

MASTER, Estetik, VT17

Art as Idea: the philosophy of conceptual art (7,5 hp).

Art in the conceptual tradition raises a host of interesting philosophical questions, including epistemological concerns (how should we appreciate conceptual artworks?), ontological issues (what is the metaphysical status of conceptual artworks?), and definitional problems (can conceptual art be defined in similar terms to non-conceptual art?). The main aim of the course is to yield insight into the role of ideas in art in the conceptual tradition and to examine the extent to which 'art as idea' is a viable philosophical claim. We will endorse a broad understanding of the notion 'conceptual art' and explore the extent to which all art is, in some sense at least, conceptual. If so, how are we to experience the art of the late 1960s and early 1970s in contrast with earlier/later works? What exactly do we mean by 'idea' in relation to art in general and conceptual art in particular?

Course book: Goldie, P. & Schellekens, E. (eds.). 2007. *Philosophy & Conceptual Art*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (E-book Universitetsbiblioteket).

Recommended previous reading:

- Godfrey, T. 1998. *Conceptual Art*. London: Phaidon.
- Goldie, P. & Schellekens, E. 2010. *Who's Afraid of Conceptual Art?* London: Routledge.
- LeWitt, S. 1967. "Paragraphs on Conceptual Art". *Artforum*.
http://www.corner-college.com/udb/cproVozeFxParagraphs_on_Conceptual_Art_Sol_leWitt.pdf

Mon 06/03 (09.30-12.00) – Art as Idea: what is conceptual art and can it be defined?

- Binkley, T. 1977. "Piece: Contra Aesthetics". *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 35, pp. 265-77.
- Goldie, P. & Schellekens, E. 2010. *Who's Afraid of Conceptual Art*. Routledge. Chapter 2.
- Levinson, J. 1989. "Refining Art Historically". *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 47, pp. 21-33.

Wed 08/03 (13.30-16.00) – Non-perceptual Art: how to experience the non-perceptual?

- Hopkins, R. 2007. "Speaking Through Silence". Kursbok.
- Lamarque, P. 2007. "On Perceiving Conceptual Art". Kursbok.
- Shelley, J. 2003. "The Problem of Non-Perceptual Art". *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 43, pp. 363–78.

Fri 10/03 (13.30-16.00) – Epistemology: experience and narrative.

- Davies, D. 2007. “Telling Pictures: The Place of Narrative in Late Modern ‘Visual Art’ “. Kursbok.
- Hanson, L. 2015. “Conceptual Art and the Acquaintance Principle”. *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*. 73(3).
- Schellekens, E. 2007. “The Aesthetic Value of Ideas”. Kursbok.

Mon 13/03 (09.30-12.00) – Ontology: can art be an idea?

- Cray, W. 2014. “Conceptual Art, Ideas and Ontology”. *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*. 72(3).
- Dodd, J. 2017. “Against the Idea Idea”. *Art, Mind and Narrative*. Oxford: OUP.
- McIver Lopes, D. 2007. “Conceptual Art Is Not What It Seems”. Kursbok.

Wed 15/03 (09.30-12.00) – Examination oral assignment.

Fri 17/03 – Excursion Marina Abramovic retrospective, Moderna Museet (Stockholm)

09.36-10.15: Train from Uppsala to Stockholm.

11.00-12.00: Guided tour.

12.00-12.45: Lunch (own expense)

12.45-14-00: Free time in Museum.

Mon 27/03: Written assignment returned.