

November 13TH, 2017: Paris

9:00 – 12:30

École normale supérieure
45 rue d'Ulm, 75005, Salle Dussane

15:00 – 19:00

Musée national Picasso-Paris
5 rue de Thorigny, 75003, Auditorium

November 27TH-29TH, 2017: Venice

Fondazione Giorgio Cini
Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore, Venezia
Sala Borges

& Aging STIA

Colloquium

How Does Age Affect the Creative Process?

More Information

www.ens.fr/agenda

www.museepicassoparis.fr/colloques



& Aging 271A

How Does Age Affect the Creative Process?

Aging & Arts (AAA)

2017-2018

HOW DOES AGE AFFECT THE CREATIVE PROCESS?

The methodology adopted by Age (or Aging) Studies is currently nourishing a dynamic wave of interdisciplinary research in both the United States and certain European countries, as demonstrated by journals such as the *Journal of Aging Studies* or *Age Culture Humanities*. The goal of this program, entitled *Aging & Arts (AAA)*, and devoted in large part, though not exclusively, to old age, is to introduce such studies to the French academic sphere, while at the same time crossing them with the artistic field, especially with the visual arts.

After a first session devoted to the question of the reception of elderly visitors in museums, which opened with a series of seminars organized along with such institutions at the ENS in March, 2015, we will shift our focus to the topic of creation itself starting this Autumn. In what ways does aging affect the artistic process? Does old age, or, inversely, youth, have a specific influence on the activity of the creator? Does the age of an artist have any bearing on the assessment of a body of work in terms of taste, visibility and value? Such are the questions that we will aim to tackle over the course of this program.

The perspectives adopted will be multidisciplinary, with a view to attempting an analysis at the crossroads of approaches adopted by art history, sociology of culture, cognitive sciences and medicine.

The Colloquium will take place in Paris at the École normale supérieure and the Musée national Picasso-Paris on November 13th. It will be open to the public. Over the course of the day, we will look back at various initiatives launched by museums in the reception of older visitors; following this will be a presentation of the medical, economic, sociological and esthetic questions capable of nourishing a discussion around the links between age and creation.

Researchers from around the world will gather for a **multidisciplinary workshop at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice from the 27th to the 29th of November** to discuss a number of issues:

What are the aesthetic effects of a work produced in old age? Can one speak of a “*late style*” in the same way as, legitimately or not, one does of a “*precocious style*”? Does such a notion really take into account the diversity of experiences? Can it truly function as a category? Does aging influence the artist’s view on the world? What potential strategies might an artist develop at various stages of their life to highlight their work? What image does society have of the aging artist? What value, what forms of recognition are attributed, or not, to such a figure? What targeted moves might institutions or the market aim at such an artist’s work?

These questions will be taken in the present day, but also from a historical perspective, which will allow for a consideration of the variation or permanence of certain values and attitudes throughout the ages, and thus of social and cultural contexts as well.

A series of seminars will complete the Winter-Spring 2017/2018 cycle with the aim of visualizing the issue of aging and creation through the prism of other artistic practices.

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE IS COMPOSED OF:

Emilie Bouvard, Curator, in charge of Paintings (1938-1972), Research, Publications and Contemporary Art, Musée national Picasso-Paris;

Danièle Cohn, Professor of Esthetics and Philosophy of Art, Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne;

Nadeije Laneyrie-Dagen, Professor of History of Art, École normale supérieure.

François-René Martin, Professor of the History and Theory of Art, École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris;

Jair Kessler, Assistant Director, Remarque Institute, New York University;

with the support of **Caroline Archat**, Corresponding Researcher, Centre Norbert Elias, Université d'Avignon et des Pays-du-Vaucluse.

The program *Aging & Arts (AAA)* is piloted by Nadeije Laneyrie-Dagen, Professor at the École normale supérieure / PSL Research University.

It has been developed as a part of the IRIS (Initiatives de Recherches Interdisciplinaires et Stratégiques / Initiatives for Multidisciplinary and Strategic Research) "Creation, Cognition, Society", piloted by Jean-Marie Schaeffer (EHESS), and of SACRe (Sciences, Arts, Creation and Research) "Le Laboratoire" (EA 74 10). The program is organized in partnership with the Musée national Picasso-Paris and the Remarque Institute at New York University.