

“the experiential: re-reading aesthetics”

the aesthetics seminar autumn 2011



Image: Alexander Baumgarten's 1750 '*Aesthetica*' which claimed that: "Aesthetics is the science of sensate cognition." Baumgarten further characterised aesthetics as an '*analogon rationis*'. In Baumgarten's usage the term appears to cover the general range of sense-perception. Terry Eagleton has asserted in relation to Baumgarten's work that: "Aesthetics is born as a discourse of the body. In its original formulation by the German philosopher Alexander Baumgarten, the term refers not in the first place to art, but as the Greek *Aisthesis* would suggest, to the whole region of human perception and sensation, in contrast to the more rarefied domain of conceptual thought." (Eagleton, 1990, p.13) This is one of several competing accounts of aesthetics. This seminar series will examine several competing constructions of aesthetics.

Since Spring 2009, the group have examined texts including Plato, Aristotle, Sophocles, Kant, Schiller, Nietzsche, Kristeller, Badiou, Ranciere, and Deleuze. This seminar is co-facilitated by Mick O Hara [miseohara(at)gmail.com]

The first meeting of new series in autumn 2011 takes place on Wednesday 14/9/2011. see calendar for other meetings.

Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media The Graduate School of Creative Arts and Media (GradCAM) is Ireland's leading centre for doctoral research across design, visual and performing arts, media practice and their associated critical, historical and theoretical discourses. The School provides structured doctoral studies and research development for the creative arts and media sector. It is a collaboration initiated between the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), the National College of Art & Design (NCAD), the University of Ulster (Ulster), and the Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Dún Laoghaire (IADT). The Graduate School of Creative Arts & Media (GradCAM) was established in 2008 with funding from the Higher Education Authority's Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions (PRTL) to provide a framework for doctoral education and research for the creative arts.



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