

UNIVERSITY OF BURGUNDY- CENTRE INTERLANGUES
TEXTE/IMAGE/LANGAGE
SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION – SEMINARS 2011-2012

Seminars will take place on Fridays – precise location and time to be confirmed

NOVEMBER 25th 2011 : CONFÉRENCE INTRODUCTIVE

Valérie Chansigaud “Cinq siècles d'illustrations naturalistes, entre tradition et évolution”

Après avoir étudié durant son doctorat en sciences de l'environnement la place des invertébrés dans les représentations culturelles et la construction des savoirs, elle explore aujourd'hui l'histoire de la découverte de la biodiversité et l'origine de sa protection. Par ailleurs, elle s'intéresse à la façon dont les connaissances naturalistes sont transmises, par exemple à l'aide des nouvelles technologies participatives.

** Publications : "Histoire de l'ornithologie" (2007), "Histoire de l'illustration naturaliste" (2009). En préparation : "Des Hommes et des Oiseaux" (2012), "Atlas historique de la destruction de la biodiversité" (2012) ; codirection de la collection "Poche Nature" sur les illustrateurs et photographes naturalistes (fin 2011).*

JANUARY 27th 2012 : ILLUSTRATING EVOLUTION

Richard Somerset (Nancy 2) “Telling the story of evolution in images: the popularising work of Arabella Buckley”

Richard Somerset teaches at the University of Nancy 2, and specializes in the relations between science and literature, and more generally the history of ideas in the 19th century.

Marie-Odile Bernez (Dijon) “Richard Bradley and some pre-evolutionist illustrations”

Her studies focus on eighteenth-century Britain and the history of ideas, in link with sciences, and also political events. She has translated the works on the French Revolution by Mary Wollstonecraft and published articles on eighteenth-century aspects of the development of modernity.

MARCH 9th 2012 : TIME AND KNOWLEDGE

Stephen Boyd Davis (Middlesex University) “The Eye of History: pioneering depictions of historical time”

Stephen Boyd Davis is a designer by background. He is head of the Lansdown Centre for Electronic Arts and of the Art and Design Research Institute at Middlesex University, UK. Fascinated by the visualisation of historical time, he has in recent years been studying early chronographics with reference particularly to the research of Twyman, Grafton, and Rosenberg. Recent papers for the conferences "Electronic Visualisation and the Arts" and "Computers and the History of Art" have explored aspects of this research, including the potential for using digital technology to achieve some of the unresolved ambitions of the C18th pioneers in this field.

Eric Kindel (Reading) “Recording knowledge: Christiaan Huygens and the invention of stencil duplicating”

Eric Kindel is a designer, writer and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Typography & Graphic Communication, University of Reading. His research and publishing on episodes in the history of stenciling, including recent work on Christiaan Huygens, has been underway since 1999. Work has especially focused on recovering knowledge of stenciling practices for producing words and texts. He also served (2007-11) as Principal Investigator for the research project “Isotype revisited” (www.isotyperevisited.org). Research in this area has encompassed campaigns of public information created by the Isotype Institute in 1950s British colonial West Africa, and also involved the staging of the exhibition “Isotype: international picture language” at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London (2010-11).

MAY 11TH 2012 : PICTURES IN PHYSICS AND PSYCHOLOGY

Maria Rentetzi (Athens) “Visualizing Postwar High Energy Physics: A Gendered Task”

Maria Rentetzi is assistant professor at the National Technical University of Athens in Greece where she teaches sociology of science. She has been trained as an STS scholar at Virginia Tech in the US and worked as a visiting fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. She was awarded the Gutenberg e-prize in 2004 by the American Historical Association. Her book Trafficking Materials and Gendered Experimental Practices: Radium Research in Early Twentieth Century Vienna was published in 2008 by Columbia University Press.

Sigrid Leyssen (Basel) “Perceiving Pictures and Picturing Perception”

Sigrid Leyssen studied philosophy and film studies in Leuven, Belgium and Cambridge, UK. She is part of the Graduate School Image and Time, at the interdisciplinary research institute eikones – NCCR Iconic Criticism, The power and meaning of images, Basel University and is affiliated with the Institute of Philosophy, Leuven University. Her dissertation project carries the working title ‘Images and Image perception in Albert Michotte’s Experimental phenomenology of perception’. Areas of interest are history and philosophy of psychology, scientific images, theories of (image) perception, psychological instruments, and early cinema studies.

JUNE 15TH 2012 : THE CULTURAL POLITICS OF SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION

Alix Cooper (Stony Brook) “Picturing Nature: Gender and the Politics of Description in Eighteenth-Century Natural History”

Alix Cooper is Associate Professor of History at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in the United States, where she teaches European history, the history of science and medicine, women's and gender history, and environmental history. Her book Inventing the Indigenous: Local Knowledge and Natural History in Early Modern Europe was published in 2007 by Cambridge University Press.

Valérie Morisson (Dijon) “Photographic portraits in anthropological and ethnological British journals 1860-1900”

Valérie Morisson, Maître de Conférences en anglais à l'Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, est l'auteure d'une thèse portant sur l'art irlandais contemporain et ses rapports à l'identité nationale. Elle a publié plusieurs articles relatifs à l'histoire culturelle irlandaise explorant, dans une perspective ethnosymboliste, les liens unissant l'art au champ du politique et l'évolution du nationalisme culturel en Irlande au cours des XIXe et XXe siècles. Elle s'intéresse également aux représentations visuelles des irlandais par les Anglais aux XIXe et XXe siècles.

The programme of seminars is to be continued over the next few years. Please address queries and proposals to Marie-Odile Bernez, marie-odile.bernez@u-bourgogne.fr.