

***On Democracy in America:  
Arts, Science and Politics, 1776-1865***

Symposium, Auditorium of the Louvre, June 16, 2006

*From the Declaration of Independence to the end of the Civil War, the American nation enjoyed a period of intense creative investment in the arts as well as in science and technology as the young nation took shape. This colloquium intends to study the cultural cross-currents that developed between Europe and the United States during this time period through emblematic figures such as Samuel Finley Breeze Morse and Alexis de Tocqueville. The social vision of a “new world”, the wealth of political thought, trends and the scientific production of artists such as Charles Willson Peale, Samuel Morse and Thomas Cole, form part of a universal societal model in which history is integrated into the development of a culture of communication.*

***National Identities and Political Models***

9.45 am

Introduction

Elizabeth Kennedy, Terra Foundation for American Art, Chicago and Olivier Meslay, musée du Louvre, Paris

10 am

*“Et là, pas d’Opéra”*: American Democracy as a Tomb of the Arts from Brissot to Baudelaire  
Philippe Roger, EHESS, Paris

10.30 am

*“Trophy Heads”*: the Public Use of Portrait Painting in the Late 18<sup>th</sup> Century  
Margaretta M. Lovell, University of California, Berkeley

11 am

*Religious Pictures in the American Marketplace: Protestantism on Display, 1780-1880*  
Sally M. Promey, University of Maryland, College Park

11.30 am

*Bodmer, Kurz, Catlin, Kane: Artistic Ambassadors of Native America in Europe*  
Emmanuel Désveaux, EHESS, Paris/Musée du Quai Branly, Paris

12 am

*White and Black in Images of American Society*  
Richard J. Powell, Duke University, Durham

12.30 am

Discussion

***Art, Technology and Democracy***

3 pm

*Visualizing the Early Republic: Gilbert Stuart’s Presidential Imaginary*  
Paul Staiti, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley

3.30 pm

*Democracy at Work: The House of Representatives and the Gallery of the Louvre of Samuel Morse*

Jean-Philippe Antoine, universit  Lyon-III

4 pm

*The Grand Picture of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt and American Landscape Painting*

Susanne Keller, Institut Max Planck, Berlin

4.30 pm

*Photography and democracy in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America: Misleading Evidence and Real Questions*

Fran ois Brunet, universit  de Paris-VII

5 pm

*The American Civil War as a Media Event*

Neil Harris, University of Chicago

5.30 pm

Discussion