# So-called Waste (York, 13 Feb 15)

York, United Kingdom, Feb 13, 2015
Deadline: Dec 12, 2014

Amy Tobin, University of Cambridge

‘So-called waste’:
Forms of Excess in Post-1960 Art, Film, and Literature
Friday 13 February, 2015
University of York

Deadline for abstracts: 12 December 2014

Visual art, film, and literature since 1960 has been marked by leftovers, repetitions, and time lags, despite emerging in a climate of accelerated technological development and the erasure of leisure time. From artworks that incorporate the trash and detritus of consumerist excess to novels and films that indulge in narrative ‘time-wasting,’ the cultural production of the last fifty years has revelled in the wasteful and excessive. This event asks: what are the aesthetics of excess? What are its material, temporal and figurative manifestations? Is artistic time-wasting a radical form of resistance to the capitalist imperative to be productive? Or do art’s glorious expenditures reinforce aesthetic hierarchies that privilege ‘difficulty’? We invite 20-minute papers from postgraduates and early-career researchers that engage with waste and excess in post-1960 art, film and literature. Possible topics include (but are not limited to) the following:

-Narrative: digressions; footnotes and marginalia; listing; repetition; the non-event; the filler; reality effects
-Queer theory: the concept of the queer subject as embodying non-(re)productivity; queer temporalities; drag and camp as recycling
-The body: labour; time-wasting and protest
-Feminism: the gendered dynamics of lack and excess
-Economic surplus: abstraction; financial markets; concepts of utility and value
-Digital waste: big data; information overload; archive fever
-Cold War politics: nuclear waste; abundance and wasting as critical tactics

The event will follow a workshop format, with a paper by Dr. Amanda Boetzkes (University of Alberta) and a screening and discussion led by Dr. Karl Schoonover (University of Warwick). Please send abstracts of no more than 300 words and a brief biography to the organisers, Stephanie Lambert (sjl519@york.ac.uk) and Amy Tobin (at548@york.ac.uk) by 15/12/14. General enquiries are also welcome.

Reference:

CFP: So-called Waste (York, 13 Feb 15). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 19, 2014 (accessed Nov 1, 2026),

<https://arthist.net/archive/8686>.