

Call for Papers

Date : October 1, 2008

[Natural Dialogues: Art, Science and Material Culture](#)

Graduate Student Symposium, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, CT

Saturday, February 21, 2009, 9am-6:30 pm

Keynote Lecture 5:30 pm

This one-day graduate student symposium focuses on intersections where art and science meet. 2009 will witness a number of major events to mark the bicentenary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species*. One of these is an exhibition organized by the Fitzwilliam Museum in association with the Yale Center for British Art, entitled "Endless Forms": Charles Darwin, Natural Science, and the Visual Arts. This symposium takes part in these conversations by exploring multiple ways in which art overlaps with science in a broader context, considering a range of historical periods and cultures.

We seek to focus the discussion through the close study of objects. To this end, the program will include material study sessions in exhibitions and collections at Yale University.

Topics may include but are not restricted to:

- networks of artists and scientists
- artist/scientist collaborations
- art and the natural world
- the philosophical concept of the sublime
- theology, art, and science
- the influence of scientific discoveries on the arts
- artistic and scientific approaches to epistemology
- dialogues between art and science in the Enlightenment
- art, science, and education
- science museum displays
- scientific illustration
- travel accounts
- art and exploration
- amateur practice
- photography as science or art
- artistic and scientific concepts of truth

We invite proposals for 25-minute papers on this theme from graduate students across the arts and sciences. Special consideration will be given to papers examining the topic in relation to British art and culture. Cross-disciplinary and comparative studies are particularly welcome.

Please submit abstracts of no more than 300 words by October 14, 2008.

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<http://www.materialworldblog.com>

by email: imogen.hart@yale.edu

by mail: Imogen Hart

Research Department

Yale Center for British Art

P.O. Box 208280

New Haven, CT 06520-8280

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