



'Portraiture and Risk'

Professor Melissa Percival | Department of Modern Languages



Portraiture tends to be regarded as a conservative genre, its purposes being to reinforce the status quo, consolidate power and mitigate absence or death. Conversely this lecture considers ways in which portraits can disrupt social and aesthetic norms even within pre-modern systems of patronage. Risk-taking by sitters and artists is explored through a range of portraits, primarily from eighteenth-century France. At this time of Enlightenment the emergence of capitalist society coincided with new philosophical ideas on human agency.

4th October 2018 5:30-6:30pm

Streatham Court C

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS | FREE ENTRY | ADVANCED BOOKING ESSENTIAL

This lecture will be followed by a drinks reception from 6.30 – 8.00pm in Streatham Court. All are welcome to attend. To book a space, please RSVP to: **humanities-deans-office@exeter.ac.uk** or 01392 726315/5494.

Any queries contact: humanities-deans-office@exeter.ac.uk