

GRANTS 2015–2016

Art & Materiality at the Getty Center

In the past decade, a greater attention to the art object and its materiality has enhanced the study of art history, opening new avenues of investigation. Combined with more historical methodologies, the focus on the materiality of artworks is offering profound insights into their meanings. Artists across time and space have infused materials not only with ritual and symbolic significance but also social, political, and economic functions. Art historians, increasingly in collaboration with conservators and scientists, are gaining insight into the process of art making from raw material to finished object, the *chaîne opératoire*, as well as the strategic deployment of materials both for their aesthetic qualities and for their power to signify. The inquiry into an artwork's materiality raises questions about procurement, trade, value, and manufacturing on the one hand, and, on the other, about the materiality of mechanically reproduced objects or of ephemeral, durational, and conceptual works. Finally, as artworks move between cultures, their materials—whether feathers, shells, marble, or oil paint—are given new meanings, thereby accumulating additional interpretive layers.

The Getty Research Institute invites proposals from scholars and fellows on these and other issues related to the materiality of art.

How to Apply:

The complete theme statements are available online at www.getty.edu/research/scholars/years/future.

Detailed instructions, eligibility requirements, and application forms are available online at www.getty.edu/foundation/apply.

Residential grants and fellowships are available for scholars at all stages in their careers:

- Getty scholar grants for established scholars or writers who have attained distinction in their fields
- Getty pre- and postdoctoral fellowships
- GRI-NEH postdoctoral fellowships, made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities
- VolkswagenStiftung postdoctoral fellowships, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation



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3 November 2014