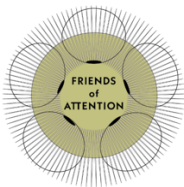


Chat Thread –
Friends of Attention
“First Friday” of 2 September 2022
The Ethics of Attention
(Silvia Caprioglio Panizza, with an opening exercise by Daphne Barile)



- 13:41:58 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://vimeo.com/744784318>
password: attention
- 13:49:49 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://princeton.zoom.us/j/92060627356>
- 14:19:44 From margaret wertheim to Everyone:
please put links to the LSE event and your talk in the chat
- 14:23:24 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/9518475>
- 14:25:13 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:
Peter Schmidt: rustmenagerie@gmail.com
- 14:29:07 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://vimeo.com/744784318>
password: attention
- 14:33:30 From Henry Schmidt to Everyone:
love that so much
- 14:56:24 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
Silvia cites Murdoch affectingly on p. 41, along these lines: “love is the extremely difficult realization that something other than oneself is real.”
- 15:02:47 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
On all this: for those of us who have worked over the years on the relationship between epistemic and aesthetic or ethical dimensions of attention, I was also struck in Silvia's book by her citation of Jonardon Ganeri's proposition: that attention is what makes consciousness into a “reality detector.” (Panizza, p. 15)
- 15:18:16 From Sal Randolph to Everyone:
Henry: found it hard and thwarted, because of the moment of recognition since the photo is so overdetermined and famous. Stunned for the first minute.

Len: How would this exercise be different if the photo weren't so famous?

Sal: I had to look away for a moment to try and forget the famousness of the photo and reset to the question.

Julian: A gauze or veil from the famousness, a kind of wariness. When I came back to the non-seeking attention - I realized I didn't know much about the original context. Was able to see and imagine the subject beyond this single moment of capture, the situation became less calcified.

Len: Julian's work is in psychoanalysis - psychoanalysis is the exploration of nonseeking attention

Julian: there was something diagnostic in the seeking attention. In the encounter between two people there is kind of a project, but the project has to yield to what emerges

Henry: kept comparing my response to my response to the video
15:18:20 From Ellyn Daly to Everyone:

Eirene that was a great point!

15:18:34 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Carlos: attention is automatic. Is my attention to the context (Nat Geo, Afghanistan) of the photo "good" or "bad" attention? Homelessness in the bay area, progressive myopia w/r/t homelessness.

Peter: First round felt confronting - panic! Second round felt relaxed. "defamiliarization" of the face. Looks suddenly mammalian.

Adam: No idea what she is feeling! Experience felt obscured by the fame of the photo in first round. Second round was a more aesthetic experience.

15:19:35 From edgar schmitz to Everyone:

we talked a lot about the various difficulties inherent in the image and its histories and disturbing familiarity

15:19:50 From Sal Randolph to Everyone:

In the second, nonseeking part, I began to think about her relation to me, and then her relation to the photographer. What did she think of him? How was she now, a different person. I had the impulse to clean her face.

15:19:59 From justinginsberg to Everyone:

took time to try and remove oneself from the history and iconic-ness of the image. I found myself projecting emotion onto the face, so it changed as I stared. And the 2nd phase I and others in the group began considering composition, colors, spatial

15:20:26 From Ian Corbin to Everyone:

I was very self-conscious in the first period, because I felt her own guardedness and suspicion towards who or whatever was in front of her. It all felt very tense and freighted. In the second period I was taken very much by the beauty of the whole gestalt. Every part, including the model, felt harmonious and nested and at home.

15:20:45 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:

^^^^^

15:20:57 From Sal Randolph to Everyone:

To me the nonseeking attention became distinctly more relational

15:21:00 From justinginsberg to Everyone:

im so sorry I have to run to the next meeting. Love and hugs. Thanks to all for your generosity!

15:21:01 From matthewstrother to Everyone:

- How would it be different to be looking at a less canonical / already well known controversial photo?

- It was hard to feel as if we were looking at a girl as opposed to an image of a girl - in particular a girl who was made into an allegory and projection of whatever people assumed she was dealing with. Felt a little harder to do the exercise right with *this* girl.

- Considering the history of this image, wondering if it was ethically questionable to even look at that image any more.

- A sense of identification with the photographer in the second phase - Brought in a feeling of discomfort that was not present when we were just generating descriptions.

15:21:13 From margaret wertheim to Everyone:

The enduring power of this image is so strong. For me it's an embodiment of the unequal power of the person with the camera and the person behind the camera. She seems so startled and unknowing about who is the person taking the photo. Does she even know what a camera for. Does she have any power in the situation. We have been paying attention to this photo for decades, but what about her? What has happened to the girl in that image? Id like to see some attention to that question.

15:23:52 From Sal Randolph to Everyone:

thank you!

15:24:03 From Henry Schmidt to Everyone:

I found myself comparing it to Claudia's video, probably because both were powerful moments in quick succession. Starting with the woman in the photograph, trying to attend to her, I found myself getting tangled in the multiple images of her, in her mediation in many ways and places, led elsewhere, scattered, pleasureless etc. But I loved how in Claudia's video there were surprising moments of recognition of how close and intimate were the participants in that project, both to each other and us, etc.

15:24:05 From Jessica to Everyone:

thank you!!

15:24:07 From Lucy Alford to Everyone:

THANK YOU!!!

15:28:48 From margaret wertheim to Everyone:

Here's link to my book on my Crochet Coral reef project:

15:28:55 From margaret wertheim to Everyone:

<https://www.artbook.com/9783868326888.html>

15:30:57 From Margaret Wertheim to Everyone:

I don't think it's a coincidence that its 2 women philosophers who are so strongly discussing attention as a moral act. In a sense this is Feminism 101. Murdoch and Weil are of course both great feminist thinkers.

15:31:23 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:

Sorkin, J M — "Love and Attention" Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement 1992 (32): 59-72

15:31:42 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:

That is the thing on love and care and attention...