

The Sublime as Guiding Philosophy in the Works of Artists with Dyslexia:

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Abstract:

The connection between art and the sublime is well established. Sublime concepts such as the transcendence of human sufferings, or the duality of pain and pleasure, or the sense of terror and excitement that overwhelms the mind, although formless, infinite and invisible, can be represented through art. But most research focuses on the sublimity in the works of well-known artists while little is known about the use of sublime concepts (e.g., transcendence, spirituality, the uncanny) in the process of making art amongst artists with dyslexia.

This practice-based research aims to understand the art making process in the works of artists with dyslexia and how they achieve transcendence of their experience of disempowerment, discrimination and marginalisation through sublimity in their art. This research will utilise various visual arts research techniques such as art workshop, exemplary works and interviews amongst artists with dyslexia to explore their lived experience, works, artmaking and notions of the sublime. This is concurrent with the development of my own artwork that will be documented through video diaries and reflexive practice. The practical component of the research project will culminate in an exhibition using various media that aims to re-create an experience and sense of the sublime.

Keywords:

Art, Sublime, Artists with dyslexia, Practice-based research, Transcendence