Contemporary Aesthetics

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Notices

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Notices

CA welcomes notices of interest to our readers. These include announcements and reviews of conferences, news items, forthcoming events, etc. Please send them using the submission guidelines.

Call for Papers: Symposium

Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble

September 10 - 12, 2008, Grenoble, France

Topic

Creating an Atmosphere

Symposium Goals

1. To create an international network on architectural and urban atmospheres.

2. To take stock of multidisciplinary work addressing the question of the synthesis of atmospheres over the last 15 years.

3. To identify scope for transferring knowledge between research, and practitioners designing and managing urban spaces.

4. To sound out potential international interest in this topic and initiate a program of coordinated work.

Three key concerns should form the framework for papers:

1. What is an atmosphere?

2. How is an atmosphere created?

3. How does one make an atmosphere in an architectural or town planning project?

Papers should be no longer than 15 minutes and may offer a glimpse of theoretical work, experiments with new designs methods or artistic creations, but all should seek to enhance the corpus questions raised by the symposium. A poster and DVD exhibition will also be organized.

Submissions

A declaration of intention of no more than one page, not counting illustrations, outlining the talk you plan to give (in French or English) to be filed by email. Deadline for submission: January 15, 2008. Deadline for papers is May 30, 2008.
Obituary: Rudolf Arnheim

Rudolf Arnheim, who died on June 9, 2007 at the age of 102, had long been a legend in twentieth-century aesthetics. A psychologist of art in the gestalt tradition, he was the author of numerous articles and of nineteen books, at least two of which have become classics, *Film as Art* (1932) and *Art and Visual Perception* (1954), the last of these having a strong influence on several generations of art and art history students. Many other books followed these in a steady sequence, the last as recently as 2004, displaying the fecundity of his mind and the freshness of his thinking. Their titles reflect the breadth of his constantly expanding interests, which included, besides film and the visual arts, radio, architecture, and art education.

Born in Berlin, where his father owned a piano factory, Arnheim studied at the University of Berlin with the central figures in Gestalt psychology, including Max Wertheimer and Wolfgang Köhler, where he earned his doctorate in philosophy, which at that time encompassed psychology. He worked as a cultural journalist, conducting interviews on German radio until the Nazi party gained power in 1933 and made Die Weltbühne, the journal for which Arnheim regularly wrote about music, architecture, and film, a major target. This caused him, a Jew, to leave Berlin for Rome, where he learned Italian and continued to work as a cultural journalist for five years, a time he would sometimes recall. Mussolini’s racist legislation against Jews led Arnheim to go briefly to London and then to New York, where he lived for many years, teaching at Sarah Lawrence College and The New School. In 1969 he went to Harvard as Professor of the Psychology of Art, but after five years moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he became associated with the University of Michigan.

This biographical account conveys little of the man, himself. Arnheim was a gentle, gracious, soft-spoken person, whose modest manner belied his scholarly stature. He was readily accessible, and conversation with him was thoughtful yet easy. Always alert, he listened as much as he spoke and was ever open to new ideas. He had a sly, ironic sense of humor, as when he recalled the confusion that arose at one of the annual meetings of the American Society for Aesthetics when the Society for Anesthetics met at the same time and in the same hotel. He carried on an extensive correspondence and was not only a colleague but a friend to many. A colleague once commented that Arnheim wrote in English better than most scholars for whom it was their native language.
In his journal for April 26, 1972 (recorded in Parables of Sunlight) Arnheim wrote, "As one gets older, it happens that in the morning one fails to remember the airplane trip to be taken in a few hours or the lecture scheduled for the afternoon. Memory does return in time, but the suspicion remains that in the end dying will consist in simply forgetting to live." What Arnheim may have forgotten, those who knew him will not.

A. B.

Call For Papers

Everyday Aesthetics - VIII International Summer School of IIAA

June 15-18, 2008 Lahti, Finland

Topic

"Everyday Aesthetics"

The International Institute of Applied Aesthetics (IIAA) is organizing its 8th International Summer School in environmental aesthetics and philosophy. We invite papers exploring issues of the everyday environment from aesthetic, philosophical, architectural, social, ecological and educational viewpoints. Ph.D. students are especially encouraged to submit proposals, but senior scholars are also welcome.

Discussion will include diverse topics which, in one or another way, connect to the difficult theoretical issues and practical problems that ensue from critical reflection on our everyday experience, i.e., our experience of the environments in which we're immersed everyday, whether that be home, park, workplace, busy roadway, or city sidewalk. Issues of the everyday have often been neglected in aesthetic and philosophical discussion, which has centered on the arts and scenic nature. As a focal point for scholarly investigation, however, the everyday environment offers rich possibilities. But it also presents a problematically large and heterogeneous field that suggests work be done on such questions as: What are the relevant issues and topics for everyday aesthetics? How to approach these issues? What is the relationship of aesthetic issues to moral, social and political problems in the context of the everyday? How are questions in the field of everyday aesthetics connected with the vital and overriding question: "How can we improve the quality of everyday life?"

The emphasis will be on aesthetic and ethical approaches, but we also encourage approaches that are more overtly social, political, ecological, geographical, etc. Time allocated for each paper is 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion.

Submission Information

Please send abstracts not exceeding 300 words by January 18th, 2008 to the summer school's coordinator, Ms. Virpi Kaukio.

E-mail: <a>

Post mail: Saimaankatu 14, FIN-15140 Lahti, Finland.
Obituary: Sonja Servomaa

The international community of aestheticians lost a unique presence with the death of Sonja Servomaa on February 27, 2007. Besides her extensive activity as an aesthetician, novelist, and poet, Sonja was a person with unique gifts for organization and communication. The embodiment of Finnish internationalism, she was a tireless traveler and her interests and activities were global, with particular focus on the Far East and the Indian sub-continent. This breadth of experience informed her passionate interest in comparative aesthetics and she contributed much to the growing interest in this area. Sonja taught and promoted international programs at the Universities of Helsinki and Oulu, and she made a distinctive contribution to international communication. In addition to her work in aesthetics, she was the author of The Lacquered Box, a novel recently translated into French, and of Beauty in the Pine, which, unfortunately, she did not live to see in print. She will be missed by many people in many countries and in many ways.

Call for Papers

20th Annual Congress of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics

August 19-22, 2008, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Topic

"Psychology and Aesthetics into the Future"

The International Association of Empirical Aesthetics (IAEA) is an organization whose members investigate the underlying factors that contribute to an aesthetic experience, as well as aesthetic behaviors, using scientific methods. Congress topics may include: Aesthetic Appreciation, Aesthetic Experience, Visual Perception and Art, Auditory Perception and Art, Psychology of Music, Appreciation of Art, Music and Literature, Culture and Media, Cinema, Festivals, Museology, and Art Education.

The official language of the Congress will be English. All written material (abstracts, posters, and contributions to the proceedings) and accompanying presentations must be in English.

Submission Information

Submissions are invited for four types of events: 1) spoken papers, 2) posters, 3) symposia, and 4) an exhibition of art created by participants. There will be parallel scientific sessions for oral presentations held during each of the four days of the Congress. The purpose of the exhibition is to show the art works of participants and stimulate discussion about the works and the creative process. [NOTE: At this point the inclusion of the art exhibit is tentative. The inclusion of an art exhibit depends on availability of facilities at the venue for the Congress (which has not yet been finalized). Submissions for exhibits are still invited.]
Abstracts for all types of events must be sent by December 31, 2007 via e-mail to:

Kenneth S. Bordens, Program Moderator
iae08@ipfw.edu

Hard copy submissions will also be accepted. Send three copies of your abstract to:

Kenneth S. Bordens, Program Moderator
International Association of Empirical Aesthetics
Department of Psychology
Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne
Fort Wayne, IN, USA 46805

For further information on submission requirements, please see the official "Call for Papers" at users.ipfw.edu/bordens/IAEA08/IAEAcall.pdf

IAEA web site: www.science-of-aesthetics.org/index.html

OFFER

Professor Elmer H. Duncan has taught a course in Aesthetics at Baylor University since 1962, and plans to do it one more time in the fall term of 2007. His 36 lectures are based on a very extensive and frequently revised syllabus that has been featured among the "Teaching Resources" in Aesthetics Online for several years. His students recently asked him to provide Power Point presentations to make things more visual. He has done this, condensing the 36 lectures to 32 presentations that he has put on a single convenient Memorex CD-RW disc.

Professor Duncan would like to share this material with any other aesthetician who might consider using it, in whole or in part, in teaching, and he would be happy to send the CD without charge. You can contact him by e-mail at: Elmer_Duncan@baylor.edu. His website is: www3.baylor.edu/~Elmer_Duncan/.

NOTICE TO AUTHORS

The editorial office of Contemporary Aesthetics is on a reduced schedule during the summer months. We continue to welcome submissions but cannot promise as fast a response as usual. Thank you for your understanding.

CALL FOR PAPERS

XVIIth International Congress of Aesthetics
Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey
9-13 July 2007

Topic

Aesthetics Bridging Cultures

Aesthetic issues concerning art and culture in a world of diversities and change, ruptures and continuities, tensions and
hybridities. Many artistic events, performances, film and video shows will be planned. The week is programmed with keynote speeches, artist presentations, panels on aesthetics and culture, contemporary art, design, script, architecture, politics, the Mediterranean, Asia and the Orient, and sessions on themes concerning Idealism and Pragmatism, Local and Glocal, Orientalism and Occidentalism, Pluralism and Egalitarianism, Sacred and Profane, Historicism, New Taxonomies of Art, Culture Industry, Aesthetics of Technology, Aesthetics and the Everyday, High/Low, Real and Virtual, Philosophical Approaches, Interculturalism and the Arts, Territory and Cultures, Art in Transhistorical Perspectives, Violence/Aesthetics, Aesthetics and Ethics, Music and other arts.

Additional Information

Session titles are subject to change.

Deadline for abstracts: 30 March 2007

Registrations fee till May 2007: 250 Dollars

Late registration: 300 dollars.

Registration fee can be sent directly to the Sanart bank account, Yapı Kredi Bank, ODTU/METU Branch 0747-6 Account No.3001036-3. Registration, accommodation and abstract forms can also be printed from the website and faxed with credit card payment.

Contact

Telephone: Jale Erzen - 90 312 2102215 (can leave message) or cellular: 90 532 473 0659)

Fax: 90 312 2107966

Registration Web site: www.sanart.org.tr

IAA Web site: ww2.eur.nl/fw/hyper/IAA/index.htm

CA announces a forthcoming special volume:

AESTHETICS AND RACE: NEW PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVES

Guest Editor: Monique Roelofs

Critical perspectives on race have drastically changed the face of the social, the political, and the intimate. What possibilities for transformation do philosophical accounts of racial identity and difference hold out for aesthetics? How can aesthetics rethink itself by rethinking race? What shape do aesthetic questions take in light of the spatial, imaginative, and affective registers of racial embodiment and the pervasiveness of racist constellations? How can we understand the aesthetic dimensions of phenomena such as racial fetishism, cosmopolitanism, immigration and anti-immigration policies, mixed race identity, notions of racial ancestry, cultural imperialism, transnationalism, and diaspora? This special issue of Contemporary Aesthetics will examine these and/or other questions at the interface of aesthetics and race.
CALL FOR PAPERS

*Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*

Journal of the Society for the Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity and the Arts

*Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts* is a new journal which will be published quarterly beginning in March 2007. The journal will examine the issues relevant to all aspects of creative behavior, and we encourage all individuals involved in this area to contribute manuscripts.

Articles to be published in the journal will include reports of original research on aesthetic perception and all facets of creative behavior, production, thought, and development, as well as essays that synthesize and evaluate extant research and papers that propose or expand on creativity or aesthetic theory. Comments on articles published in the journal will also be considered.

Authors should prepare manuscripts according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th Edition). In general, manuscripts will range from 15 to 40 double-spaced pages, and should include an abstract of 125-180 words maximum on a separate page.

**Manuscript Submission**

Authors should submit their manuscript electronically via the Manuscript Submission Portal, located at [www.apa.org/journals/aca](http://www.apa.org/journals/aca).

CALL FOR PAPERS

*XIth Greifswalder Conference on Romanticism*

3-6 May 2007, Griefswald, Germany

**Topic**

"German Romantics and Their Discovery of the New World: German Artists in America 1800-1850"

Sponsored by the art history institutes of EMAU on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Institute of Art History of EMAU,

in collaboration with the Institute for Scientific Visualization and the Department of Design of the Academy of Form and Art in Zürich.

**Contact**

For further information on program and accommodations, contact Dr. Gerd-Helge Vogel.

E-mail: ghvogel@web.de or gerd-helge.vogel@hgkz.net.

**SYMPOSIUM**

Middle East Garden Traditions

**Unity and Diversity: Questions, methods and resources in a multi-cultural perspective**
This Symposium will discuss the long history of interlinked garden traditions in the Middle East, since Roman times, and in the Islamic world up to the present, highlighting cultural continuities, variations and differences between gardens from the Atlantic Ocean to the Indus plains. Symposium participants will explore how conflicting influences operated, the form of cultural reception of gardens in religious and mystical societies, the political uses of gardens, and new directions of archaeological research.

Website and Registration:
www.doaks.org/gal_2007_spring_symposium_synopsis.html

Contact
Email: landscape@doaks.org or MaffreyA@doaks.org
Phone: 202-339-6460
Registration closes April 12, 2007
Co-sponsored by The Freer and Sackler Galleries and Dumbarton Oaks

CALL FOR PAPERS
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR AESTHETICS EASTERN DIVISION MEETING
13-14 April, 2007
Philadelphia, PA

Keynote speaker: Robert Stecker (Central Michigan University)

Papers on any topic in Aesthetics are invited, as well as proposals for panels, author-meets-critics, or other special sessions. We welcome volunteers to serve as session chairs and commentators. All participants must register for the conference.

Papers should not exceed 3000 words, and should be accompanied by a 100-word abstract. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged (in Word or as RTF), either via email or diskette. Please send to Saam Trivedi, Program Co-Chair, at trivedi@brooklyn.cuny.edu or Department of Philosophy, Brooklyn College, City University of New York, 2900 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11210-2889.

Please feel free to direct questions to the Program Co-Chairs: Saam Trivedi (Brooklyn College CUNY) at trivedi@brooklyn.cuny.edu or Robert Fudge (Weber State University) at robertfudge@weber.edu

Deadline for submissions: January 15, 2007

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RESEARCH PROGRAM AND COLLOQUIUM

Ecology, aesthetic engagement and public sphere

Ecologie, engagement esthétique et espace public

May 9-11, 2007

Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development

Paris, France

This English/French colloquium aims at questioning the aesthetic components of ecological mobilizations and policies/politics, as well as those of ecological art and landscape design. Does landscape encompass the whole value of the aesthetic relation? Does it include all the dimensions of the problematics of ecology? Does it evade its invisible dimension, such as pollution? For the artistic side, our interrogation will question ecological art, a label that is specifically American and that has been mixing ecological ethics, science and public art since the late sixties. We will particularly focus on local mobilizations involving artists and opposing extensive urban or non-urban town planning projects.

The papers will attempt to orient their reflections around three axes more specifically:

1. How do these propositions, whether they be political demands or requirements, or artistic ones, take the common world into consideration: specifically a public space that translates the design for a common world into action?

2. How do these propositions express the indissoluble aspects of subjects and their living territories (home, living environment, landscape, worlds, etc.).

3. Lastly, how do these propositions include action that is constitutive of the subject and that is a source of a renovation of the public space, an aesthetic action that participates in molding, giving meaning to, and making a presentation of coexistence in the world?
Speakers include:

**Aesthetic engagement and environment**: Yves Luginbuhl (geographer), Emily Brady (philosopher) (Assessors) and: Augustin Berque (geographer), Arnold Berleant (philosopher), Jean-Louis Cometti (philosopher), Michel Gariepy (urbanist), Gerard Monediaire (lawyer), Jessica Makowiak (lawyer), Marie-Vic Ozouf-Marignier (geographer);

**Ecological art**: Paul Ardenne (critic), Stephanie Smith (curator) (Assessors) and American and European artists: Tilmann Latz (landscape designer), Noelle Pujol (artist), Hermann Prigann (artist), Benedicte Ramade (critic), Jeroe van Westen (artist);

**Aesthetic components of ecological mobilizations**: Cyria Emelianoff (geographer), Phil Macnaghten, John Urry (sociologist) (Assessors) and: Clare Palmer (philosopher), Baird Callicott (philosopher), Local NGOs, Greenpeace, and protection of biodiversity NGOs.

**Contact:**

nathali.blanc@wanadoo.fr

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The 24th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Aesthetics**

at the 76th Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences

May 27-29, 2007

University of Saskatchewan

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

**Topic**

"Bridging Communities: Making public knowledge - Making knowledge public."

**General Information**

The 2007 annual meeting of the CSA will occur in company with those of other Canadian associations, including the Canadian Philosophical Association, as part of the 76th Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Participants selected for inclusion on the program are required to pay CSA membership and conference registration fees. Papers, panel proposals or abstracts on any topic in aesthetics are invited, and especially so if addressing aspects of the theme of the Congress: "Bridging Communities: Making public knowledge - Making knowledge public." Only completed papers of 10-12 standard pages, accompanied by a 150-word abstract and suitable for presentation in fewer than 25 minutes, will be considered initially for inclusion on the programme. Abstracts, if submitted alone, will be assessed later and only if vacancies occur in the programme. Proposals for panels upon special topics or recent publications should include names and affiliations of all participants and an abstract of the subject matter. All items submitted for consideration must be forwarded both in hard-copy and as e-mail attachments (MS
**Submission Guidelines**

-- Submission Deadline: 15 January 2007

-- Submissions must be sent both in hard copy and as e-mail attachments.

-- Student Submissions: The CSA welcomes graduate student members. We particularly encourage student submissions to our annual conference. As an added incentive, the CSA offers travel subsidies of approximately $300 to up to four students who are selected to present papers at the annual conference. In addition, the CSA is offering the annual graduate presentation prize of $200 for the best paper presented by a graduate student at our annual conference. Guidelines for this competition will be posted here soon.

**Enquires or Submissions**

In English, send to:

Daniel B. Gallagher  
Sacred Heart Major Seminary  
2701 Chicago Blvd.,  
Detroit, MI, 48206, USA  
gallagher.dan@shms.edu

In French, send to:

Marie-Noelle Ryan  
Departement de Philosophie  
Faculte des Arts et des Sciences Sociales  
Universite de Moncton  
Moncton, N.B. E1A 3E9, CANADA  
ryanmn@umoncton.ca

**THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AESTHETICS**

KOLI, FINLAND  

**June 11-14, 2007**

This conference will discuss various approaches to stone and rock.

This event continues a series of conferences which started in 1994 and so far has covered topics including forest, bogs, water and agriculture.

The aim is to recognise stone in the environment as a landscape and natural resource worth preserving. Sensible usage of stone resources will be discussed; special attention will be paid on the design and improvement of aesthetic quality of stone products as well as repairing damage caused
to the landscape by industrial activity.

**Lecturers**

The speakers are internationally distinguished researchers in the fields of aesthetics, geology, archaeology and folklore as well as specialists and professionals from industry, art and environmental conservation.

**For whom?**

The conference is targeted at those working with stone in the fields of research, administration, education, protection and usage of natural resources as well as students in these areas. It is also open to anyone interested in environmental issues.

**Information and Enrollment**

Please, sign up by April 30, 2007:

Summer University of North Karelia

Ms. Lisbe Svahn

P.O. Box 179

80101 Joensuu, Finland

**Tel.** +358 13 244 2540

**Fax.** +358 13 244 2299

**E-mail:** lisbe.svahn@pkky.fi

**Web site:** www.pkky.fi/stoneconference

**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AESTHETICS**

The International Association of Aesthetics has recently announced its recent publications and issued announcements of forthcoming conferences. Among the new items is information about the coming **XVII World Congress of Aesthetics** in Ankara, July - 13, 2007 (see notice below), and the full text of the **Yearbook 2005** and **IAA Newsletter no.30**. For further information, please consult the following websites:

- Yearbook 2005: : Ontology, Art, and Experience: Perspectives from West and East
  www2.eur.nl/fw/hyper/IAA/Newsletters/IAA-NL-30.pdf

  www2.eur.nl/fw/hyper/IAA/News/VisionIncision.htm

- Conference Aesthetics of Displacement, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, May 15-17, 2007
  www.fafich.ufmg.br/esteticasdodeslocamento/

- XVII World Congress of Aesthetics, Ankara, Turkey, July 9-13 2007
  www2.eur.nl/fw/hyper/IAA/Announcements/ankara2007.htm

IAA website