

eikones

NFS Bildkritik  
NCCR Iconic Criticism

# The Figurative Pollock

Symposium, January 20, 2017

kunstmuseum basel



Universität  
Basel

CREDIT SUISSE



Partner Kunstmuseum Basel

FNSNF

SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS  
ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER WISSENSCHAFTLICHEN FORSCHUNG

Die Nationalen Forschungsschwerpunkte sind ein  
Förderungsinstrument des Schweizerischen Nationalfonds

Image: Jackson Pollock, um 1945, Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner Papers,  
ca. 1905 - 1984, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution

## **The Figurative Pollock Symposium, January 20, 2017**

«When you're painting out of your unconscious, figures are bound to emerge,» Jackson Pollock said in a famous conversation with Seldon Rodman in 1956. Yet the American painter is actually best known for his abstract drip paintings. Far fewer people are familiar with Pollock's extensive earlier figurative oeuvre and the figurative paintings that grew out of the dripping period. Reframing our perspective on the artist's creative output, the grand special exhibition «The Figurative Pollock», currently on view at the Kunstmuseum Basel, focuses on the figurative aspect of his work in order to pioneer a new perspective on his oeuvre, which spans almost three decades. Our international symposium takes the exhibition as a starting point to engage in a discussion about this pivotal, though lesser known, facet of Pollock's work.

A cooperation between the eikones NCCR Iconic Criticism, the University of Basel and the Kunstmuseum Basel

Concept:

Simon Baier, Olga Osadtschy, Ralph Ubl, Nina Zimmer

Venue:

eikones NCCR Iconic Criticism, Rheinsprung 11, CH-4051 Basel  
[www.eikones.ch](http://www.eikones.ch)

## **Programme**

---

### **Friday, 20 Jan**

---

---

14:00 – 14:30 Nina Zimmer: Greeting  
Ralph Ubl: Introduction

---

14:30 – 15:15 «Pollock. Field and Gaze»  
Markus Klammer and Stefan Neuner, eikones NCCR  
Iconic Criticism, Basel

---

Coffee Break

---

15:30 – 16:15 «The Permeable Plane»  
Megan R. Luke, University of Southern California,  
Los Angeles

---

16:15 – 17:00 «The Drip as Discharge: The Vitalist Pollock»  
Jonathan D. Katz, University at Buffalo, New York

---

Coffee Break

---

17:30 – 18:15 «Metonymy: Figuring Pollock's Master Trope»  
Michael Schreyach, Trinity University, San Antonio