

VISUAL STUDIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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FALL 2023 EVENTS

BOOK TALK



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

12:30-2pm PST
SOS 250

Mondrian's Dress: Yves Saint Laurent, Piet Mondrian, and Pop Art

NANCY J. TROY

Victoria and Roger Sant Professor in Art, Emerita,
Department of Art & Art History, Stanford University

The VSRI is delighted to welcome back Nancy J. Troy to USC for a discussion of her new publication, *Mondrian's Dress: Yves Saint Laurent, Piet Mondrian, and Pop Art* (MIT Press, 2023). In *Mondrian's Dress*, Troy and her co-author, Ann Marguerite Tartsinis, explore how the style of Piet Mondrian's abstract paintings was posthumously appropriated by 1960s fashion, Pop art, and consumer culture. Yves Saint Laurent's 1965 Mondrian dresses are among the twentieth century's most celebrated and recognizable fashions. Troy and Tartsinis situate the consolidation of Saint Laurent's fashion brand alongside the work of such Pop artists as Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, and Tom Wesselmann, and show how conventional understandings of Mondrian's avant-garde abstractions were transformed by the mass circulation of his signature style.

A former professor of art history at USC, Nancy J. Troy is a past president of the National Committee for the History of Art and was Editor-in-Chief of the *Art Bulletin* from 1994 to 1997. She is the author of *The De Stijl Environment* (MIT Press, 1983), *Modernism and the Decorative Arts in France: Art Nouveau to Le Corbusier* (Yale University Press, 1991), *Couture Culture: A Study in Modern Art and Fashion* (MIT Press, 2003), and *The Afterlife of Piet Mondrian* (University of Chicago Press, 2013).

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