HUDSON Kirsten (Aus)

To Glance Sideways - paper

This paper problematises the traditional viewing practices within the fashion and art industries and investigates the carnivalesque as an interventionist tactic to challenge and disrupt the controlled economics of image exchange within these industries. Drawing upon John Berger’s ways of seeing, Dick Hebdidge’s politics of style and popular culture as well as Mikhail Bakhtin’s exploration of carnivalesque potential, this paper proposes a performative and collaborative art practice that fuses fashion with other more generally accepted art forms and interweaves through this hybrid practice, the unstable elements of popular culture and the everyday. This carnivalesque strategy aims to undermine conventional art and fashion viewing practices through the shifting of contexts, while cheekily subverting the assumed relationship between spectator and performer, and thus begins to break down the disciplinary boundaries often associated with the fashion and art industries, allowing a wider and more diverse audience to interact and participate.

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