

Aesthetics and intergenerational thinking
(edited by Emily Brady)

Environmental changes on a vast scale have propelled the fields of moral and political philosophy to address problems related to intergenerational thinking and future generations. In response to the climate emergency, philosophers have already been playing a role in research and scholarship which has an impact on finding practical solutions to mitigation and adaptation in our globally warming world. Many other academic fields have been studying the implications of environmental change by studying topics such as the anthropocene, time, and futures.

What is the role of the aesthetics in light of major intergenerational, environmental change? More specifically, what kinds of questions, topics, and issues arise when considering the area of “aesthetics and intergenerational thinking”? This area explores changes in artistic and aesthetic subject matter over time, and how these changes interact with the experiences, judgments, and values of people as they unfold over time. Various factors are especially relevant to this interaction: different time frames (fast and slow time); the role of imagination, aesthetic predictions, and models; and how the arts and non-arts help to envisage future aesthetic qualities, characters, and values. What place do the arts and aesthetic experience have in enabling mitigation or adaptation to climate change? What can reasonably be said about the aesthetic value of places affected by climate change now and into the future? What kinds of “aesthetic” losses and gains might be experienced with respect to changing climates (species, coastal areas, islands, etc.)? What are the relevant categories of aesthetic dis/value in places affected by climate change? How should we theorize about the aesthetic experiences and judgments of future generations of people? These questions also raise issues at the intersection of aesthetic, moral, and social values. What are the implications for aesthetic appreciation of landscapes, species, and ecologies affected by human-induced environmental harm? What are the implications for cultural production and artistic creation?

For this issue of “Studi di estetica”, we invite articles which explore the role of intergenerational thinking as it relates to the arts, aesthetics, and environment. In addition to the questions and problems set out above, submissions may also address these topics:

- aesthetics and temporality;
- aesthetics and future generations;
- aesthetics and global climate change;
- aesthetics and intergenerational justice;
- aesthetics and phenology;
- aesthetics and geological change;
- aesthetics and landscapes and environments of the future.

Articles will be submitted to double blind peer review. Articles should be in English, and include an abstract (up to 150 words) and three keywords. The articles, which should be anonymous, should be sent to gioialaura.iannilli@gmail.com by July 31st, 2022 in .doc or .docx, together with a further document containing the author’s information.