

## ARHS 6351 Seminar on Contemporary Art: Affective Minimalism

Thursdays, 2-4:50PM Visual Resources Laboratory,  
Hamon Arts Library Basement

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Mona Hatoum, *Nature morte aux grenades (Still Life with Grenades)*, 2006-07

A collaboration between the Department of Art History and The Warehouse, Dallas, this seminar will culminate in a student-curated exhibition at The Warehouse. We will focus on how the strategies associated with Minimal art of the 1960s—including systematic organization, delegated fabrication, industrial materials, and the phenomenological encounter—have been invested with emotional and political connotations by subsequent generations of artists. The seminar will be rooted in the rich critical discourse surrounding Minimal art, which has been understood alternately as the apogee of Modernism and as the harbinger of its demise. We will consider the relationships between Minimal art in North America and Neo-Concretism in Brazil, Arte Povera in Italy, Mono-ha in Japan, and Dansaekhwa in Korea; before tracing the legacies of these postwar movements in contemporary art. Methodologies drawn from affect theory, feminist theory, psychoanalysis, poststructuralism and queer theory will be utilized to articulate the affective charge of these ostensibly “neutral” artworks.