

A History of the Senses: From Antiquity to Cyberspace

By Robert Jütte

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This path-breaking book examines our attitudes to the senses from antiquity through to the present day. Robert Jutte explores a wealth of different traditions, images, metaphors and ideas that have survived through time and describes how sensual impressions change the way in which we experience the world.

Throughout history, societies have been both intrigued or unsettled by the five senses. The author looks at the way in which the social world conditions our perception and traces the 'rediscovery' of sensual pleasure in the twentieth century, paying attention to experiences as varied as fast food, deoderization, and extra-sensory perception. He concludes by exploring technological change and cyberspace, reflecting on how developments in these fields will affect our relationship with the senses in the future.

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Editorial Review

Review
'Jutte’s ambitious yet accessible book offers a lucid and judicious summary of research in this new and expanding field, as well as making a contribution of its own, distinguishing three periods in the history of the senses and offering intelligent speculations about future developments.' *Peter Burke, Professor of Cultural History, University of Cambridge*

'Stimulating and impressive... In this pioneering study Jutte unfolds a panorama of how societies have been fascinated or unsettled by any of the five senses, and invites the reader to respond with curiosity, humour and profound interest to follow through his discussion from antiquity to visions of the future.' *Dr Ulinka Rublack, University of Cambridge*

From the Back Cover
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About the Author
Robert Jutte is Head of the Robert Bosch Foundation Institute of Medicine and Professor of Modern History at Stuttgart University

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