

Session at the Association of Art Historians Annual Conference (London 2014) [1]

London, Apr 10–12, 2014

Deadline: Nov 11, 2013

H-ArtHist Redaktion

Call for Papers for Session at the 40th Association of Art Historians Annual Conference, Royal College of Art, London

[\[1\]](#) Sense as a Ratio: Early Modern Proportional Analogies in Visual Art

Please send your proposal before November 11, 2013.

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[\[1\]](#)

From: Matthew Landrus <matthew.landrus@history.ox.ac.uk>

Date: Sep 3, 2013

Subject: CFP: Early Modern Proportional Analogies in Visual Art

Sense as a Ratio: Early Modern Proportional Analogies in Visual Art

This session addresses early modern uses of proportional analogies, theories and systems for representations of sensory information or ideas. With the rise in art treatises, along with technical assessments of the body and its sensory judgments, there was a shift away from traditional Neo-Platonic and Neo-Pythagorean concepts of universal truth in quadrivium and humanistic studies. Increasing interests in the 'beauty' of phenomena or ideas (analogia, αναλογία) expanded the discourse on the predominantly sense-oriented beauty of proportio, symmetria, pulchritude, and harmonia. Often addressing the human condition, this period of work involved clever developments of visceral and intellectual contrasts, paradoxes, and concettismi. An opportunity to discuss this history of ideas, analogies and contrasts, this session considers differences between systematic and intuitive applications of proportional sensory content in visual art, with particular interest in correspondences between technical and demonstrative/suggestive aspects of an object.

Generally at issue is the role of proportional methodologies for technical and sensory assessments of the human condition. Topics could cover, for example, approaches to proportional systems and analogies in

landscape, figural arrangements, printmaking, still-lives, grotesques, mechanical drawings, architectural representations, anatomical studies, visual rhetoric, botanical collections, natural philosophy, cabinets of curiosities, draughting mechanisms, art treatises, paint chemistry, pietra dura, intarsia, design, hybridity, rhythm, rilievo, colour theory, fragrance, taste, festivals, religious reform, European expansion, political discourses, etc.

Abstracts of less than 250 words may be sent to Matthew Landrus (convenor) at matthew.landrus@history.ox.ac.uk before 11 November 2013.

<http://www.aah.org.uk/media/docs/AAH%25202014%2520Conference%2520Session%2520Listings.pdf>

Reference:

CFP: Session at the Association of Art Historians Annual Conference (London 2014) [1]. In: ArtHist.net, Sep 9, 2013 (accessed Jul 31, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/5854>>.