

Conference Program

Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study

Beauty

McKenna Hall

University of Notre Dame

January 21-23, 2010

Thursday, January 21

First Session:

- 8:00am Registration
8:30am Welcome
9:00am ROBERT P. LANGLANDS (School of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study)
Theorems and Theories
10:00am Coffee Break
10:15am MARIO LIVIO (Space Telescope Science Institute) Symmetry: From the Selection of
Mates to the Laws of Nature
11:15am Coffee Break
11:30am DIETER WANDSCHNEIDER (RWTH Aachen University, Germany) In which sense
can we speak of beauty in nature, both in its laws and its entities?
12:30pm Lunch

Second Session:

- 2:30pm CHRISTIAN ILLIES (Universität Bamberg, Germany) Can beauty in organisms be
reduced to the mechanism of sexual selection and the latter to natural selection, or is this
reversed? Does sexual selection point to the recognition of beauty by organisms?
3:30pm Coffee Break
3:45pm FRANCESCO PELLIZZI (Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard
University) "Beauty and the Beast": Notes on cross-cultural aesthetics
4:45pm Coffee Break
5:00pm BJARNE SODE FUNCH (Roskilde University, Denmark) Which features of human
nature are responsible for the genesis of art as a universal phenomenon of human culture?
6:00pm Dinner

Friday, January 22

First Session:

- 9:00am HOLGER BONUS (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Germany) What is the function of art in the economy of cultures?
- 10:00am Coffee Break
- 10:15am PETER LANDAU (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany) Why has art so frequently been a focus in the legal system?
- 11:15am Coffee Break
- 11:30am ELAINE SCARRY (Harvard University) Are there any common aesthetic principles acknowledged by most aesthetic theories?
- 12:30pm Lunch

Second Session:

- 2:30pm VITTORIO HÖSLE (University of Notre Dame) What are the driving principles behind the historical evolution of aesthetic theories from ancient civilizations to the present?
- 3:30pm Coffee Break
- 3:45pm MARK W ROCHE (University of Notre Dame) Within modern art, the concept opposite to the beautiful, the ugly, has gained a strange prestige—what is its function in enhancing the expressivity of art?
- 4:45pm Coffee Break
- 5:00pm MAXIM KANTOR (Moscow, Russia) What constitutes beauty in the visual arts?
- 6:00pm Reception
- 7:00pm Adjournment

Saturday, January 23

First Session:

- 9:00am CLAUS-STEFFEN MAHNKOPF (University of Music and Theatre “Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy” Leipzig, Germany) Beauty in Music
- 10:00am Coffee Break
- 10:15am MARY KINZIE (Northwestern University) What constitutes beauty in literature?
- 11:15am Coffee Break
- 11:30am DUDLEY ANDREW (Yale University) What constitutes beauty in film?
- 12:30pm Lunch

Second Session:

- 2:30pm PRADEEP DHILLON (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) Does beauty lie in the eye of the beholder? A Kantian Response
- 3:30pm Coffee Break
- 3:45pm CYRIL I. O'REGAN (University of Notre Dame) Why are beauty and art theologically relevant?
- 4:45pm Summary and Discussion
- 6:00pm Adjournment