

The Graduate Visual Culture Association at Queen's University

**Context and Meaning XXII:**



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

We are pleased to announce the 22nd annual *Context and Meaning* Graduate Student Conference, hosted by the Department of Art History and Art Conservation at Queen's University from **Thursday, February 2nd to Saturday, February 4th, 2023**.

This year's conference engages broadly with the complex relationship between art and scandal. A scandal can be broadly defined as reactions, outrage, or shock, in response to people or events that are perceived to have deviated from socio-cultural norms. Scandals may be false, factual, or a combination of both. Sociologist and expert on scandal, Ari Adut, presents four main concepts associated with scandal: scandals are public events reliant on publicity; scandals have become so commonplace that it can be difficult to recognize them; artistic creativity is linked to scandal; and, scandals can provide opportunities for those who participate in them. While scandal is the revealing of wrongdoing, the act of covering them up can also itself be a scandal. Art world scandals may relate to methods of production, subject or style, contexts of display or lack thereof, and artistic personas, influenced by politics, society, religion, money, and morality.

Topics and themes for presentations might include:

- Contentious conservation projects
- Shock art / bad art
- Museum politics and redefining the cultural institution
- Debates over inclusions and exclusions in the canon
- Restitution and provenance
- Sex, gender, the body, promiscuity, and art
- Writing about art: the influence of the critic and academic
- Forgeries, fakes, and thefts
- The art market / dirty money and museums
- Behaviour and misbehaving
- Censorships and cover-ups

*Context and Meaning XXII* will provide an inclusive forum to facilitate a multi-disciplinary academic discussion on visual and material culture. We welcome papers that consider this year's theme of *scandal* from a broad range of disciplines and approaches, including art and design history, conservation, museum studies, material culture studies, gender studies, architecture, religious studies, and those from other fields. Submissions are welcome from current graduate students, as well as those who have completed their graduate studies within the last two years. We seek to assemble a diverse group of scholars in order to foster interdisciplinary discussions.

If you are interested in participating in *Context and Meaning XXII*, please visit [www.gvca.ca/context-and-meaning](http://www.gvca.ca/context-and-meaning) to submit an abstract of no more than 300 words with the title of your paper, and a 150-word bio. You will be prompted to indicate your preference to present either in-person or online. Presenters will be asked to deliver a 15-minute presentation that will be followed by a panel discussion period. The deadline to submit an abstract will be **Thursday, November 17th, 2022**. In order to allow for the most applicants this is the last possible submission deadline. Thank you to all who apply!

Drew Burton and Hailey Chomos  
Conference Co-Chairs  
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*Queen's University is situated on the territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek.  
Ne Queen's University e'ho no'we nikanónhsote tsi no'we ne Haudenosaunee tánon Anishinaabek tehatihsnónhsahere ne óhontsa.  
Gimaakwe Gchi-gkinoomaagegamig atemagad Naadowe miinwaa Anishinaabe aking.*