Visual Intersections: Transpacific Visuality

Professor Winston Kyan • Department of Art and Art History • ARTH 6810 • Fall 2017 • Thursday, 2-5pm • Room TBD

TRANSPACIFIC: Cultural Fluidity, Especially Between Asia And The Americas

VISUALITY: Experience Of Vision, Especially Shaped By Society And Culture

This seminar examines the impact of trade, labor, migration and displacement on vision as shaped by the Asian experience in the American West. We investigate these themes through visual and textual representation as well as material culture and the mass media. To focus on the relationship between the local and the global central to transcultural studies, the seminar explores the concept of Transpacific Visuality through archival and site-specific resources in Utah, including the Golden Spike and the transcontinental railroad in Corrine, Plum Alley Chinatown in Salt Lake City, and the Topaz Museum and Japanese Internment Camp in Delta. The seminar is also attentive to the work of contemporary artists who negotiate their identity as hyphenated by East and West, gender and race.

Visual Intersections is an interdisciplinary graduate seminar in visual culture and theory, taught in the Department of Art and Art History with a changing theme each semester. Visual Intersections explores scholarly approaches to the production, use, interpretation, and experience of images and visual representations, connecting the study of diverse media and genres of the arts, performance, design, film, television, video, and digital and web technologies.

Image: In her painting "With Nellie and Julie" (2005), Hung Liu (1948) looks at the life of the Chinese American pioneer Polly Bemis (1853-1933).

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