tate Modern (8 December; 11.00-16.00).

Interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral, this symposium showcases Ferrari's multifaceted and critically astute artistic practice. It offers first-hand experience of Ferrari's works and the opportunity to discuss their impact and relevance in theoretical, curatorial and practical terms. It negotiates key issues in the study of Latin American art and culture; and brings together scholars, museum professionals, curators and conservators. It is generously funded by the Society of Latin American Studies (SLAS).

Speakers are Ruth Estévez (director of Amant Foundation in Brooklyn, New York and co-curator of the 34th Sao Paulo Biennial), Niall HD Geraghty (Leverhulme Early Career fellow and lecturer in Latin American Cultural Studies, UCL), Andrea Wain (in charge of the research for Ferrari's catalogue raisonné and co-curator of the exhibition *The Kind Cruelty: León Ferrari, 100 Years*, Reina Sofía, Madrid 2021), Teresa Cos Rebollo (management and exhibitions assistant, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven) and Gabriela Baldomá (conservator-restorer at the Augusto and León Ferrari Art and Collection Foundation, FALFAA).

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Programme

14.00-14.05 Opening remarks

14.05-14.30 Ruth Estévez, "In the Darkness, Words Weigh Twice". A contextual examination of Ferrari's literary collage *The Words of Others* [Palabras Ajenas] (1967), with a focus on the camouflaged violence in the rhetoric of Western discourse, ranging from the Judeo-Christian doctrine to the Second World War, and the role of the media in the reporting and reception of conflict and war.

14.30-14.55 Niall HD Geraghty, "Ferrari con(tra) León". A unique interpretation of Ferrari's images as a profound source of theological and religious experimentation which can be seen to contribute to the rejuvenation of Latin American liberation theology.

14.55-15.15 Q&A

15.15-15.30 Break

15.30-15.50 Andrea Wain, "The Kind Cruelty: The Archive as Organiser of the Exhibition". An insider's view of the process of curating Ferrari's retrospective The Kind Cruelty: León Ferrari, 100 Years (15 December 2020 – 12 April 2021, Reina Sofía, Madrid), focusing on the use of the artist's archive as the basis of investigation, the hypothesis and the script of the exhibition, and the place the "immaterial" has in curatorial practice.

15.50-16.10 Teresa Cos Rebollo, "Parallel Lives, Parallel Aesthetics – Gülsün Karamustafa and León Ferrari". A presentation of the homonymous exhibition at the Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (27 November 2021 – 13 March 2022) and the challenges of showing Ferrari's work to international audiences.

16.10-16.30 Gabriela Baldomá, "The Art of Ferrari through the Conservator's Lens". An examination of some of Ferrari's key works such as Justice/1492–1992. Fifth Centenary of the Conquest (1992/2020) and Homage to the Victims of Torture (2001), both displayed at Ferrari's 2020 retrospective in Madrid, with a focus on the manufacturing process and the particularities of the materials, patterns and sequences in Ferrari's creative project.

16.30-16.50 Q&A

16.50-17.00 Closing remarks

To attend, register online via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-with-the-works-of-leon-ferrari-tickets-212386221907>

Reference:

CONF: Working with the Works of León Ferrari (online, 9 Dec 21). In: Arthist.net, Nov 20, 2021 (accessed Dec 19, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/35378>>.