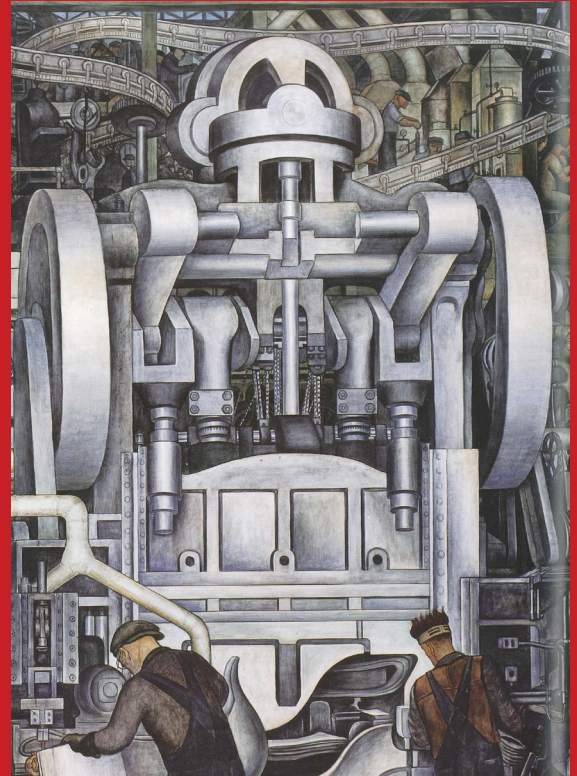


Art History 465-0: Studies in American Art: Patronage and American Art



Professor
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2-5 PM

3-340
Kresge Hall

This course aims to elucidate the role that patrons have played in the shaping of American art before 1945. Patronage studies have long been a keystone of art history, but they occupy a special place in the history of American art, where, in the absence of a comprehensive state patronage infrastructure, the interests and priorities of private patrons—acting alone and in groups—have exercised a great deal of influence over the type of art that is produced and preserved in this country. Beginning with a review of the first major American art patronage studies of the 1960s, we will track the changing historical roles that American art patrons have played while simultaneously investigating the evolution of patronage studies as a discipline. The central goal of this course is to help you develop a methodological toolbox for uncovering and assessing the patron's participation and impact in many forms; to do this we will take an interdisciplinary approach to our subject, considering models proposed by various art historical fields as well as material culture studies, sociology, anthropology, and psychology.