The Physics of Color

Pupa Gilbert
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Feb. 19th, 2011
2.30 pm
Chamberlin Hall room 2241

The color we see depends on physical as well as physiological parameters. During this talk Pupa will do several experiments, and you will experience and see the results for yourself. Whether you are an artist, a scientist, or simply have a curious mind, you will find this interesting: it will change all you already knew about color, primary colors, how color mixing works on a computer screen (additive) or in a color printer, a paint shop, or an artist's palette (subtractive), and how artists in the past have used color mixing, some more successfully than others.

Professor Gilbert joined the UW-Madison as professor of physics in 1999, but her research here began a decade earlier, at the Synchrotron Radiation Center, where she developed spectromicroscopy methods and two brain cancer therapies, for which she was knighted by the President of Italy. The Gilbert Group's research involves forming and fully formed marine biominerals from mollusks and echinoderms, to reveal the fundamental mechanisms by which these hard biological structures form. She won the NSF-American Competitiveness and Innovation award in 2008, and in 2011 the UW-Chancellor Distinguished Teaching Award.