

The Intersections Lecture Series, a partnership between the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Columbia College Chicago, has since 2002 brought together a dynamic combination of practicing artists, writers, scholars and critics who share a passion for the issues that shape our time. By bringing together different voices, experiences and disciplines, Intersections presents an intriguing prism of perspectives on the most engaging and urgent contemporary CONCERNS. www.intersections.colum.edu

6 November 2003

The Magical Aesthetics of Visual Artist Joseph Cornell: Interpreting (via Dada) the Psychodynamics of Spectator and Artist

This presentation will consider the complex ways in which Joseph Cornell's box constructions might help us better appreciate the complexity of cooperation between what is conscious and what is unconscious. Through discussion and audience participation, in a somewhat tongue-in-cheek Dada inspired "Group Rorschach", we will explore the spectator's response to Cornell's work. The working hypothesis for this evening is that non-representational art serves as an analogy-for the spectator-in making visual the infinite and unfathomable ways the psyche experiences the unknowns of life, thus lessening the mysteries of the unconscious by constructing a created whole. .

Suggested Readings:

1. http://www.artchive.com/artchive/ftptoc/cornell_ext.html
2. Dawn Ades (1997), *Surrealist Art: The Bergman Collection at the Art Institute of Chicago*. New York & London: Thames & Hudson.

When Paul M. Camic, PhD .presented this talk when he was Professor of Psychology in the Cultural Studies Program, Department of Liberal Education, Columbia College Chicago. Paul co-developed the Intersections Lecture Series with Mary Murphy of the Chicago Cultural Center. He can now be reached at Canterbury Christ Church University paul.camic@canterbury.ac.uk where he holds a Readership in Clinical & Health Psychology.

Professor Camic received his BA and MA from Clark and Tufts universities, respectively and his Ph.D. from Loyola before completing a fellowship at the University of Chicago. He has longstanding interests in how psychology, education and the arts might intersect to form new teaching and learning models. He is author and co-editor of *Assessing Chronic Pain: A Multidisciplinary Clinic Approach* (Springer-Verlag, 1989), *Clinical Handbook of Health Psychology* (Hogrefe & Huber, 1998, 2003) and *Qualitative Research in Psychology: Expanding Perspectives in Methodology and Design* (American Psychological Association Books, 2003).