

Art History Lecture

Bridget Alsdorf

Associate Professor of 19th Century European Art, Department of Art & Archeology, Princeton University

Gawkers: Street Theater in Fin-de-siècle French Art

Tuesday, April 24

7:15 p.m.

Carlos Hall, Room 212

Gawkers abound in fin-de-siècle French culture, characterized by their passive, collective mode of navigating the city as theater. Artists and writers were particularly drawn to them as models for new ways of looking at art. By focusing closely on a range of artworks – paintings and prints – this talk examines the largely unrecognized significance of the gawker (*le badaud*) as a modern type, a figure for the attractions and fraught ethics of urban spectatorship that is distinct from the far more studied *flâneur*.



Charles Angrand, *An Accident*, 1887, private collection, New York

Lecture sponsored by the Art History Department. For more information: 404.727.6282; or www.arthistory.emory.edu.