

Journal of Curatorial Studies 4(3): Museums and Affect

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JOURNAL OF CURATORIAL STUDIES 4(3): MUSEUMS AND AFFECT

Edited by Jennifer Fisher and Helena Reckitt

This is the first of two issues addressing affect theory as a mode of analysis for curatorial and exhibition studies. Affect accounts for the feeling of exhibitions. It is sensed before cognition or meaning occur – qualifying and charging the interstice among artworks, as well as between curatorial agents, institutions, communities and technologies. The five articles of this issue demonstrate how the transmission of affect in a museum or exhibition goes beyond specific artworks and their meanings to cover a wide range of social, sensory and emotive registers. Affect theory helps to understand how the mediating agencies of curating simultaneously encompass context and relationship. The authors included here analyze diverse facets of museological architectures, installations and media platforms to explore affects such as empathy, love, darkness, trauma, banality, curiosity and devotion. Through a diverse set of case studies, "Museums and Affect" illuminates the relevance of affect theory to museological experience and curatorial knowledge.

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Articles

Gabriel Levine

The Museum of Everyday Life: Objects and Affects of Glorious Obscurity

Alexis L. Boylan

What's Love Got to Do with It? Crowdsourcing, Curating and Love in the Neoliberal Museum

Jenny Kidd

Gaming for Affect: Museum Online Games and the Embrace of Empathy

Kit Messham-Muir

Into Darkness: Affect and Dark Space in Holocaust Exhibitions

Christopher R. Marshall

From Altar to App: Displaying Devotion in the Contemporary Museum

Reviews

Friederike Schäfer

All the World's Futures

Bill Roberts

Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915–2015

Negin Zebarjad

The Aga Khan Museum Collection and The Garden of Ideas: Contemporary Art from Pakistan

Owen Duffy

Simon Denny: The Innovator's Dilemma

Jordan MacInnis

Politics of Fashion/Fashion of Politics

Manisha Aggarwal-Schifellite

Museums and Migration: History, Memory and Politics, Laurence Gouriévidis (Ed.)

Alison Cooley

Radical Museology or, What's 'Contemporary' in Museums of Contemporary Art?, Claire Bishop and Dan Perjovschi

Rosie Spooner

This Is Paradise: Art and Artists in Toronto

The Journal of Curatorial Studies is an international, peer-reviewed publication that explores the increasing relevance of curating and exhibitions and their impact on institutions, audiences, aesthetics and display culture. Inviting perspectives from visual studies, art history, critical theory, cultural studies and other academic fields, the journal welcomes a diversity of disciplinary approaches on curating and exhibitions broadly defined. By catalyzing debate and serving as a venue for the emerging discipline of curatorial studies, this journal encourages the development of the theory, practice and history of curating, as well as the analysis of exhibitions and display culture in general.

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