

2018 Lovis Corinth Colloquium IX

Art History Department, Emory University

Thursday – Saturday, March 21 – 23, 2019

Woodruff Library, Jones Room

Landscape and the Visual Hermeneutics of Place, 1500-1700

Co-organizers: Walter Melion (Emory University) and Karl Enenkel (Universität Münster)



Adriaen Collaert after Hans Bol, *Christ and the Woman of Samaria*, 1585, engraving

Scholars of Northern and Italian art have recently called attention to the exegetical form and function of landscape in various genres and proto-genres of early modern painting. Bruegel's *Seasons* (1565), for example, viewed through the lens of Augustine's reading of Psalm 47, operate as signifiers of divine beauty, goodness, and being, even while insisting, through their mutability and inconstancy, on the immutability and constancy of God. The descriptive effects that make these landscapes visually compelling, are complementary to motifs and structural devices—such as analogy, antithesis, chiasmus, and periphrasis—that invite or, better, demand sustained hermeneutic engagement. Between 1500 and 1700, the efflorescence of pictured landscape went hand in hand with the literary and rhetorical exploration of landscape's affective and signifying effects. Countless lyric poems and cycles visualize landscape as the place whither one goes in search of the poetic source; in heptameter poetry, it epitomizes divine potency of the Creator; in epic poetry, it is the place through which one journeys to achieve a goal; in sacred literature, it marks the stages of the soul's journey toward God. The visual evocation of place also constitutes one of the chief topics of rhetorics and poetics. These literary and pictorial examples bear witness to the discursive context within which landscape imagery functioned as a visual hermeneutic in paintings, drawings, and prints produced in Italy, Germany, and the Low Countries between 1500 and 1700.

Thursday, March 21

Opening Remarks: 9:00-9:15

Sarah McPhee and Walter Melion, Emory University

Session 1: 9:15 – 11:45

Margaret Goehring, New Mexico State University

Gardens of Eloquence: The Late Medieval and Early Renaissance Garden as Ornamentum of Nobility

Denis Ribouillault, Université de Montréal

Hermeneutics and the Early Modern Garden

Luke Morgan, Monash University

"False Art's Insolent Address": The Enchanted Garden in Early Modern Literature and Landscape Design

11:45 - 1:00 — Lunch

Session 2: 1:00 – 3:15

Sarah Crover, University of British Columbia

Landscape as Parable: Women, Cities, and Dales in Shakespeare's "The Rape of Lucrece" and "Venus and Adonis"

Walter Melion, Emory University

Parabolic, Periphrastic, and Ekphrastic Landscape in Hans Bol's "Emblemata Evangelica" of 1585

Paul Smith, University of Leiden

Landscape in Marcus Gheeraert's Fable Illustrations

3:15 – 3:30 — Coffee Break

Session 3: 3:30 – 5:00

Lucas Reddemann, Universität Münster

Epic Salvation: Christ's Descent into Hell and the Topography of the Underworld in Neo-Latin Christian Epic

Michel Weemans, EHESS

Bruegel's Birds: Sight and Insight in Bruegel's Bird's-Eye View Landscapes

Friday, March 22

Session 1: 9:15 – 11:45

Mark Meadow, UCSB

Envisioning Historical Distance in Cornelis van Dalem's Landscape with the Dawn of Civilization

William Barton, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute

"Car la terre ice n'est telle qu'un fol l'estime...": Landscape Description as an Interpretive Tool in Early Modern Literature on New France

Alexandra Onuf, University of Hartford

History and Memory: Landscape and the Hermeneutics of Place in Claes Jansz. Visscher's Brabantine Prints

Friday, March 22 Continued

11:45 – 1:00 — Lunch

Session 2: 1:00 – 3:15

Kathleen Perry Long, Cornell University

Cities of the Dead: Utopian Spaces, the Grotesque, and the Work of Melancholy

Corina Kleinert, Independent Scholar and Art Advisor

Peter Paul Rubens and his Landscapes: Reflections on the Notion of Otium

Karl Enenkel, Universität Münster

Landscape Description and the Hermeneutics of Neo-Latin Autobiography

3:15 - 3:30 — Coffee Break

Session 3: 3:30 – 5:00

Troy Tower, Independent Scholar and Editor

Forest Ecologies in Ariosto's Metanarrative

Boudewijn Bakker, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, Emeritus

Order or Variety? The Imitation of Nature in Dutch 17th-century art

Saturday, March 23

Session 1, 9:15 – 10:45

Reindert Falkenburg, NYU Abu Dhabi

Puddled Places: On 'Schilderachtig' Landscape Paintings in early 17th-Century Dutch Art

Stijn Bussels, Leiden University

Landscape with Landmark: Jacob van Ruisdael's Panoramic View on Amsterdam (1665-1670)

10:45 – 11:00 — Coffee Break

Session 2, 11:00 – 12:30

Sarah McPhee, Emory University

The Stratigraphy of Poetic Landscape at the Esquiline Villa

Andrew Yeung Bun Hui, Yale-NUS

Poussin's Allegory of Ruins

12:30 – 12:45 — Concluding Remarks: Publication

12:45 – 2:00 — Lunch