

EUROPEAN
STUDIES
GROUP

PRESENTS

THE TURNED CANVAS AND THE MUSICAL TURN: THOUGHTS ON THE ROMANTIC IMAGINATION

TALK BY ANNE LEONARD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

4:00pm | Vox 2 (Voxman Music Bldg.)

This lecture addresses the motif of the turned canvas or canvas seen from the back, found in certain portraits of artists at work c. 1810-25, as a manifestation of Romantic theories of the work of art. The turned canvas invited beholders to complete the concealed work of art in their imaginations, just as artistic creation itself was viewed at the time as a largely internal process rather than a physical or manual one.

ANNE LEONARD (University of Chicago) specializes in 19th century European art. A primary area of scholarly focus has been the relations between visual art and music, which are the subject of a book she co-edited with musicologist Tim Shephard, *The Routledge Companion to Music and Visual Culture* (2014), the first comprehensive reference work in this field. Her principal appointment is as curator and associate director of academic initiatives at the Smart Museum, where she oversees the pre-1900 European collection and has curated numerous exhibitions of European and American art. She holds a PhD from Harvard University and has worked in curatorial departments at the Fogg Art Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, and the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

This event is free and open to the public.