

A Seminar on Teaching European Art in Context
Power and Absence:
Connecting Renaissance
Art to Diverse Audiences

June 18–23, 2023

Memphis Brooks Museum of Art
Memphis, Tennessee

*Made possible by the generous support of the
Samuel H. Kress Foundation*



Sebastiano Ricci
The Finding of Moses
ca. 1710, Oil on canvas
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art



Girolamo Romanino
The Mystic Marriage of Saint Catherine
ca. 1540, Oil on canvas
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art



Harmonia Rosales
Migration of the Gods
2021, Oil with iron oxide and 24 karat gold
leaf on Belgian linen mounted on wood panel
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art; Museum
purchase with funds provided by the
Blackmon-Perry Endowment Fund

Power and Absence: Connecting Renaissance Art to Diverse Audiences

This seminar will explore representations of difference in European art, ca. 1400–1700. Participants will investigate how to foster classroom and community dialogues that increase empathy and foster understanding of the power of art to affect different audiences in different ways. One focus will be on historical depictions of men, traditionally shown in roles of power and authority, and women, conventionally assumed to be objectified and disempowered. Female artists and the barriers that have hindered their expression will be highlighted. The presence, absence, and marginalization of persons of non-European descent in Western European art will be explored, as will the ways the study of historical change might suggest bridges to the present. The seminar will include special access to the collection of the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, which is particularly rich in Kress paintings, and a tour of the National Civil Rights Museum. Experts from Memphis institutions will share their experiences exhibiting cultural artifacts in a city where demographic majorities are notably underrepresented in early modern European art. The seminar will be led by Victor Coonin, professor of art and art history at Rhodes College.

How to Apply

Faculty members must be nominated by the chief academic officer of their institution. The nomination should include a letter of support that emphasizes the nominee's teaching qualifications and the opportunities the nominee will be given upon returning to campus to use what has been learned; a statement of interest and anticipated outcomes from the faculty member; and the faculty member's CV. All materials must be submitted online by January 20, 2023.

For more information and to submit nominations, visit www.cic.edu/ArtHistory.





Francesco Botticini
Madonna and Child
ca. 1475, Tempera on wood panel
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art



The Council of
Independent Colleges

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Washington, DC 20036-1142



Applications due January 20, 2023

www.cic.edu/ArtHistory

