

IN EXCESS:

OPULENCE, SPLENDOR, SURPLUS, AND GLUT ACROSS TIME AND SPACE



RASC/a Art History Graduate Student Association Conference

April 1st-2nd, 2022
Virtual Conference via Zoom
Department of Art History, Meadows School of the Arts
Southern Methodist University

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Carmen Ripollés
Associate Professor of Art History
Portland State University

Elite conspicuous consumption has long occupied a central position in Western art history, as early scholarship favored narratives concerning patrons of painting, sculpture, and architecture and representations of luxury culture. Expansions of the discipline, in later years, chartered alternative methods of examination by incorporating works previously considered inferior—or more copious in their dissemination—prompting visual culture studies to include prints, photography, decorative arts, and fashion. Artists and researchers today continue to interrogate the role of surplus intrinsic to life and artistic production in the twenty-first century, now questioning the entities and patrons that drive the art market and its academic and museological institutions.

The 2022 RASC/a Art History Graduate Student Conference will address this theme of art “In Excess” at its largest scope, opening a space for both celebrations and critiques of abundance and overabundance throughout our world.

We encourage papers that are interdisciplinary in nature and welcome discussion of all time periods, geographic locations, and mediums.

Top: Joachim Beuckelaer, *Fish Market*. 1568. Oil on Baltic Oak. 128.6 × 174.9 cm. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. 2015.146.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Consumption
- Luxury
- Food and feasting
- Wine
- Bounty
- Ornament
- Elite culture
- Monumentality
- Empire
- Wealth and power
- Collecting
- Glamour
- Intricacy
- Humoral Theory
- Adornment
- Capitalism
- Trade
- The environment
- Art markets
- NFTs
- Elitism
- Affluenza
- Artist output
- Repetition
- Reactionary Minimalism
- Urbanism
- Trade
- Decay and rot
- Disease and pandemics

For consideration, please submit a 300 word (maximum) abstract for a 15 minute presentation and a brief CV as PDF attachments to smuexcess@gmail.com by January 18, 2022.

Selected participants will be notified by January 24, 2022. Participants will be compensated with an honorarium detailing \$100 in lieu of a traveling reimbursement. The conference will be conducted entirely online, with more information provided upon acceptance.

Questions may be directed to the conference organizers at smuexcess@gmail.com.