

Psycho-historical approach to science of art appreciation (BBS)

Deadline: Mar 21, 2012

Rolf Reber, University of Bergen

BBS Call for Commentary Proposals: Bulloet & Reber

We are writing you to announce that BBS has just accepted an article for open peer commentary in BBS. The article was already reviewed, and we are now accepting commentary proposals. If you are interested in writing a commentary, you are welcome to submit a short proposal (see instructions below). No action is required if you aren't interested.

Please DO NOT submit a full commentary article unless you are formally invited---AFTER you submit a commentary **proposal**. We will review all commentary proposals and issue invitations around the end of February. Also, please be aware that we typically receive far more commentary proposals than we can accommodate with formal invitations. When choosing invitations, we balance over multiple factors, including the interest of the commentary itself, the commentator's expertise, whether the commentator's work has been discussed in the target article, and other considerations.

NOW PROCESSING COMMENTARY PROPOSALS ON:

Target Article: The Artful Mind Meets Art History: Toward a Psycho- Historical Framework for the Science of Art Appreciation

Authors: Nicolas J. Bulloet and Rolf Reber

Deadline for Commentary Proposals: March 21, 2012

Abstract: Research seeking a scientific foundation for the theory of art appreciation has raised controversies at the intersection of the social and cognitive sciences. Though equally relevant to a scientific inquiry into art appreciation, psychological and historical approaches to art developed independently and lack a common core of theoretical principles. Historicists argue that psychological and brain sciences ignore the fact that artworks are artifacts produced and appreciated in the context of unique historical situations and artistic intentions. After revealing flaws in the psychological approach, we introduce a psycho-historical framework for the science of art appreciation. This framework demonstrates that a science of art appreciation must investigate how appreciators process causal and historical information to classify and explain their psychological responses to art. Expanding on research about the cognition of artifacts, we identify three modes of appreciation: basic exposure to an artwork, the artistic design stance, and artistic understanding. The artistic design stance, a requisite for artistic understanding, is an attitude whereby appreciators

develop their sensitivity to art-historical contexts by means of inquiries into the making, authorship, and functions of artworks. We defend and illustrate the psycho-historical framework with an analysis of existing studies on art appreciation in empirical aesthetics. Finally, we argue that the fluency theory of aesthetic pleasure can be amended to meet the requirements of the framework. We conclude that scientists can tackle fundamental questions about the nature and appreciation of art within the psycho-historical framework.

Keywords: Art appreciation; causal reasoning; cognitive tracking; cognition of artifacts; design stance; essentialism; function; history of art; mindreading; processing fluency; psycho-historical framework

Download Target Article Preprint:

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COMMENTARY PROPOSALS **MUST** INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

1. What aspect of the target article or book you would anticipate commenting on.
2. The relevant expertise you would bring to bear on the target article or book.

Please include names and affiliations of your co-authors, if applicable, in the text of your commentary proposal.

SUGGESTING COMMENTATORS AND NOMINATING BBS ASSOCIATES

To suggest others as possible Commentators, or to nominate others for BBS Associateship status, please email bbsjournal@cambridge.org.

<http://journals.cambridge.org/BBSJournal/Inst/Assoc>

HOW TO SUBMIT A COMMENTARY PROPOSAL

If you would like to nominate yourself for potential commentary invitation, you must submit a Commentary Proposal via our BBS Editorial Manager site:

1. Log-in as Author

(with your username and password)

Log-in to your BBS Editorial Manager account as an author:

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If you do not have an account, please visit the site and register. You can also submit a request for missing username and password information if you have an existing account.

2. Submit New Manuscript

Within your author main menu please select Submit New Manuscript.

3. Select Article Type

Choose the article type of your manuscript from the pull-down menu. Commentary Proposal article types are temporarily created for each accepted target article or book. Only select the Commentary Proposal article type that you wish to submit a proposal on. For example: "Commentary Proposal (Bulot)"

4. Enter Title

Please title your proposal submission by indicating the relevant first author name of the target article or book. For example: "Commentary Proposal on Bulot"

5. Add Co-Authors

If you are proposing to write a commentary with any co-authors, the system will not allow you to enter their information here. Instead, include their names in the commentary proposal document you upload. These potential co-authors need not contribute to the Commentary Proposal itself.

6. Attach Files

The only required submission item is your Commentary Proposal in MSWord or RTF format. In the Description field please add the first author name of the target article or book. For example: "Commentary Proposal on Bulot"

7. Approve Your Submission

Editorial Manager will process your Commentary Proposal submission and will create a PDF for your approval. On the "Submissions Waiting for Author's Approval" page, you can view your PDF, edit, approve, or remove the submission. (You might have to wait several minutes for the blue "Action" menu to appear, allowing you to approve. Once you have Approved the Submission, the PDF will be sent to the editorial office.

It is VERY important that you check and approve your Commentary Proposal manuscript as described above. Otherwise, we cannot process your submission.

8. Editorial Office Decision

At the conclusion of the Commentary Proposal period, the editors will review all the submitted Commentary Proposals. An undetermined number of Commentary Proposals will be approved and those author names will be added to the final commentary invitation list. At that time you will be notified of the decision. If you are formally invited to submit a commentary, you will be asked to confirm your intention to submit by the commentary deadline.

Note: Before the commentary invitations are sent, the copy-edited and revised target article will be posted for invitees. In the case of Multiple Book Review, invitees will be sent a copy of the book to be commented upon if requested. With Multiple Book Reviews, it is the book, not the précis article that is the target of commentary.

Please do not write a commentary unless you have received an official invitation!

BEING REMOVED FROM THE CALL EMAIL LIST

If you DO NOT wish to receive Call for Commentary Proposals in the future, please reply to bbsjournal@cambridge.org, and type "remove" in the subject line.

Regards,

Gennifer Levey
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Reference:

CFP: Psycho-historical approach to science of art appreciation (BBS). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 7, 2012
(accessed Oct 30, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/2864>>.