

UNSEEN ART IN ANCIENT MESOAMERICA

A Presentation by Claudia Brittenham, Ph.D.

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Lintel 25, Structure 23, Yaxchilan, Maya, 723-726 CE.

Ancient Central American works of art help us understand the dynamics of vision and power in Olmec, Maya, and Aztec societies. For over three thousand years Mesoamerican societies created art that was ‘difficult’ for many to see. To understand this we have to consider *visuality*: how ancient Mesoamerican people understood the nature of sight and the embodied process of seeing. We must also attend to when the art *was* visible: during the process of making, an act filled with generative significance in many Mesoamerican cultures.

Dr. Brittenham’s research focuses on the art of Mesoamerica, particularly the importance of the materials used to create it and the politics of style. The author of four books, her next book examines the interconnectedness of ancient Mesoamerica.



Claudia Brittenham

Thursday, Jan. 18, 2023, at 7:30 PM

Marie Irwin Community Center* • 18120 Highland Avenue, Homewood, Illinois

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*ADA-accessible

All are invited to attend this free lecture