

**art**



**&**

**truth**

Summer School July 19-24 2022

Monastery of Mariastein, Switzerland

**foxs** Forum Christliche Studien | Forum for Christian Studies



# no matter of taste

Art used to be a minority concern. Today, however, hundreds of thousands flock to the big exhibitions. What are people looking for in those venues? Diversion? Aesthetic experience? Even knowledge?

The foXs summer school deals on the one hand with the role of art in society, and on the other with the question of the cognitive content of art: art as cognition.

These issues preoccupy philosophy and the social sciences, but also artists themselves. They find themselves caught in an art system that wants to say goodbye to self-referentiality, while being unable to let go of the imperative of permanently outdoing itself in innovation. Does art today run the risk of losing itself in thematically erratic interventions of politically engaged art? And isn't it precisely its specific language of colors, textures, volumes, and proportions that threatens to fall silent as a result?

Our summer school aims to bring together these discourses, which take place in different places under different headings. The aim is to fathom the possibility of truth in art, and to bring this truth to bear against a scientifically defined facticity, which today is often regarded as the sole standard for truth. Related to this topic is the question of whether artistic truth has anything to do with the eminent role that art plays in our society. Finally, in theological perspective, the Old Testament prohibition of images is to be recalled: we can become addicted to our own artifacts and thus lose our freedom as persons.

Lectures, discussions, joint text reading, art analyses and excursions to contemporary art in Basel

This study week is aimed at philosophers and theologians, artists and other interested parties.

**Conference language: English**

## Speakers:



### Lambert Zuidervaart

*Prof. emeritus of philosophy in Toronto CA, art theorist, expert in critical theory, former president of the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids USA. Publications on Adorno, aesthetics, social philosophy, and more*



### Adrienne Dengerink Chaplin

*Philosopher, art historian, musicologist. From 1999-2007 she taught philosophical aesthetics at the Institute of Christian Studies in Toronto. Now visiting research fellow at King's College London*



### Francesco Papagni

*Studied philosophy, history and theology in Zurich, Florence and Lucerne. Freelance journalist in the area of science and culture.*



### Andreas Widmer

*Visual artist and art teacher. Exhibition activity in the field of art installation. Co-founder of the art magazine BART - Contemporary Art and Religion*

## More information and registration:

<https://foxs.ch>

**foxs** is a think tank and place of education. It gathers people intent on engaging anew with the Christian faith tradition and its formative power for culture and society.