

Questioning Aesthetics
THEOCRIT 637
[A Course]
Centre for the Study of Theory and Criticism
Fall 2021
COURSE OUTLINE

Professor: Julian Jason Haladyn
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Course Time: Tuesdays 4pm
Location: Stevenson Hall Rm. 3165

Course Description

For the last half of the Twentieth century the term 'aesthetics' became a type of swearword within cultural theory. This stance is characterized in Hal Foster's edited collection *The Anti Aesthetic: Essays on Post Modern Culture* in which the various authors argue for counter aesthetics through a variety of models. More recent scholarship, however, has shown an increasing interest in aesthetics both as an historical category and as a means of articulating new developments in contemporary culture through articulation of this mode of visual inquiry.

Course Texts (available at the bookstore)

Hannah Arendt, Lectures on Kant's Political Philosophy

Alain Badiou, Inaesthetics

Jacques Rancière, Aesthetics and Its Discontents

François Laruelle, PhotoFiction, a NonStandard Aesthetics

Byung-Chul Han, Saving Beauty

Schedule

Week 1 [Sept. 14] Course Introduction
Kant, Critique of Judgment Part I: Critique of Aesthetic Judgment
Marcel Duchamp, "The Creative Act"

