

When Iconology meets Visual Studies

March 6th 2009

Argument:

Although one can document the arrival of visual studies as an independent research field, its nature, scope and methodologies are still contested. As far as its relationship with art history is concerned, it appears highly problematic, and even more so when it comes to its iconological heritage. While some fear that the integrity of art history could be damaged by calling into question the boundary between art and non-art, others on the contrary see visual studies as an opportunity to question the ideological origins of these boundaries. From this latter point of view, the visual studies would open the field to new research avenues or renew the traditional objects and methodologies of iconological studies.

Programme

- 09:30 Welcome and registration
10:00 Barbara Baert (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven) and
Agnès Guiderdoni (Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS, Université catholique de Louvain)
Introduction
Chair of the Morning session – Thierry Lenain (ULB)
10:30 Ralph Dekoninck (Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS, Université catholique de Louvain)
Iconology and/or Visual Studies. Art History at the risk of the Pictorial Turn.
11:15 Reindert Falkenburg (Universiteit Leiden)
The creative viewer: imagination versus iconology in early 16th-century landscape painting
12:00 Lunch
Chair of the afternoon session – Philippe Bordes (Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art, Paris)
14:00 Rebecca Zorach (The University of Chicago)
Empty spaces, pure painting: on visual culture, iconology and modernism
14:45 Clemena Antonova (American University Bulgaria)
Visual Studies and Iconology at RAKhN in the 1920s: Insights from an Unfinished Russian Experiment
15:30 Break
16:00 Ann-Sophie Lehmann (Universiteit Utrecht)
The Story of the Teapot – Meaning and Materiality of a Digital Icon
16:45 Jan Baetens (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)
Concluding remarks

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Organizing committee

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Ann-Sophie Lehmann (Universiteit Utrecht)

Scientific committee

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