

Invisible Culture (Issue 7, "Casting Doubt")

Leanne Gilbertson

The editors of "Invisible Culture" are pleased to announce the release of

ISSUE 7: CASTING DOUBT

Guest Edited by Leanne Gilbertson and Elizabeth Kalbfleisch

Available online at:

http://www.rochester.edu/in_visible_culture/ivchome.html

The essays in this issue of Invisible Culture testify to the significance of doubt as a subject worthy of sustained inquiry, as a mode of analysis, and as a keystone of visual studies. In the last few years we have witnessed how quickly and thoroughly a culture may mobilize resources when confronted with circumstances of indeterminate or incomprehensible meaning. We have become increasingly aware of how doubtful moments and images are exploited in order to perpetuate fear. We have seen firsthand how the residue and remains of doubtful encounters may be cast off, smoothed over, or swept away -- and the shocking speed and awesome force with which this occurs. In response to dominant cultural reactions to uncertainty, this collection reclaims the positive productivity of the fleeting, dispersed, and frequently isolating experiences of doubt by drawing together a range of work interrogating its manifestations.

Contributors to this issue explore doubt in relationship to varied media, cultural location, and methodology, including photography, contemporary art, film, Surrealist literature, psychoanalysis, and political propaganda. This issue of "Invisible Culture" brings questions about doubt into focus, casting doubt by arranging the prevalent, often unspoken and invisible phenomena of doubting into a meaningful and previously unimagined constellation.

The articles included in this issue are:

The Image Before Me By Peter Hobbs

The Automatic Hand:

Spiritualism, Psychoanalysis, Surrealism By Rachel Leah Thompson

The Naked Truth or the Shadow of Doubt?

X-Rays and the Problematic of Transparency By Corey Keller

Real Lies, True Fakes, and Supermodels

By Elizabeth Mangini

Eat it alive and swallow it whole!:

Resavoring "Cannibal Holocaust" as a Mockumentary

By Carolina Gabriela Jauregui

Leaflet Drop: The Paper Landscape of War

By Jennifer Gabrys

Past issues of "Invisible Culture" include: Visual Publics, Visible Publics (Issue 6); "Visual Culture and National Identity" (Issue 5); "To Incorporate Practice" (Issue 4); "Time and the Work" (Issue 3); "Interrogating Subcultures" (Issue 2); and "The Worlding of Cultural Studies" (Issue 1).

"Invisible Culture" has been in operation since 1998, in association with the Visual and Cultural Studies Program at the University of Rochester. The present editors, Margot Bouman, Lucy Curzon, T'ai Smith, and Catherine Zuromskis, have revised the journal's original mission statement, with the goal of reaching a broader range of disciplines. The journal is dedicated to explorations of the material and political dimensions of cultural practices: the means by which cultural objects and communities are produced, the historical contexts in which they emerge, and the regimes of knowledge or modes of social interaction to which they contribute.

As the title suggests, Invisible Culture problematizes the unquestioned alliance between culture and visibility, specifically visual culture and vision. Cultural practices and materials emerge not solely in the visible world, but also in the social, temporal, and theoretical relations that define the invisible. Our understanding of Cultural Studies, finally, maintains that culture is fugitive and is constantly renegotiated.

"Invisible Culture" accepts book, film, media, and art review submissions of 600 to 1000 words.

Reference:

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