Delft University of Technology

On the Painterly Depiction of Materials

An Interdisciplinary Study on the Depiction and Perception of Materials within Paintings

van Zuijlen, M.J.P.

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Propositions

accompanying the doctoral thesis

On the Painterly Depiction of Materials

by Mitchell van Zuijlen.

These propositions are regarded as opposable and defendable, and have been approved as such by the promotor Sylvia Pont

1. The study of art is not just of interest to art history. Because of the double perception interface studying painterly depictions can provide unique insights for vision science. (This proposition pertains to this dissertation.)
2. Paintings are the physical results of the longest running perception experiments in history.
3. Our ability to perceive paintings as more than just configurations of paint and/or oil shows that our perceptual system is not veridical.
4. Humans can accurately and rapidly classify materials visually. Whether or not we can also assign these materials with a clear semantic label is irrelevant from the perspective of ecological value.
5. Web-experiments is not faster than doing lab-experiments. Time gained through faster data collection is lost due to technical preparations and delays.
6. Murphy's law states that "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong." This is especially noticeable when you collect millions of data points across thousands of participants.
7. For the best science, you need the best paintings.
8. While I prefer Windows, others prefer Apple. However, in the end we all need Linux.