

In English

Abstract art is sometimes considered merely formal, and its reductive visual qualities are seen as a refusal of representation or a flight from subject matter. By contrast, this talk will examine how artists and critics have imbued abstraction with queer capacities, seeing it as a means to visualize unorthodox relations and forms. With its invention of new visual vocabularies, reductive visual art provides a resource for thinking about how bodies and relations can be imagined otherwise. A key theme will be the ways in which artists have responded to surveillance and the politics of visibility, and this talk will examine how abstraction has been used by artists to resist the ways in which the human form is categorized, marked, and stereotyped. The field of art history has a long tradition of debating the human form and its alternatives, and the study of abstract art and its theories can make a unique contribution to interdisciplinary conversations about the politics of queer and transgender representation.

David J.
Getsy

Lecture

Reduction as Expansion

1 February

Monday 2021 19:30

The Queer Capacities of Abstract Art

Please register in advance via info@ici-berlin.org,
the number of participants at the venue will be limited.
Public livestream available on the ICI Website