Recent publications and conferences dedicated to connoisseurship have unanimously recognized the need to situate this practice within the context of its sociocultural conditions. One ought to view the connoisseur’s attribution as the final affirmation of a long and manifold procedure. This approach requires not only an investigation of the practical knowledge that informs the act of attribution but also a consideration of the network in which the judgment takes place, as well as its artistic, political and conceptual stakes.

With this perspective in mind, the workshop will focus its attention on a central yet often forgotten aspect of artistic expertise: mistaken attributions. Examination of these inaccurate assessments allows for a better understanding of the cultural and intellectual contexts in which they occurred and reveals the various discrepancies between connoisseurial theory and its practical application. By analyzing a few case studies situated at the limits of connoisseurship—whether they be drawings, paintings or, more generally, art objects—the workshop will question the various operations that guide the (re-)attribution of artworks and the theoretical or practical tensions generated by this process.

Organised by Dr. Valérie Kobi (valerie.kobi@uni-bielefeld.de)

Interested participants can register before July 17th 2016 at: mira_claire.zadrozny@uni-bielefeld.de
Program

1pm  WELCOME OF PARTICIPANTS

1.15pm  OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP
        Valérie Kobi (Universität Bielefeld)

1.45pm  Joris Corin Heyder (Universität Bielefeld)
        Same, Similar, Semblable – On the Language of
        Connoisseurship

2.30pm  Noa Turel (University of Alabama at Birmingham)
        Over Morelli and Under the Surface: Connoisseurship and
        Infrared Imaging in the Study of Early Netherlandish Painting

3.15pm  Joachim Rees (Freie Universität Berlin)
        A Tribute Paid: Les Mains de Michel-Ange and the Art of
        (mé-)connaissance in the 18th Century

4pm    COFFEE BREAK

4.30pm  Neville Rowley (Gemäldegalerie & Bode-Museum, Berlin)
        Two Paintings, Philology, and a Mistake: on a Book by
        Federico Zeri

5.15pm  Johannes Grave (Universität Bielefeld)
        Comparing Pictures. On Implications and Limitations of
        Connoisseurship in Practice

6.00pm  FINAL DISCUSSION