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Special issue: 'Between Sensuous and Making-Sense-of' (2019, issue 7)

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Edited by Tilo Reifenstein and Liz Mitchell

Confronted with the work of art, the contributors to this volume find themselves granted access to, yet also rebuffed from, the material at hand. However available the work may be to touch, gaze, taste, smell or aural perception, it still exceeds comprehensive reduction to a particular sense or interpretive scheme. Conversely, facing the viewer (participant, maker, historian), the work's material both offers itself to, and resists, sensory assimilation and intelligibility. Already inscribed in this encounter – between work and viewer, material and maker, individual senses and their somaesthetic and interpretative contiguity – is a fertile consolidation of sensorial effects and their sense-making. This special issue explores the productive relations of the work's entwining of historical, social, theoretical and cultural discourses with their inseparable bodily encounters. As a result, it offers trajectories of interpretative productivity and multiplicity that are responsive to the indivisibility of head and hand, object and context, and thinking and feeling.

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