

CROSSING DISCIPLINES

Comparative Studies Colloquia on Interdisciplinarity

Art and Activism in a Time of Crisis

Colloquium Leader

Renowned artist of the Vietnam Memorial, Maya Lin, has pursued ecological concerns during her entire career as both an artist and an architect. The colloquium will begin with an overview of the 450 mile long "Confluence Project" on the Columbia River, the boundary between the states of Washington and Oregon. We will briefly compare it to the historic "earthworks," of Robert Smithson, then emphasize the ways in which it demonstrates her evolving understanding of the philosophies of the contemporary Native American cultures along the Columbia River.

We will then explore her ongoing project on extinction, "What is Missing?" (www.whatismissing.net)

We will compare Maya Lin's strategies and tactics in both the "Confluence Project" and her online site. How do they present new approaches and insights for our planetary crisis? And, most important, does Maya Lin intend to inspire us to take action? If so, how?

Susan Noyes Platt, Ph.D.



Dr. Susan Noyes Platt, art historian, art critic, and activist, analyzes social and political concerns in contemporary art, with a perspective shaped by her background as an art historian. She has taught at Mills College, Washington State University in Pullman Washington and the University of North Texas, in Denton, Texas. She is currently an independent art historian, free lance art critic, monthly columnist, and blogger at www.artandpoliticsnow.com. Her blog posts emphasize traditionally marginalized artists.

Thursday, March 3, 2016
12:30 p.m. in CU 301

The **Crossing Disciplines** colloquia promote the exchange of ideas across disciplines, fomenting the Comparative Studies Ph.D. Program's philosophy that topics in the arts, humanities and social sciences are most fruitfully understood through comparative modes of analysis that include an ever-changing landscape of theory and methodologies. For more information, contact Michael J. Horswell, Ph.D. — horswell@fau.edu

FAU
**PhD IN COMPARATIVE
STUDIES**
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