ARHS 5333: Seminar on Eighteenth-Century Art The Eighteenth-Century Animal Fall 2019

Prof. Amy Freund Monday 2:00 – 4:50 PM, Owen Fine Arts Center 1635



Jean-Baptiste Oudry, Clara the Rhinoceros, 1749, Schwerin Museums

What does it mean to picture animals? In the seminar, we will examine the visual representation of animals in Europe in the long eighteenth century. Themes to be considered include: the role of animals in European representations of Asia, Africa, and the Americas, the building and decoration of menageries, the depiction of animals in scientific illustration, the arts of the hunt, the place of animals in portraiture, artists' use of animal materials, and art's role in campaigns against cruelty to animals. Our readings will be drawn from art historical and historical studies but also from primary sources on animals and from recent theorizations of the human/animal relationship.