

The Role of Collectors, Critics, Curators in Artistic Practice (York, 26 Jun 13)

York, Humanities Research Centre, Jun 26, 2013

Deadline: Apr 26, 2013

Eoin Martin, University of Warwick

Collaborators: The Role of Collectors, Critics, Curators in Artistic Practice c. 1780-1914

26 June 2013, Humanities Research Centre, University of York

In May 1884 the art critic Marion Harry Spielmann wrote in defence of the often criticised profession of art criticism: 'The critic – (I am not now referring to the mere notice writer of daily journalism) – spends his life in devotion not only to art but to artists: and, so far as public recognition is concerned, he reaps his reward in sneers and 'chaff': sneers from painters, thoughtless and irresponsible, like Mr Whistler; indifference from others less splenetic and querulous.' Spielmann, a prolific author, editor and arts administrator, was an advocate for and close friend of numerous contemporary artists. Along with the collectors and curators whom he frequently worked with and wrote about, he was an active and influential participant in contemporary art practice in late-Victorian London.

Relationships between artists, collectors, critics and curators are often considered in isolation but rarely in tandem. Drawing upon a diverse range of case studies, covering a variety of local and global contexts, this one day post-graduate workshop aims to unpick consistencies, changes and crossovers in the sometimes fraught but often productive relationships between artists, collectors, critics and curators in the long nineteenth century. By bringing together students, early-career researchers and established academics, we hope the workshop will provide an informal but stimulating forum for conversation, debate and interdisciplinary exchange about the nineteenth-century art world and its constituents.

We invite proposals for twenty-minute papers from postgraduate students, early career researchers and established academics.

Papers might explore, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- The advent of professional art critics and curators and its impact on artistic practice
- Patronage and collecting in the long nineteenth century
- Artists as collectors, critics and curators
- The fabrication and decoration of Museum buildings
- Curating contemporary art in the long nineteenth century
- The art press and art publishing
- The Grand Tour/tourists as collectors, critics and curators
- Conversations/collaborations in the studio

- Collectors, critics, curators and local/regional/national identities
- Agency and authorship in artistic practice in the long nineteenth century
- Documents: catalogues, contracts and correspondence

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be sent to Charlotte Drew (ckd502@york.ac.uk) and Eoin Martin (eoin.martin@warwick.ac.uk) by Friday 26 April.

This event is generously supported by the Centre for Modern Studies, University of York.

Reference:

CFP: The Role of Collectors, Critics, Curators in Artistic Practice (York, 26 Jun 13). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 26, 2013 (accessed May 2, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/4937>>.