For more information

Website  www.cla.purdue.edu/arthistory

Phone  765-494-3058

Dr. David Parrish  dparrish@purdue.edu
Dr. Catherine Dossin  cdossin@purdue.edu

Special Thanks

Kheira Adda  Christina M. Marsh
Catherine Dossin  Linda Martin
Kathy Evans  David Parrish
Lisa Farooque  Lisa Lee Peterson
Ann Fields  David Sigman
Christina Giles  Elyse Strand
Alyson Lindsay  Kyle Sweeney

Art History Gala

Wednesday 18 February 2009
Yue-Kong Pao Hall 1197
5:30—7:00 p.m.
Welcome
David Sigman
Head, Patti and Rusty Rueff Department of Visual and Performing Arts

Art History at Purdue
Professor Parrish shares some exciting news

The Art History Website: Revealed
Professor Dossin and Kyle Sweeney unveil the new Art History website and give a brief tour of its features

Why AHSO?
President Christina Giles explains what the Art History Student Organization is and why you should be involved

Excursions & Events
Kyle Sweeney, Kheira Adda, and Elyse Strand announce the trips and lectures planned for this semester

Reception
Did you know there are 88 art history majors and minors? How many can you meet tonight?

How do we interpret the narrative imagery of an Ancient Near Eastern sculptural relief? Why did the Spanish artist Salvador Dali paint pictures in a dreamlike Surrealistic manner? These are examples of the types of questions art historians ask and try to answer by studying the visual arts of both the distant and more recent past. They seek to understand the cultural values expressed in a work of art, and to show how the latter fits into a larger context or tradition to which individual artists belong. To do this, art historians read literary texts and learn about the local customs, beliefs and history of a given society, as well as its techniques of craftsmanship. The result is that a painting, statue, building, or piece of jewelry comes to life and gives us a fresh insight into mankind’s ever-changing experience and ways of seeing the world.

The goal of the art history program at Purdue is to give students a broad training in this discipline, through some 20 different courses offered at regular intervals, including classes in western and in non-western art, originating outside the European and North American mainstream. The courses cover all major periods in the western sphere from ancient to modern, in addition to Asian, Islamic, Latin American, and African art. History of photography is an elective in this curriculum as is design history. Students are taught to think critically and do research, learn theoretical aspects of this field, and express themselves effectively in written and oral form, the objectives of a course in art history methods. Several of our classes contribute to interdisciplinary programs in Classical Studies, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Women’s Studies, and Italian Studies. We also offer a course in art museum practices.

Currently, there are approximately 40 majors and 50 minors enrolled in the art history program.