



THE COALITION OF MASTER'S
SCHOLARS ON MATERIAL CULTURE

Title of Lecture:

Fat, Felt, and *Strange Fruit*: Tracing the Histories of the Material

Abstract/Description:

We often approach the study of art as an act of looking, but how do the corporeal, haptic qualities of the work reveal greater meaning? Centering the work of art as object, this lecture traces the historical treatment of the material as a subordinate of form to the contemporary recognition of its independent network of meanings. Through an examination of the personal, cultural, and political histories of the material, we may perceive how the distinct connotations of matter influence our encounters with the work of art.

Student Goals:

1. Gain an understanding of the evolving concept and treatment of materiality
2. Enhance interpretations of artwork through a series of questions on the histories of the material

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