For over a century, painting by Manet and the Impressionists has been understood as quintessentially visual art. In my new book, *Consuming Painting: Food and the Feminine in Impressionist Paris* (Penn State University Press, 2021), I argue that this is a limited interpretation. By examining the culinary metaphors that the most influential nineteenth-century critics used to express attraction or disgust toward artworks, and considering the gender politics at stake, we can rethink French modern-life painting in relation to the visceral reactions that these works invited in their earliest publics. In this talk, I will discuss my research on the sensory reception of modern painting, and how it enriches our understanding of Impressionism.

Alison Deutsch is Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in the Department of History of Art at Birkbeck, University of London. She is a historian of nineteenth-century French painting, with a special interest in feminist methodologies and sensory studies. Deutsch received a BA from Williams College and a PhD from University College London. She has also held a Junior Research Fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Studies, University College London, and has been Associate Lecturer at The Courtauld Institute of Art.

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