



Morris Louis, Beth Chaf, 1959

SPECTERS OF MODERNISM. OR LOOSE ENDS WITHOUT TIME TO SPARE: REPETITION, COLOR AND ALLEGORY IN MORRIS LOUIS

Shep Steiner (School of Art)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2019 – 2:30-3:30 PM
409 TIER BUILDING

The lecture focuses on the modernist painting of Morris Louis from 1954-62 with a special emphasis on ghosts and the use of an intentional rhetoric involving color. I re-orient Louis's color field painting away from the arch-modernist and phenomenological tension between "opticality and figuration" and instead center the artist's practice on a unique set of problems hinging on temporality. In particular, I highlight an inflationary mode of the present, which though built as a fence against historical time, is riddled with the menace of history just the same.

The lecture is free and open to everyone!

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