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The Aesthetic Brain takes readers on an exciting journey through the world of beauty, pleasure, and art. Using the latest advances in neuroscience and evolutionary psychology, Anjan Chatterjee investigates how an aesthetic sense is etched into our minds, and explains why artistic concerns feature centrally in our lives.

The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and ...

The Aesthetic Brain takes the reader on a wide-ranging journey through the world of beauty, pleasure, and art. Chatterjee uses neuroscience to probe how an aesthetic sense is etched in our minds and evolutionary psychology to explain why aesthetic concerns feature centrally in our lives.

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The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and Enjoy Art by Anjan Chatterjee. Oxford University Press, New York, NY, U.S.A., 2013. 248 pp. ISBN: 978-0-1998-1180-9.

The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and ...  
The Aesthetic Brain takes the reader on a wide-ranging journey addressing fundamental questions about aesthetics and art. Using

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neuroscience and evolutionary psychology, Chatterjee shows how beauty, pleasure, and art are grounded biologically, and offers explanations for why beauty, pleasure, and art exist at all.

Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and Enjoy ...

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The Aesthetic Brain eBook by Anjan Chatterjee, MD ...

The Aesthetic Brain How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and Enjoy Art Anjan Chatterjee Why is a rose beautiful? This doesn't seem

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like a question for science, yet an emerging field called neuroaesthetics seeks to understand art and beauty from a scientific perspective, by understanding the roots of beauty in the brain.

The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and ...  
Art engages the sensual, emotional and cognitive networks of the brain. Aesthetic experience is defined by liking without wanting. Art is widely considered to be either a natural instinct or a by-product of human evolution. The less we needed to fight for our survival, the more we could focus on art. Final summary

The Aesthetic Brain by Anjan Chatterjee - Blinkist

The best theory suggests that they dissolve some of the fat present in brain cells, changing the cells' activity. But, the precise



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mechanisms remain unknown. For now, next time you find yourself

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and evolutionary psychology to explain why aesthetic concerns feature centrally in our lives. Along the way, Chatterjee addresses fundamental questions: What is beauty?

The Aesthetic Brain by Chatterjee, MD, Anjan (ebook)

Anjan Chatterjee, the author of *The Aesthetic Brain: How We Evolved to Desire Beauty and Enjoy Art*, uses the latest advances in neuroscience and evolutionary psychology to take us on a journey through the world of art, pleasure, and creativity, addressing such fundamental questions as: What is beauty? Is it universal?

The Aesthetic Brain: Anjan Chatterjee on Beauty, Buildings ...

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For example, brain scans reveal that if we hear a sound that leads us to strongly suspect another sound is on the way, the brain acts as if we're already hearing the second sound. Similarly, if we ...

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The Aesthetic Brain takes the reader on a wide-ranging journey addressing fundamental questions about aesthetics and art. Using neuroscience and evolutionary psychology, Chatterjee shows how beauty, pleasure, and art are grounded biologically, and offers explanations for why beauty, pleasure, and art exist at all.

The Aesthetic Brain takes the reader on a wide-ranging journey through the world of beauty, pleasure, and art. Chatterjee uses neuroscience to probe how an aesthetic sense is etched in our minds

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and evolutionary psychology to explain why aesthetic concerns feature centrally in our lives. Along the way, Chatterjee addresses fundamental questions: What is beauty? Is beauty universal? How is beauty related to pleasure? What is art? Should art be beautiful? Do we have an instinct for art? Chatterjee starts by probing the reasons that we find people, places, and even numbers beautiful. At the root of beauty, he finds, is pleasure. He then examines our pleasures by dissecting why we want and why we like food, sex, and money and how these rewards relate to aesthetic encounters. His ruminations on beauty and pleasure prepare him and the reader to face art. He wanders through the problems of defining art, understanding contemporary art, and interpreting ancient art. He explores why art, something that seems so useless, also feels fundamental to our humanity. Replete with facts, anecdotes, and analogies, this

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empirical guide to aesthetics offers scientific answers without deflating the wonders of beauty and art.

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What do we do when we view a work of art? What does it mean to have an 'aesthetic' experience? Are such experiences purely in the eye of the beholder? This book addresses the nature of aesthetic experience from the perspectives of philosophy psychology and neuroscience.

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A theory of the neural bases of aesthetic experience across the arts, which draws on the tools of both cognitive neuroscience and traditional humanist inquiry. In *Feeling Beauty*, G. Gabrielle Starr argues that understanding the neural underpinnings of aesthetic experience can reshape our conceptions of aesthetics and the arts. Drawing on the tools of both cognitive neuroscience and traditional humanist inquiry, Starr shows that neuroaesthetics offers a new model for understanding the dynamic and changing features of aesthetic life, the relationships among the arts, and how individual differences in aesthetic judgment shape the varieties of aesthetic experience. Starr, a scholar of the humanities and a researcher in the neuroscience of aesthetics, proposes that aesthetic experience relies on a distributed neural architecture—a set of brain areas involved in

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emotion, perception, imagery, memory, and language. More important, it emerges from networked interactions, intricately connected and coordinated brain systems that together form a flexible architecture enabling us to develop new arts and to see the world around us differently. Focusing on the "sister arts" of poetry, painting, and music, Starr builds and tests a neural model of aesthetic experience valid across all the arts. Asking why works that address different senses using different means seem to produce the same set of feelings, she examines particular works of art in a range of media, including a poem by Keats, a painting by van Gogh, a sculpture by Bernini, and Beethoven's Diabelli Variations. Starr's innovative, interdisciplinary analysis is true to the complexities of both the physical instantiation of aesthetics and the realities of artistic representation.



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What neural processes underlie the appreciation of painting, music, and dance? How did such processes evolve? This book brings together experts in genetics, psychology, neuroimaging, neuropsychology, art history, and philosophy to explore these questions. It sets the stage for a cognitive neuroscience of art and aesthetics.

Hvad sker der i hjernen, når vi betragter et kunstværk eller lytter til et stykke musik? Og hvordan forklarer vi i det hele taget de domme, vi fælder over det skønne, det grimme, kunsten? Neuroæstetik er en ny, tværfaglig disciplin, der kombinerer filosofisk æstetik, neurobiologi og eksperimentel psykologi for at kunne forklare, hvorfor vi oplever nogle stimuli som tiltalende og andre som

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utiltalende. Med antologien *An Introduction to Neuroaesthetics* foreligger nu en bred indføring i neuroæstetikken, dens genstandsfelt og undersøgelsesmetoder. Bogens bidragydere er ledende forskere fra både ind- og udland, der på forskellig vis undersøger hjernemekanismerne bag kunstnerisk erfaring.

Antologien indledes med en gennemgang af neuroæstetikens videnskabelige rødder og væsentligste metoder og teorier. Herefter præsenteres en række studier af forholdet mellem biologiske stimuli og æstetisk oplevelse: fra ansigter og landskaber til litteratur og film; fra steder og arkitektur til musik og dans. Ved at kombinere data fra den nyeste teknologi med nogle af filosofiens ældste dilemmaer bygger antologien bro mellem to traditionelt adskilte felter – naturvidenskaben og humaniora – og giver et kvalificeret bud på, hvordan vi kan nærme os en forståelse af den æstetiske

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erfaring. Jon O. Luring er cand.mag. i kunsthistorie og idéhistorie. Han er i øjeblikket gæsteforsker ved BRAINlab, Institut for Neurovidenskab og Farmakologi, Panum Institut, Københavns Universitet. Bidragydere: Marcos Nadal / Antoni Gomila / Alejandro Gálvez-Pol / Helmut Leder / Pablo P. L. Tinio / Jon O. Luring / Alomit Ishai / Nicolai Rostrup / Jens Hjortkjær / David S. Miall / Torben Grodal / Mette Kramer / Beatriz Calvo-Merino / Julia F. Christensen / Bartłomiej Piechowski-Jozwiak / Julien Bogousslavsky / Oshin Vartanian. Advances in cognitive science have had a tremendous philosophical impact, offering new ways of thinking about topics such as who we are, what we know, and how we feel. But few topics are murkier—and have more to gain from cognitive science—than aesthetics. With this volume, Jon O. Luring offers a cutting-edge introduction to the emerging field of

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neuroaesthetics. Gathering works from leading scholars all across the globe, the volume surveys the many ways we have taken what we have learned about our brains and nervous system and applied it to new understandings of art, beauty, and creativity. The contributors explore the biological underpinnings of aesthetic experience from a variety of angles. Opening with a look at neuroaesthetics's historical antecedents and an outline of methods and theories, the book goes on to address a fascinating assortment of studies on biological stimuli and art, from faces and landscapes to literature and film, from places and architecture to music and dance. Simultaneously exploring data from the latest brain-imaging technology and addressing some of our most enduring philosophical quandaries, this volume offers a comprehensive look at a pivotal moment in aesthetics, which grows richer every day with new

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questions. Jon O. Luring, MA in history of art and the history of ideas, is currently guest researcher at BRAINlab, Department of Neuroscience and Pharmacology, Panum Institute, University of Copenhagen. Contributors: Marcos Nadal, Antoni Gomila, Alejandro Gálvez-Pol, Helmut Leder, Pablo P. L. Tinio, Jon O. Luring, Alomit Ishai, Nicolai Rostrup, Jens Hjortkjær, David S. Miall, Torben Grodal, Mette Kramer, Beatriz Calvo-Merino, Julia F. Christensen, Bartłomiej Piechowski-Jozwiak, Julien Bogousslavsky, Oshin Vartanian.

In *Brain, Beauty, and Art*, leading scholars in this nascent field reflect on the promise of neuroaesthetics to enrich our understanding of this universal yet diverse facet of human experience. The volume consists of essays from foundational

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researchers whose empirical work launched the field.

The Aesthetic Mind breaks new ground in bringing together empirical sciences and philosophy to enhance our understanding of aesthetics and the experience of art. An eminent international team of experts presents new research in philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, and social anthropology: they explore the roles of emotion, imagination, empathy, and beauty in this realm of human experience, ranging over visual and literary art, music, and dance. Among the questions discussed are: Why do we engage with things aesthetically and why do we create art? Does art or aesthetic experience have a function or functions? Which characteristics distinguish aesthetic mental states? Which skills or abilities do we put to use when we engage aesthetically with an object and how

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does that compare with non-aesthetic experiences? What does our ability to create art and engage aesthetically with things tell us about what it is to be a human being? This ambitious and far-reaching volume is essential reading for anyone investigating the aesthetic and the artistic.

The Aesthetic Animal answers the ultimate questions of why we adorn ourselves, embellish our things and surroundings, and produce art, music, song dance, and fiction. Humans are aesthetic animals that spend vast amounts of time and resources on seemingly useless aesthetic activities. However, nature would not allow a species to waste precious time and effort on activities completely unrelated to survival, reproduction, and the well-being of that species. Consequently, the aesthetic impulse must have some

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important biological functions. A number of observations indicate that the aesthetic impulse is an inherent part of human nature, and therefore a primary impulse in its own right with several important functions: The aesthetic impulse may guide us toward what is biologically good for us, and help us choose the right fitness enhancing items in our surroundings. It is a valid individual fitness indicator as well as a unifying social group marker, and aesthetically skilled individuals get more mating possibilities, higher status and more collaborative offers. The book is written in a lively and entertaining tone, with beautiful color illustrations. It covers a wide field of aesthetic behaviors from cave art, graffiti, tattoos, and piercings over fashion, design, music, song, and dance. It presents an original and comprehensive synthesis of the empirical field, synthesizing data from archeology, cave art, anthropology,



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biology, ethology, behavioral- and evolutionary psychology and neuro-aesthetics. It is a must-read for people interested in biology, psychology, anthropology, architecture, design, fashion, body culture, art, and the evolution of aesthetics.

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