

***SupraSpace: On the Concept of Space and Place in Art and Visual Culture***

**International Conference**

**June 3-4, 2012**

**Tel Aviv University, Art History Department**

Space has been subject to aesthetic, art-historical, philosophical, anthropological, geographical and political investigations, each with its idiosyncratic definitions. Space maintains a close relation with illusionism, narrativity, and the performative qualities of art. Space is especially interconnected with time, making it impossible to separate one from the other. In the current dynamic reality in which we live, it is hard to remain confined to just one modality of spatial thinking that will capture all of its complexity; yet this problem is not limited to our contemporary globalized moment, but is also relevant to different historical periods. Consequently, in order to engage effectively with the problem of space, recent studies have demonstrated multiple methods of conceptualization, while emphasizing the dialectical relations and tensions between them.

Within the realms of art and culture, the discourse on space has often engaged with problems of representation (artistic genres such landscape, narrative space, chronotopos, interior/exterior, etc), or with political issues relating to territorial conflicts and borders. This conference seeks to investigate the dynamic formation, throughout history and art history, of sites, places, and environments, in which interactive relations, identities and signs are ceaselessly rewritten and redefined. These kinds of processes produce spaces that hover between the specific and the generic, the local and the global, the historical and the contemporary, the real and the virtual, along with the symbolized and the abstract. At the same time, these modalities emphasize the fact that any designation of places and sites is inseparable from the different ways in which they are experienced, perceived, imagined, and represented.

We invite papers that consider diverse conceptualization of space and forms of representations, as well as the varied ways in which lived environments trigger different forms of interventions and reconfigurations: legal, political, social, aesthetic and technological.

Abstracts are invited by **15 January 2012** and should be sent to:  
[supra.tau.conference@gmail.com](mailto:supra.tau.conference@gmail.com).

All abstracts must be in English and should be limited to **300** words. Head your abstract with your name, professional affiliation, and the paper's title. Submit with the

abstract a one-page curriculum vitae, home and work addresses, and e-mail address.

Each paper should be limited to a 20 minute presentation, followed by dialogue and questions. All applicants will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their proposal by 28 February 2012.

For more information or any further inquiries please contact the Conference Chairs:  
**Prof. Hana Taragan** ([taragan@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:taragan@post.tau.ac.il)) and **Dr. Tamar Choleman** ([choleman@post.tau.ac.il](mailto:choleman@post.tau.ac.il)).

**Suggested topics for papers (but not limited to):**

Space before and after Giotto  
Liturgical space  
Sacred spaces  
Medieval non-space  
Perspective/Camera Obscura  
Space and (non) rationalism in post-Albertian art theory  
Emotional space  
Pictorial space and voyeurism  
Islamic space and its absence  
Place and non-place  
Art and culture in public space  
Urban Planning and Architectural Space  
The absence of place  
Spatio-temporal dimensionalities  
Memory and monuments  
Narrative, meta-narrative and space  
De-territorialization and Re-territorialization  
Finite – infinite space  
Information technology and space  
Body and territory  
Cosmopolitanism and globalization  
Spaces of display  
Heterotopia and utopia