

CALL FOR PAPERS

19th Research Colloquium for Young Art Historians in Switzerland University of Fribourg

The 19th Swiss Research Colloquium for Young Art Historians will take place from 13 – 14 November 2020 at the University of Fribourg. The colloquium is intended for students at the beginning of their art historical careers (BA, MA & PhD) and is designed to facilitate discussion around current and future projects engaged with art from across the entire breadth of contemporary and historic media and practice.

Under the title of *"Fragments"* – this year's colloquium centres upon a critical term that has in recent decades attracted increased scholarly attention (Anne Coquelin 1986, Linda Nochlin 1994, Alain Montandon 1999, Glenn Most 2009). Ideas of the fragment and fragmentation have proved fertile ground for contemporary theorists, whether as a metaphor for modernity or as the paradigm for a globalised world. Within the History of Art itself the fragment as theoretical tool and physical object has a well-developed and tenacious intellectual history. Conservation and reconstruction practices, contemporary artists imitating and recontextualising historic artefacts, these and other examples disclose a spectrum of cultural approaches to the fragment, which through continuous reframing and reimagining accrues novel and layered meanings. In turn, these examples point to art history's potential to expand current understanding of the fragment's intellectual significance and to explore the fragment's specific role in representing and producing knowledge and meaning.

Many artworks survive physically only as fragments of a former whole and all artworks function historically as fragments of wider social and artistic context. There is even something fragmentary about the process of artistic encounter: works of art present the viewer with divided and split temporalities – they connect us to past events and simultaneously confront us with an immediate present. These chronological overlappings relate to a broader literary and philosophical discourse on subjects such as nostalgia and identity construction and draw attention to the centrality and productivity of the fragment as a cultural metaphor which this colloquium aims to re-examine.

Possible topics for presentation at the colloquium include but are not limited to the following:

- The fragment as an artistic strategy
- Iconoclasm, recycling and reconstruction
- Theories of the fragment
- Fragmented perceptions
- Archiving and conservation
- The fragment in knowledge production, collections, and exhibitions
- Fragments as ambivalent points of departure in art history.
- The fragmented body. Phantasms and the uncanny
- The fragment as an index for scholarly research
- Fictionalised archaeologies

Interested participants are kindly requested to send a short abstract of their presentation (max. 300 words) to the following address: nachwuchskolloquium2020@unifr.ch. Each presentation must not exceed 20 minutes and can be in German, French, or English. Applications must be sent before 31 August 2020.

The colloquium is supported by the University of Fribourg Centenary Research Fund, the Swiss Association for Young Researchers in Art History (*articulations*) and the Swiss Association for Art Historians (VKKS).

Organisation: Dominic-Alain Boariu, Tobias Ertl, Kalinka Janowski and Sandro Weilenmann.

Website : <https://www3.unifr.ch/art/fr/news/container/colloque-releve/call-for-papers.html>