A Symposium

Why Have There Been No Great Modern Religious Artists?

Organized by The Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art

Hosted by The Museum of Biblical Art, New York, NY

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Prior to the February 9 opening of the College Art Association annual conference


Important DATE

Advanced registration (by February 1st) $40
Registration at the symposium $50
Students with institutional identification $25

Please do not send cash. Checks should be made to “The Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art” and mailed to:

The Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art
PO Box 982
New York, NY 10013

Symposium SYNOPSIS

Mirroring the complex presence of religion throughout the 20th century, there has been a proliferation of religious expression in the visual arts. Many of the most prominent and celebrated artists of this century have employed Christian themes, iconography, and forms in their work. However, many of these artists and their works have been ignored, dismissed as aberrant, or condemned as an improper union of incompatible traditional and avant-garde values. The diverse and contradictory manifestations of religious expression in the art of this period, from private devotion, to liturgical practice, to critical commentary, to creative expression pose methodological problems for narratives of modernist and post-modernist art history that have tended to omit serious consideration of Christian strains in 20th century and current artistic practice.

Symposium REGISTRATION
All sessions will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at The Museum of Biblical Art
1865 Broadway at 61st Street, New York, NY 10023-7505
www.mobla.org

8:30-9:00 am Arrival and Registration
Coffee and Tea will be served

9:00-9:15 am Welcome and Introduction
Symposium Co-chairs:
Dr. James Romaine
Associate Professor of Art History/Department Chair
Nyack College, Nyack, NY/Manhattan, NY
Dr. Rachel Smith
Gilkison Professor in Art History
Taylor University, Upland, IN

9:15-10:45 am 1st Session
“Crossed Off: Johan Thorn Prikker, the avant-garde and the art cannon”
Dr. Christiane Heiser
Curator
Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Museum Kunst Palast, Düsseldorf, Germany

“The Readymade and the Real Presence: Marcel Duchamp and the Blind Man”
Dr. Bradley Bailey
Assistant Professor of Art History
Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, MO

“Salvador Dalí’s The Ecumenical Council: A Paranoiac-critical Exegesis”
Dr. Jonathan Wells
Assistant Professor/Chair of Liberal Arts
Moore College of Art and Design, Philadelphia, PA

10:45-11:00 am Break
Coffee and Tea will be served

11:00-12:30 pm 2nd Session
“Figuring Redemption: Max Beckmann’s Resurrections”
Dr. Amy K. Hamlin
Assistant Professor of Art History
St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN

“Twentieth Century Grünewald: Reclaiming Graham Sutherland for Twentieth Century Christian Art”
James McCullough
PhD candidate in Theology
Institute for Theology, Imagination and the Arts, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland

“The a-theology of Francis Bacon”
Dr. Rina Arya
Reader in the School of Art and Design
University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, United Kingdom

12:30-1:30 pm Lunch Break
A list of possible places to eat in the area will be provided.

1:30-3:00 pm 3rd Session
“Modernizing, Internalizing and Profaning: The Christian Paintings of Joseph Stella”
Dr. Herb Harrel
Adjunct Associate Professor of Art History
John Jay College, CUNY, New York, NY

“Jackson Pollock and Religion: The Church Project”
Dr. Elizabeth Langhorne
Associate Professor of Art History
Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT

“From Text to Collage: Romare Bearden’s Depictions of Biblical Narratives in the 1960s”
Dr. Emily Hage
Assistant Professor of Art History
Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA

3:00-3:15 pm Break
Coffee and Tea will be served

3:15-4:45 pm 4th Session
“Screening God: Video, Viola and the Postmodern Sublime”
Dr. Ronald R. Bernier
Assistant Professor of Art History
Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, MA

“On Rivalry and Rehtribution: Sacrifice and Ritual in the Art of Paul Pfeiffer”
Dr. Isabelle Loring Wallace
Associate Professor of Contemporary Art
Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

“Collaborative Religiosity; Christian Jankowski’s Holy Artwork”
Dr. Karen Gonzalez Rice
Visiting Assistant Professor
Beloit College, Beloit, WI

4:45-5:00 pm Break
Coffee and Tea will be served

5:00-5:30 pm 5th Session
Symposium Wrap-up

The Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art (ASCHA) is dedicated to the facilitation and promotion of scholarship which examines the historical and contemporary relationship between Christianity and the visual arts. ASCHA encourages the critical study of Christianity and the visual arts as that relationship is diversely manifested in all historical periods and world cultures. ASCHA is dedicated to the establishment and upholding of professional standards of scholarship and education through the development and practice of rigorous scholarly methodologies. ASCHA is dedicated to examining problems that confront the field by identifying scholarly needs and fostering opportunities. ASCHA is a forum for the advancement of research, dialog, collaboration, and publication in the area of Christianity and the visual arts through the open and respectful exchange of knowledge and ideas among scholars. For more information about ASCHA and to sign up to receive announcements of our activities, please visit our website http://christianityhistoryart.org.

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