

## 2 Sessions at RSA (Chicago, 21–24 Mar 24)

Renaissance Society of America 2024, Mar 21–24, 2024

[www.rsa.org/page/RSACHicago2024](http://www.rsa.org/page/RSACHicago2024)

ArtHist.net Redaktion

[1] The construction of identities from material culture in the early modern world

[2] Early Modern Art and the Underground

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[1]

From: Vanessa A. Portugal; Rosario Nava Román

Subject: CFP: The construction of identities from material culture in the early modern world

Deadline: Jul 31, 2023

Rosario Nava Román. Instituto Mora - CONACYT, Escuela Nacional de Pintura, Escultura y Grabado "la Esmeralda" (Mexico); Vanessa A. Portugal. University of Lincoln (United Kingdom)

Considering the range of asymmetrical encounters (Subrahmanyam, 2012) that particulars exercised during the early modern world, this panel seeks paper proposals that engage critically with the representations of the otherness –and the construction of identities– from a non-European discourse to examine the visual strategies employed by groups or individuals (Indigenous peoples of the Americas, Africans, Asians) to understand unfamiliar peoples in their interconnected world.

The aim of this panel is to deeply reflect on the diversity of creative processes brought in by the new cultural interactions, shifting the focus on the paradigm of 'the global world' by drawing on the diversity of diachronic negotiations, interpretations, and constructions of identity of the self and of the otherness recognizing the agency of a diverse plurality of actors with an emphasis in, but not limited to, the colonial Americas.

We welcome papers studying paintings, codices, artifacts, archaeological objects, dealing with gender, racism, castes, identity, and the agency of the image.

Please submit your abstract (200 words maximum) with title (15 words maximum), your full name, current affiliation and a one page CV to the organizers Rosario Nava Román ([rona.foto@gmail.com](mailto:rona.foto@gmail.com)) and Vanessa A. Portugal ([vaportugal@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:vaportugal@lincoln.ac.uk)) by 5pm British Summer Time on 31 July.

Notifications will be sent by 10 August.

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[2]

From: Andrew Chen

Subject: CFP: Early Modern Art and the Underground (Session at RSA)

Deadline: Jul 21, 2023

The sixteenth century witnessed an expansion in the industries of mining, quarrying, and mineral extraction. This panel will investigate how this activity was reflected in and shaped by artistic practices, from roughly 1500 to about 1700. We are interested in papers that address the nexus of underground resource extraction and the arts in any geographic area. Topic may include but are not limited to:

- How labor practices of mining and / or quarrying impressed upon the arts
- The evocative potential of materials sourced from beneath the earth's surface
- The repurposing of narratives tied to underground realms (e.g., Orpheus, Aeneas, Vulcan, Christ in Limbo, Dante, etc.)
- The reshaping of economic, political, and artistic networks in response to the abundant resource extraction enabled by colonization of the Americas
- The manner in which political regimes conjured the underground to symbolize abundance and technological superiority
- Critiques of exploitative mining practices as expressed through the arts
- The role that personification and metonymy played in encouraging resource extraction
- Metaphors of mining and / or the metaphoric language of resource extraction (i.e. the "mining" of meaning, "veins" of metal, the "belly" of the earth, etc.)
- Natural philosophical and mineralogical images
- Multi-sensorial approaches to representing the abyss
- Underground spaces in the theatrical arts

Please submit a single PDF proposal to Andrew Chen (ahc45@txstate.edu) and Christopher Nygren (cnygren@pitt.edu) by 5pm Eastern Time on 21 July.

Paper proposals should include:

- paper title (15-word maximum)
- paper abstract (200-word maximum)
- 2-page resume or CV (including full name, current affiliation, and e-mail address)

Reference:

CFP: 2 Sessions at RSA (Chicago, 21-24 Mar 24). In: ArtHist.net, Jul 2, 2023 (accessed Jun 28, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/39686>>.