

METHYLCELLULOSE FOAMS

Lectures, workshops and professional exchange on the topic of bonding, consolidating, filling and retouching art and cultural artefacts with methylcellulose - with a focus on foam applications.

Methylcellulose is being used increasingly due to its very good ageing and cohesion properties, its wide range of possible applications, and many positive adhesion examples. But do we know all of its properties? Who knows that, unlike gelatin, methylcellulose turns into a solid gel at high temperatures? How can we use this in practice? Where could this lead to problems? How does it behave with fluctuating humidity compared to collagen-based adhesives? How can we foam the material and for what purposes can the liquid and dried foam be used?

The foam application, in particular, is relatively new*, and some methods are still under development. We would like to present the current state of the art and the research questions and hear from you what your own questions are. Where do you see further research potential? We look forward to seeing you there!

*Previously published on MC foam in conservation-restoration from HKB:

Bründler, S., K. Mürer, and S. Weber. 2019. Conservation and restoration of "Falsche Götzen" ["False Idols"] by Fischli/Weiss. Kunsthaus Zürich, CH. www.kunsthhaus.ch/en/sammlung/restaurierung/fischli-weiss/ [4.11.2023]

Soppa, K., M. Ritler, and N.C. Scherrer. 2022. Adhesive Foams – A First Insight. 10.13140/RG.2.2.25842.17601

Bründler, S., S. Bunz, M. Ritler, N.C. Scherrer, and K. Soppa. 2023. Dry methylcellulose foams: Investigation of simple foaming and drying methods for applications in the field of conservation and restoration. Paper in: ICOM-CC 20th Triennial Conference, Valencia, Spain.

Ritler, M., A. Eysler, K. Soppa, and N.C. Scherrer. 2023. Liquid methylcellulose foam as an adhesive-filler for lifted stiff paint flakes: The case study of La Salle des Cariatides au Louvre. Poster in: 20th ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in Valencia, Spain. 10.13140/RG.2.2.33019.28965

Bründler, S., S. Bunz, M. Ritler, and K. Soppa. 2023. Methylcellulose Foams: Three Foaming and Drying Methods and Possible Applications in Conservation-Restoration. Poster in: Future Talks 023 - Materials Matter, Cold and Current Cases in the Conservation of the Modern, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany.

WHEN? WHERE?

Monday
29.01.2024
09:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Bern Academy of the Arts
Fellerstrasse 11
CH-3027 Bern

LECTURES

09:00 AM	Registration
09:30 AM	Welcome – Nina Mekacher / Karolina Soppa
09:40 AM	Methylcellulose (MC) – An (Un)Known Creature, Karolina Soppa
10:20 AM	MC Foam – Double-Syringe Technique, Magdalena Ritler
11:00 AM	Coffee Break
11:40 AM	MC Foam – Hot Foamed, Sophie Bunz + Stefanie Bründler
12:20 PM	MC Foam – Milk Frother to Freeze Drying, Karolina Soppa
01:00 PM	Lunch Break

Delicious sandwiches and soups for Workshop participants. The others have the opportunity to have lunch right next door at the marvellous buffet nord.

02:00 to 05:00 PM	Workshops
05:00 PM	Discussion of the Workshops – Q&A Session

05:30 to 08:00 PM Apéro

WORKSHOPS

Three workshops of 30-45 minutes each are offered and a foam kit is provided. Bring any sort of material/mock-ups on which you would like to make tests on.

Workshop 1:	Double-Syringe Technique
Workshop 2:	Hot Foamed
Workshop 3:	Milk Frother to Freeze Drying

After a workshop, the groups swap, with breaks in between.

REGISTRATION

Lectures:	60 CHF 40 CHF 30 CHF*	Full Price SKR/HKB/Alumni Student	Registration: gemaelde@skr.ch Subject (mandatory!): MC-FOAM 2024_Lectures_and_Workshops
Lectures + Workshops:	130 CHF 100 CHF 60 CHF*	Full Price SKR/HKB/Alumni Student	After registration you will receive the account details to transfer the money. Your place is only guaranteed once you have transferred the money and received a confirmation email.

*limited places

Organiser: HKB Bern Academy of the Arts. Event as part of a teaching and research programme.

