An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Color

Offered by Lothar von Falkenhausen, Professor, Art History,
University of California, Los Angeles

The Getty Research Institute
Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Orientation: Friday, December 7, 2012
Seminars: January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 23, March 2, 9, 2013

This seminar examines color from every imaginable angle; for example,
• as physical and physiological reality (optical and psychological theories of color and color perception);
• as language (words, their semantic ranges and nuances in different languages and periods);
• as a cultural construct (a means for categorizing and classifying people and things in cultural contexts all over the world);
• as an object of exchange (the quest for colored things and coloring materials, their role in and stimulating effect on economic and cultural exchange);
• as a focus of manufacturing skill (the production of coloring materials, and its development in time and space);
• as a focus of technical skill in application (color in material culture and the visual arts, and its development in time and space);
• as a topos in literary creation (in various traditions and genres);
• as a notion for philosophical reflection (color in systems of aesthetics);
• and as a perennial challenge to artists in all mediums and traditions (different solutions and approaches to color use over the course of art history worldwide).

The seminar is run salon-style, aiming to stimulate discussion that emphasizes the connections between approaches while also incorporating the research interests of individual participants.

To apply to participate in this seminar, please submit the following:
1) Personal information
   Name, home address and phone number, campus address and phone number, e-mail address
2) Graduate transcript
   Not required for students in their first term
3) Statement of interest
   No longer than one page (double-spaced) about your reasons for wanting to participate in this seminar
4) Reference
   A brief recommendation (a paragraph is sufficient) from a faculty member who is familiar with your work sent by mail to the address below

All application materials should be sent to the Getty Research Institute by November 1, 2012.

Mail materials to: The Getty Research Institute
c/o Sabine Schlosser
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, CA 90049-1688

Questions about course content may be directed to Professor Lothar von Falkenhausen at lothar@humnet.ucla.edu. Please do not e-mail application materials.

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