

# SO CLOSE AND YET SO FAR: DISTANCES IN ART



**Left:** Unknown American or European maker, Type No. 1, ca. 1680-90. Carved wood, length 10 1/4 in. (26.7 cm), width 2 1/4 x 7/8 in. (6.1 x 2.2 cm). Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, United States. Gift of Elizabeth Weaver. Image courtesy of the Dallas Museum of Art.

RAHGA Graduate Student Conference: *Distances in Art* (RAHGA-HiSA) Co-

February 26th-27th, 2021

Department of Art History, Meadows School of the Arts  
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX

"Seeing 'the entire world as a foreign land' makes possible bilinguality of vision." Edward Said, *Orientalism*, p. 186.

"Distances were not invariably fixed and for all. There might be a hundred different distances, and they could change with advance, before setting out or making decisions, what matters is the distance between the two." Edward Said, *Orientalism*, p. 186.

Start from a point and ask: *how are you moving through time, through space? Through reality, or through your dreams?*

In a world of uncertainty and a future that we have not yet seen, how do we transverse through different Janus faces of time? How do we translate objects into images? How does art allow us to inhabit and share extreme and infinitesimal distances? What happens when we are isolated, separated, and isolated? As our sense of time and space has shifted, and been reshaped by global uncertainties, the 2021 RAHGA graduate student online conference will focus on the nature of distance, grappled with separation and new spaces for artists who know how to connect. This interdisciplinary in nature and we welcome discussion of distance.

## Possible topics, but not limited to:

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Connectivity and nexuses | Connectivity and nexuses | Borders                         |
| Closeness and intimacy   | Closeness and intimacy   | ... Networks                    |
| Proximity and remoteness | Proximity and remoteness | Temporal rendering and distance |
| Travel and journeys      | Travel and journeys      | Nostalgia                       |
| Space                    | Space                    | Removal and exile               |
| Migration                | Migration                | Attachment and communities      |
| Diaspora                 | Diasporas                | Idioms and homelands            |
|                          |                          | Communication and languages     |

For consideration, please submit a 800-word (maximum) abstract for a 15-minute presentation and a PDF of 3-5 PDF attachments to rahga@smu.edu by **December 14th, 2020**.

Selected participants will be notified by December 21st, 2020. Participants will be compensated in lieu of a stipend. The conference will be conducted entirely online and participation will be given more information upon acceptance. Your submission is the conference organizer at rahga@smu.edu with any questions.