

James Turrell. Light in Space and Prints (Zurich, 5–6 Nov 24)

ETH Zürich, Zentrum, LEE Gebäude, E 101, Leonhardstrasse 21, 8092 Zürich, Nov 5–06, 2024

Registration deadline: Oct 31, 2024

Julia Burckhardt

Im Rahmen der aktuellen Ausstellung «Licht im Papier. Die Druckgraphik von James Turrell» (bis 10.11.24) in der Graphischen Sammlung ETH Zürich findet am 5./6.11.2024 ein internationales Symposium zu mit dem Titel "James Turrell. Light in Space and Prints" statt. (Auf Englisch).

Heute ist Turrells Werk von besonderem Interesse, weil es zu einem Knotenpunkt für ein breites Spektrum von Disziplinen geworden ist, auch für die Naturwissenschaften. Es gibt Berührungspunkte zur Architektur, Land Art, Astronomie, Luft- und Raumfahrt, Physik, Geowissenschaften, Medizin, Wahrnehmungspsychologie und Mystik.

Mit einer Keynote-Abend-Veranstaltung am Di, 5.11.2024: «Shadow Speaks of the Light of the Sun»: Peter Zumthor im Gespräch mit Prof. Dr. Philip Ursprung.

Programm:

Tuesday, 5 November.

9:30 – 10:00 Arrival and Coffee.

10:00 – 10:15 Introduction.

Linda Schädler, Head Graphische Sammlung ETH Zürich.

Light and Space.

Moderator: Marcy Goldberg, Culture & Media Consultant.

10:15 – 11:00 Trompe l'œil.

Philip Ursprung.

Professor of the History of Art and Architecture, ETH Zurich.

He earned his PhD in art history at FU Berlin and taught at UdK Berlin, Columbia University, Cornell University and the University of Zurich. His publications include Herzog & de Meuron: Natural History (ed. 2002) Allan Kaprow, Robert Smithson, and the Limits to Art (2013), Der Wert der Oberfläche (2017) and Joseph Beuys: Kunst Kapital Revolution (2021).

11:00 – 11:45 Invoking Mystical Light: Use of Natural Lighting outside of Iberian Tombs.

Gail Higginbottom, Research Fellow, Bournemouth University.

She is a multi-disciplinary researcher in European and Landscape Archaeology and Cultural Astronomy. Her specialisms are megaliths (Galicia and Scotland). After her Marie Curie Research

Fellowship at Incipit, she is now a Project Manager/PostDoc researcher at the Synergy Project Xscape: Material Minds. Besides, she is a Research Fellow at the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Bournemouth University, and at the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

11:45 – 12:30 Deep Blue: The Depth of Colour in James Turrell's Work.

Ulrike Gehring, Professor of Art History, Universität Trier.

Her research interests focus on art, nature and science in the early modern and modern periods. Methodologically, they belong to the field of visual studies, investigating the status of the image at the intersection of art and science. From 2019-2022 she was Vice President of the University of Trier. In 2022, Ulrike Gehring received the Deutschen Lichtkunstpreis for her multidisciplinary research.

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break.

Atmospheres.

Moderator: Marcy Goldberg, Culture & Media Consultant.

14:00 – 14:45 Light, Color and Art for Children and their Families at the University Children's Hospital of Zurich.

Michael Grotzer, Professor, University of Zurich, and Medical Director, University Children's Hospital Zurich.

He is full professor of pediatrics at the University of Zurich, and – since 2018 – Medical Director of the University Children's Hospital Zurich. He is specialized in pediatrics, as well as in pediatric oncology. Grotzer spent three years as a research fellow at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (USA) and has been the recipient of numerous awards for his research activities. He is moving the children's hospital to a new building.

14:45 – 15:30 Orientation and Experience in the Real and Imaginary Spaces of James Turrell

Christoph Hölscher, Professor of Cognitive Science, ETH Zurich.

He is Chair of Cognitive Science at ETH Zurich since 2013, specializing in Applied Cognitive Science. He is Principal Investigator at the Singapore ETH Center (SEC) Future Cities Laboratory Global, heading research on 'Architectural Cognition in Practice'. He holds a PhD in Psychology (University of Freiburg), and studies spatial decision making in complex environments.

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break.

16:00 – 16:45 Air and Clouds in Motion.

Heini Wernli, Professor for Atmospheric Dynamics, ETH Zurich.

He studied physics at ETH Zürich, where he also did his PhD on "airstreams in cyclones". Today he shares his fascination for the complexity of 4-dimensional atmospheric flows, which most of us call "weather", with his research group for investigating the physics behind heat waves, heavy rain events, and windstorms in a changing climate.

16:45 – 17:30 Between Theatre and Visual Arts.

Elisabeth Schweeger, Artistic Director.

European Capital for Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut.

After her studies in comparative literature and philosophy in Innsbruck, Vienna and Paris, she has

been active as curator, e.g. for documenta 87, Ars Electronica 1988, and the Austrian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale 2011. She was director of the Schauspiel Frankfurt theatre, the KunstFest-Spiele Herrenhausen in Hannover, and director/managing director of the Akademie für Darstellende Kunst Baden-Württemberg. Since 2021, she is the Artistic Director of the European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut 2024.

18:00 – 19:00 Keynote – Shadow Speaks of the Light of the Sun: Peter Zumthor in conversation with Philip Ursprung.

With over 50 years of experience and being awarded the Pritzker Prize for Architecture in 2009 and the RIBA Royal Gold Medal in 2013, Peter Zumthor is considered to be one of the most extraordinary architects working today. His best known projects include the Kunsthaus Bregenz, and the Kolumba Diocesan Museum. In this talk, he will discuss the role of light in his work with Philip Ursprung.

Wednesday, 6 November.

(Postreligious) Spirituality.

Moderator: Marcy Goldberg, Culture & Media Consultant.

09:30 – 10:15 Postreligious Spirituality? An Approach to the Works of James Turrell from a Theological Perspective Lena Tacke, Interim Professor for Religious Education and Practical Theology, RWTH Aachen.

She holds the interim professorship for Religious Education and Practical Theology at RWTH Aachen University. Her research focuses on image theology and image didactics as well as religious education. After completing her studies and doctorate at the WWU Münster and her habilitation at the TU Dortmund University, she focuses her research on questions of image theology.

10:15 – 11:00 Ex obscuro spectabile caelum est – Out of darkness, the heaven is visible. James Turrell – Giulielmus Hesius – Meister Eckhart.

Markus Vinzent, Guest Professor, Max-Weber-Kolleg, Universität Erfurt.

After his PhD in Munich and his Habilitation in Heidelberg, he was C4-Chair holder at Köln University. From 1999-2010, he was H.G. Wood Professor for the History of Theology at Birmingham University, UK, followed by a Professorship for Historical Theology at King's College London, and Adjunct Professorship at Seoul University. Since 2012, he is Guest Professor at the Max-Weber-Kolleg, Erfurt University, and Director of the Meister Eckhart Forschungsstelle.

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break.

11:30 – 12:15 Guided Tour in the Exhibition.

James Turrell. Light in Paper.

Graphische Sammlung ETH Zürich.

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch Break.

Perception and Reception.

Moderator: Adrian Hug, Project Assistant and Research of the exhibition «James Turrell. Light in Paper».

13:30 – 14:15 How to photograph colored air and other crazy tasks.

Florian Holzherr, Art & Architectural Documentations.

Born 1970 in Munich, works and teaches in the field of architectural photography, art documentations and book publishing.

14:15 – 15:00 Light, Darkness and the Divine: Turner and Turrell.

Maria Kappel Blegvad, Curator, ARoS Aarhus Art Museum.

Mag. Art. Maria Kappel Blegvad has worked as curator at ARoS Aarhus Art Museum in Denmark since 2010. She has organized many exhibitions ever since. In 2021 she curated the exhibition Turner – Sun is God at ARoS and published a peer reviewed article on Turner and later perspectives.

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break.

15:30 – 16:15 From Paper via Space to Sky: Reaching out for Collecting James Turrell

Reinhard Spieler, Director Sprengel Museum Hannover.

He studied Art History in Munich, Berlin and Paris, and completed his PhD on the triptychs of Max Beckmann in 1997. Thereafter, he worked at Kunstsammlung NRW Düsseldorf/K20, was the Founding Director of museum franz gertsch, Burgdorf/CH, and – from 2007-2013 – Director of Wilhelm Hack-Museum Ludwigshafen. Since 2014, Spieler is Director of Sprengel Museum Hannover.

16:15 – 17:00 Printing Light.

Linda Schädler, Head Graphische Sammlung ETH Zürich.

She has been Head of the Graphische Sammlung ETH Zürich since 2016. In many of her exhibitions, Schädler uses an interdisciplinary approach as in The Hidden Horizontal. Cornices in Art and Architecture (2021). Schädler was a postdoc at the University of Zurich and at ETH Zurich. Before she started with her thesis on James Coleman, she was curator at Kunsthaus Zürich and researcher at Kunstmuseum Basel.

17:00 Final Discussion.

<https://gs.ethz.ch/aktuell/>

Anmeldung: <https://ethzurich.eventsair.com/jamesturrell/registration/Site/Register>

Reference:

CONF: James Turrell. Light in Space and Prints (Zurich, 5-6 Nov 24). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 8, 2024 (accessed Aug 31, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/42873>>.