

Introduction

The present issue is not intended to point out the relationships between art and cognition. The present issue is intended to point out the relationships between the modes of situating art and cognition. Art is situated in society and its culture, including present-day technology; however, it is also embodied and rooted in biology and evolution. It is worth mentioning here Ellen Dissanayake's ethological view of art. As for cognition, it is embodied, as (neuro)cognitive science shows, but also socially and culturally situated. According to the cognitive ecologist Edwin Hutchins, human cognition is a cultural process that takes place both inside and outside human minds.

This issue grew out mostly of discussions at two fruitful events: the eleventh KNEW Workshop entitled *Placing Art and Music in Nature*, which was held in Kazimierz Dolny, Poland, in 2015, and the second Avant Conference („Trends”) entitled *Situating Cognition: Agency, Affect, and Extension* (Warsaw, Poland, 2015).

The first event focused on recent scientific research concerning art and music that has thrown up a plethora of new aspects to be integrated into our understanding of these phenomena. Thus, among others, ecological approaches provide a novel perspective upon meaning in art, embodied approaches explore the role of the specific played by the body in experiencing art, and evolutionary approaches examine the significance of human evolutionary history for art. Far from being simplified, the view that tended to focus upon cultural factors has been enriched by consideration of cognitive and evolutionary factors as well as novel tools and ways of thinking about the interplay between art and the broader cultures in which they exist. These issues are discussed in articles by Ellen Dissanayake (hypothesis of artification), Piotr Podlipniak (studies on tonal qualia), Alejandra Wah (cognitive dimension of artistic experiences), and Jerzy Luty (“artistic behaviors” of animals).

Participants of the second event discussed the limits and the nature of what we call cognition. These discussions included, among others, debates over the role of the body, the bounds of the mind, the contribution of the environment (from the physical and biological level to the social and cultural level), the collective nature of cognition and minds, including linguistic coordination, but also the role of affects and our agency in cognitive processes. In these contexts, there also appears the problem of relations between cognitive science and action science, psychology of emotions, linguistics, social sciences, and, of course, philosophy. These topics are addressed by Mark-Oliver Casper (analysis of the enactivist idea of mental institutions), Piotr Litwin (problem of the cognitive penetrability

of perception), Barbara Trybulec (groups seen as distributed subjects of knowledge), Zsuzsanna Kondor (representation and extension in studies on consciousness), and Marcin Trybulec (external representations in distributed cognition).

The collection of post-conference articles, which we present here, has been extended by additional papers that are an important supplement or counterpoint to the others. On the one hand, they enrich the picture of situating human practices. On the other, they help to overcome harmful theoretical divisions and oppositions. We refer to papers by Allen Fogsanger and Kathleya Afanador (how music and dance “go together” or not), Hans-Joachim Braun (developments and perspectives of sound studies), Dariusz Brzostek (transition of sound culture from modernity to postmodernity), Alexander Jeuk (analysis of the conception of constitution embodiment), and Tomasz Szubart (problems in the embodied account of musical meaning).

Editors of the issue would like to make use of this opportunity to make special thanks to Marcin Milkowski (Polish Academy of Sciences) and Marek Pokropski (University of Warsaw).

Witold Wachowski, Agata Koprowicz, Marcin Łysiak
as well as Organizers of the eleventh KNEW Workshop and the second Avant Conference

Warsaw, one sunny day 2017