

Final report of UHH-KU fund for ECR program

Section 1

Applicant (at the time of application, i.e. supervisor of the visiting researcher or the visiting researcher themselves) 1	
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Affiliation	Department of Art History

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Name	Kayo Hirakawa
Job title	Prof. Dr.
University	Kyoto University
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Section 2

Visiting researcher (if different from the above) 1	
Name	Franca Buss
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Section 3

Host researcher 1	
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Affiliation	Graduate School of Letters (Department of Aesthetic and Art History)

Section 4

Summary of the project (approx. 200 words)
<p>The exchange between the Graduate School of Letters, Aesthetics and Art History at Kyoto University and the Department of Art History in Hamburg was conducted under the theme "Resource Scarcity and Art – Metal, Wood and Other Materials in European Art". This collaborative project involved reciprocal visits, with scholars from Kyoto visiting Hamburg and vice versa. Additionally, the program included excursions to Nara (Japan) and Lübeck. Alongside visits to various museums and churches, a workshop was conducted in Hamburg. The talks pointed questions about „Transforming and using natural resources“ and „Reflection of material in written sources of art“. During our visit to Kyoto, we had the opportunity to explore numerous shrines and temples, and we also visited two museums. Overall, our excursions were guided by an exploration of whether the evolving attitudes towards natural materials can be discerned in artworks from the early modern period.</p> <p>While our discussions at the workshops and especially in front of the artworks we addressed the following questions: In welchem Verhältnis stehen Material und Bedeutung des Kunstwerks.</p>



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Does material scarcity or price hikes resulting from new mining areas or techniques lead to a heightened appreciation for natural materials, and can this appreciation be observed in artworks? Are certain materials replaced or eschewed in artworks?