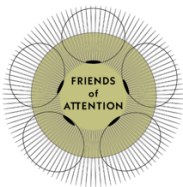


Chat Thread –
Friends of Attention
“First Friday” of 6 November 2020
Attention as an Epistemic Mode
(Carlos Montemayor & Jesse Prinz)



- 14:42:06 From Sal Randolph : <https://www.jillmagid.com> (for those in my breakout)
- 14:42:48 From Sal Randolph : <http://www.jillmagid.com/projects/lobby-7-2>
- 14:51:36 From D. Graham Burnett : This was often called vigilance
- 14:55:50 From stevie <3 : 7
- 14:56:30 From Sal Randolph : the green object was prettier
- 14:56:40 From D. Graham Burnett : troublemaker!
- 14:56:43 From D. Graham Burnett : :)
- 14:56:46 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : A total 9
- 14:56:46 From Kirsten Scheid : show us the two together again!
- 14:59:46 From Adam Jasper : Love the idea that Turner can compete in a salon hang by destabilising the viewer’s attention...
- 14:59:53 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : How do you determine what draws the attention of viewers in the Tohaku screen? Eye tracking, discussion?
- 15:00:19 From Helen Singh-Miller : What Joanna said
- 15:04:24 From Jesse Prinz : Joanna, we did it with eye tracking. That was a pilot we did in Japan and Berlin. We were set to go back to Japan for follow ups before COVID hit.
- 15:04:40 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : Thanks!
- 15:06:47 From Jesse Prinz : we are also interested in how people think about art inspired by Zen Buddhism. For example, do people see (literally but also cognitively) the Tohaku as about emptiness.
- 15:07:58 From Helen Singh-Miller : Are they seeing the trees and the space simultaneously, for some/how much of the time looking?
- 15:08:42 From Jesse Prinz : With eye tracking we only measure the location and number of fixations. We never (unfortunately!!) looked at sequence.
- 15:08:47 From Helen Singh-Miller : Is it also a matter of how much peripheral vision is engaged, of broader ways of looking, attending, taking in the scene?
- 15:08:48 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : And it would seem to me that “seeing emptiness” means something quite different to a viewer cultivated to see 2D in terms of figure-

ground relations than to the viewer who thinks of composition laterally, ornamentally, laminally, etc.

15:09:20 From Jesse Prinz : yes! i love that.

15:10:13 From David Landes : Hi Jesse - I'm curious on the relation between attention <--> knowledge when it exclusively involves non-tangibles and non-perceptibles, such as attention/knowledge when interpreting texts, constructing meaning, re-thinking something?

15:10:26 From Jesse Prinz : Helen good question. With eye movements, the space is brought into central vision. But attention researchers often look as how attention can extend to the periphery of vision. I'd love to look at that with art.

15:10:57 From Helen Singh-Miller : Curious to hear more about the meaning and implications of thinking of composition laterally and laminally ...

15:11:25 From Jesse Prinz : Some people think we can attend to thoughts (my former student Felipe de Brigard, for example, and William James)

15:12:07 From Jac Mullen : Carlos would you say right now that we conceive epistemology on the basis of a different ethical model? Thinking about this it almost seems that right now what we mean by 'epistemology' here is actually (conceptually) modeled on something like deontological ethics?

15:13:00 From Jac Mullen : And that the rules are sourced from a third party? Experts? That we've mistaken facts for rules? Or maybe that we've mistaken ethical action with belief? Like, I BELIEVE IN science is something you hear all the time now

15:13:33 From Helen Singh-Miller : Intuitive

15:15:04 From Carlos Montemayor : Very good questions! Here an important issue is whether ethical training should determine epistemic, as more fundamental. Does that make sense?

15:15:53 From Jared : something problematic?: sustained practice of attention may lead to different beliefs?

15:16:23 From Carlos Montemayor : Yes, it can go right or wrong, which connects with some issues we talked about in politics of attention.

15:16:55 From Sal Randolph : Apologies, but I have to leave a bit early. So good to see you all. Thank you Jesse & Carlos!! Onward!

15:17:18 From Jesse Prinz : Thanks, Sal! Great chatting in the breakout.

15:17:28 From Jac Mullen : And we can also see the gap in performance here as relevant/analogous

15:17:29 From Carlos Montemayor : Thanks Sal!

15:17:33 From Jac Mullen : Say you know what you WANT to pay attention to

15:17:37 From Jac Mullen : Or what is GOOD to attend to

15:17:45 From Jac Mullen : Does this mean you'll be able to pay attention to this thing?

15:17:47 From Jac Mullen : Of course not

15:17:57 From Alex Balgiu : there's a great Robert Creeley

15:17:59 From Alex Balgiu : poem

15:18:12 From Carlos Montemayor : Partly that's the importance of joint attention and care?

15:18:14 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : Yes, bring us the poetry, Alex!!

15:18:18 From Alex Balgiu :

As I sd to my
friend, because I am
always talking,—John, I

sd, which was not his
name, the darkness sur-
rounds us, what

can we do against
it, or else, shall we &
why not, buy a goddamn big car,

drive, he sd, for
christ's sake, look
out where yr going.

15:19:00 From Ginsberg : Much love to everyone. I have to run to another meeting...hugs and hugs.. thanks Graham, Carlos, and Jesse!!!

15:21:17 From Helen Singh-Miller : Buddhist view of mind as a tool that can be used and abused.

15:22:52 From Leonard Nalencz : DuBois' "double consciousness"

15:23:41 From Kristin Lawler : attention always mediated. politics of attention = building better structures to mediate collective attention

15:23:44 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : "The Other fixes me with his gaze, his gestures and attitude, the same way you fix a preparation with a dye. I lose my temper, demand an explanation Nothing doing. I explode. Here are the fragments put together by another me." (That's Fanon)

15:24:44 From David Landes : "Tell me to what you pay attention and I will tell you who you are." - Jose Ortega y Gasset

15:24:45 From D. Graham Burnett : Condillac may come closest....

15:25:26 From Jesse Prinz : Thanks, Joanna Yes exactly.

15:25:50 From Jesse Prinz : @David, that's so good.

15:26:10 From David Landes : I'm having graduate assistants compile a list of attention quotes

15:26:13 From David Landes : :)

15:26:19 From Jesse Prinz : Share!!

15:26:31 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : Thank you, Jesse and Carlos and Helen!!

15:26:35 From Alex Balgiu : merci Helen, Carlos et Jesse!

15:26:38 From Marina McDougall : Thank you, Graham, Jesse, Carlos & Helen...so many fertile ideas that you've shared.!!

15:26:53 From katarzynakasia : Thank you!!!

15:26:58 From Jesse Prinz : Thank you all!

15:26:58 From Carlos Montemayor : Thanks all!

15:27:01 From Jesse Prinz : great discussion!

15:27:17 From Leonard Nalencz : Thanks Jesse!

15:27:26 From Kirsten Scheid : I have to run, but thank you all!

15:27:28 From Joanna Fiduccia (she/her) : Out of line, Graham, OUT OF LINE

15:27:56 From Kristin Lawler : thank you all so much!

15:27:57 From Jac Mullen : Distraction ← the existence of this makes attention ethical. Just, in terms of the form of the idea. I am struck that the 'ethical' as such deals with those areas where there's a gap between what you want and what you are able to do (or a conflict of wills). Ethics governing...uhh areas of non-omnipotence or non-certainty.

15:27:59 From D. Graham Burnett :
https://princeton.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwuceisrTijEteHJ96_t5HM2H1fKGcOb_d6

15:28:07 From paolo : Thank you all for the discussion

15:28:10 From Hermione Spriggs : Thanks and love to all! xx

15:28:12 From Helen Singh-Miller : Thank you, Graham, for the guidance, ideas, back-and-forth and coordination all round.

15:28:18 From David Landes : thanks everyone!