

## Abstraction and Anthropomorphism (CAA, Chicago, 12–15 Feb 14)

CAA Annual Conference, Chicago, Feb 12–15, 2014

Deadline: May 6, 2013

Kate Nesin, Brooklyn

Call for Papers:

Abstraction and Anthropomorphism in Postwar and Contemporary Sculpture

Session at the College Art Association Conference, Chicago

Chairs: Lisa Lee, University of Chicago; and Kate Nesin, Art Institute of Chicago

This panel explores the persistence of the body in abstract sculpture, whether as compositional allusion, as the phenomenological viewer, or as the indexical trace or actual presence of the artist. It also considers the ongoing revaluation of figuration and anthropomorphism in the discourse surrounding sculpture since the postwar period. Compelled by a surge in contemporary sculptural work that engages these issues, we wish to ask questions such as: Has the figural been subsumed by or instead sublimated into emphases on materiality and process? Is there room for a sculptural "body" within current discussions of objecthood and thingness, given the anthropomorphic language of agency and animation available to both? Might abstraction help artists not just to interrogate but possibly to recover the "statue" as a category of advanced sculptural practice in the present day? We welcome papers that take up ontological, perceptual, historical, and formal arguments.

Abstract, cover letter, a recent CV, and the CAA conference application form should be emailed by May 6, 2013, to [lisalee1@uchicago.edu](mailto:lisalee1@uchicago.edu) and/or [katenesin@gmail.com](mailto:katenesin@gmail.com).

CAA Call for Participation, with submission guidelines:

<http://www.collegeart.org/pdf/2014CallforParticipation.pdf>

Reference:

CFP: Abstraction and Anthropomorphism (CAA, Chicago, 12-15 Feb 14). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 26, 2013 (accessed Apr 25, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/5202>>.