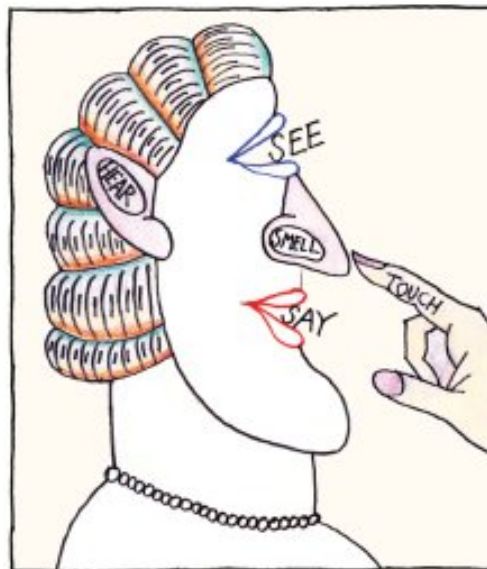


Carnal Thoughts: Embodiment and Moving Image Culture

Vivian Sobchack, Univ of California Pr

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Carnal Thoughts
EMBODIMENT AND MOVING IMAGE CULTURE



VIVIAN SOBCHACK

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Vivian Sobchack, Univ of California Pr : Carnal Thoughts: Embodiment and Moving Image Culture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Carnal Thoughts: Embodiment and Moving Image Culture:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Phenomenology and filmBy Gyenge ZsoltThis book is part of the author's long theoretical project during which Vivian Sobchack tries to apply the assumptions and approach of philosophical phenomenology to film theory. Sobchack's theory is based mainly on the work of French philosopher

Maurice Merleau-Ponty - for more details regarding Sobchack's theory, see her earlier book entitled "The Address of the Eye: A Phenomenology of Film Experience". Beside its marvelous theoretical performance this book is very intelligently written, full of creative language-use. However it could raise only the interest of film scholars interested deeply in film theory, and trained a little bit in philosophy. 0 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A very interesting review of handwriting styles in our history By Robert V. Rose, retired education researcher Most of this book seems to be written from the typical university left-wing point of view, in which handwriting practice in years gone by was just a way of making conforming "assembly line" citizens for capitalists. But at the end of the book, Professor Thornton seems to realize that the pendulum has swung too far, and that today's pampered youth could use a bit of discipline in school. I only hope she will soon realize that fluent handwriting is a key to literacy and to education reform, which is now apparent from so many on-line articles.

In these innovative essays, Vivian Sobchack considers the key role our bodies play in making sense of today's image-saturated culture. Emphasizing our corporeal rather than our intellectual engagements with film and other media, *Carnal Thoughts* shows how our experience always emerges through our senses and how our bodies are not just visible objects but also sense-making, visual subjects. Sobchack draws on both phenomenological philosophy and a broad range of popular sources to explore bodily experience in contemporary, moving-image culture. She examines how, through the conflation of cinema and surgery, we've all "had our eyes done"; why we are "moved" by the movies; and the different ways in which we inhabit photographic, cinematic, and electronic space. *Carnal Thoughts* provides a lively and engaging challenge to the mind/body split by demonstrating that the process of "making sense" requires an irreducible collaboration between our thoughts and our senses.

"*Carnal Thoughts* wonderfully conveys the phenomenological aim of Sobchack's work. It is an important contribution to the field. It is also accessible and almost scandalously fun to read. The voice of a wise, eloquent, and witty woman emerges from these pages and keeps the reader constantly engaged." - Linda Williams, author of *Playing the Race Card*; "Powerfully written and movingly personal, *Carnal Thoughts* consistently demonstrates what an embodied film criticism might actually be. Sobchack is insistent, impassioned, and persuasive in her attempt to show how cinematic spectatorship is always more than visual. The scholarship is superior, the organization is strong, and the literary style is accomplished, engaging, and polished. This is an extremely important work." - Patrice Petro, author of *Aftershocks of the New* "From the Inside Flap" Powerfully written and movingly personal, *Carnal Thoughts* consistently demonstrates what an embodied film criticism might actually be. Sobchack is insistent, impassioned, and persuasive in her attempt to show how cinematic spectatorship is always more than visual. The scholarship is superior, the organization is strong, and the literary style is accomplished, engaging, and polished. This is an extremely important work." Patrice Petro, author of *Aftershocks of the New* "Carnal Thoughts wonderfully conveys the phenomenological aim of Sobchack's work. It is an important contribution to the field. It is also accessible and almost scandalously fun to read. The voice of a wise, eloquent and witty woman emerges from these pages and keeps the reader constantly engaged." Linda Williams, author of *Playing the Race Card: Melodramas of Black and White from Uncle Tom to O.J. Simpson*