

The Second Act: Exhibitions as Loci of Cultural Struggle

Reading List

Controversy & Censorship (featuring Mapplethorpe & Serrano)

Timothy W. Luke, "Introduction: Museum Exhibitions as Power Plays," in Museum Politics: Power Plays at the Exhibition, 2002, pp. xiii-xxvi. (.PDF on course website)

Ted Potter, "Sliding Toward a Diminished Culture," in Culture and Democracy: Social and Ethical Issues in Public Support for the Arts and Humanities, ed. Andrew Buchwalter, 1992, pp. 41-46. (.PDF on course website)

Richard Bolton, "Introduction," Culture Wars: Documents from the Recent Controversies in the Arts, ed. Richard Bolton, New York, 1992, pp. 3-26. (.PDF on course website)

David Hoekema, "Artists, Humanists, and Society: Why Conservatives Have the Wrong Answers to the Right Questions While Liberals Bark Up the Wrong Philosophical Tree," in Culture and Democracy: Social and Ethical Issues in Public Support for the Arts and Humanities, ed. Andrew Buchwalter, 1992, pp. 201-208. (.PDF on course website)

Sensation!

Consult websites linked on course page

Roger Kimball, "The Elephant in the Gallery, or the Lessons of 'Sensation'," New Criterion 18 (November 1999): 4-8. (.PDF on course website)

Lawrence Rothfield, "Introduction: The Interests in 'Sensation'," in Unsettling "Sensation": Arts-Policy Lessons from the Brooklyn Museum of Art Controversy, ed. Lawrence Rothfield, New Brunswick – London, 2001, 1-11. (.PDF on course website)

Teri J. Edelstein, "Sensational or Status Quo: Museums and Public Perception," in Unsettling "Sensation": Arts-Policy Lessons from the Brooklyn Museum of Art Controversy, ed. Lawrence Rothfield, New Brunswick – London, 2001, 104-114. (.PDF on course website)

Primitivism

Thomas McEvilley, "Doctor Lawyer Indian Chief: 'Primitivism' in 20th century art' at the Museum of Modern Art in 1984," Artforum 23 (November 1984): 54-61. Read also the response of the exhibition's two curators, William Rubin and Kirk Varnedoe, as well as Thomas McEvilley's riposte, which are found in the February 1985 issue of Artforum (vol. 23) pp. 42-51. (.PDF on course website)

Christa Clarke, "From Theory to Practice: Exhibiting African Art in the Twenty-First Century," in Art and Its Publics: Museum Studies at the Millenium, ed. Andrew McClellan, Malden, MA – Oxford, 2003, 165-182. (.PDF on course website)

Multiculturalism

Michael Baxandall, "Exhibiting Intention: Some Preconditions of the Visual Display of Culturally Purposeful Objects," in Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display, ed. Ivan Karp & Steven D. Lavine, Washington and London, 1991: 33-41. (.PDF on course website)

Steven D. Lavine and Ivan Karp, "Introduction: Museums and Multiculturalism," in Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics and Politics of Museum Display, ed. Ivan Karp & Steven D. Lavine, Washington and London, 1991: 1-9. (.PDF on course website)

The West as America

Timothy W. Luke, "Politics at the Exhibition: Aesthetics, History, and Nationality in the Culture Wars," in Museum Politics: Power Plays at the Exhibition, 2002, pp. 1-18. (.PDF on course website)

Roger B. Stein, "Visualizing Conflict in The West as America," Public Historian 14 (Summer 1992): 85-91. (.PDF on course website)

William Truettner and Alexander Nemerov, "What You See is Not Necessarily What You Get: New Meaning in Images of the Old West," Montana 42 (Summer 1992): 70-76 (also "Visitors Respond," 77-80). (.PDF on course website)

website)

Enola Gay

Script, articles from Journal of Technology and Culture (special section) – to be assigned by groups
AND

Timothy W. Luke, “Nuclear Reactions: The (Re)Presentation of Hiroshima at the National Air and Space Museum,” in Museum Politics: Power Plays at the Exhibition, 2002, pp. 19-36. (.PDF on course website)

Peruse web-site offerings

The Curator

Rohini Malik and Gilane Tawadros, “(Mis)Representations: The Curator, The Gallery & The Artwork,” in Critical Studies & Modern Art, ed. Liz Dawtrey, Toby Jackson, Mary Masterton, Pam Meecham, Yale University Press, 1996, pp. 113-121. (.PDF on course website)

Lonnie Bunch, “Embracing Controversy: Museum Exhibitions and the Politics of Change,” The Public Historian (Summer 1992), 63-65. (look up on JSTOR)

Truettner, William. “A case for active viewing,” in The two art histories: the museum and the university. Ed. Charles W. Haxthausen, 2002: 102-112. (.PDF on course website)