

FEURY Patrick (UK)

The Abrasive Gaze: Liminality, Texture and the Sublime – paper

This paper will consider what happens to the act of spectating when we are confronted with new models of 'texture' Texture is used here to include the variations on media, materiality, and subject matter. The liminal position that such developments occupy (the spaces between the traditional/understood and the projection towards innovation) are viewed with a different type of gaze. This abrasive gaze is an unsettled one, often provoking self-reflexivity and unease. This can be likened to theories of the sublime, where the beautiful gives way to the terrors of awe filled images.

The presentation will illustrate these points with a range of material, from 'high' art to popular culture.

Patrick Fuery is Professor of Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Sussex. He is the author of eight books, including most recently 'Madness and Cinema' and 'Visual Cultures and Critical Theory' (with K. Fuery). He is currently working on a book on the culture of the sublime.
