Disinterestedness is a necessary condition of sound aesthetic judgement

Art & Culture, Artists



Art is universal; thus, its perception should be universal as well. Formal characteristics of art and its connection to everyday life should be recognized by all people without references to their unique personal experiences and associations. Colors, shapes and techniques used to create art need to be analyzed to assess the uniqueness of art as it is. In this way, disinterestedness is required for objective aesthetic judgement. It does not mean that people should not desire to experience beauty; they might experience some subconscious desire to encounter with art/beauty and receive aesthetic pleasure from them.

Personal involvement with the artwork is always productive but it might be quite difficult to perceive the limits between personal interpretations and universal perceptions of beauty. Consideration of formal characteristics of art is necessary to access its value, but these characteristics become valuable only if they are interpreted. The process of interpretation is always problematic because it depends on the point of view taken to perceive art. Weak disinterestedness is useful for art interpretations because it sets necessary limits between personal experience and objective perception of beauty.