

Josep M. Català

»THE INTERFACE IMAGE«

A New Mind for the Post-spectator

By considering the interface as a mental model, we propose the study of the new forms of exposure arising from digital technology as the correlate of a new mentality, characteristic of the current transformations that the figure of the spectator is undergoing. The most prominent feature of this mentality is the flux between hybrid and transient states, one relevant example being the uncertainties between reality and fiction (imagination). This new type of mental organization has a visual correspondence, which completes the process of overcoming the classic visuality that started with cinema more than a century ago, and results in a series of new forms of exhibition, like the installations or the Web documentaries, whose aesthetics and functionality is linked to a new kind of post-spectator.



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Josep M. Català is Dean of the Communication Sciences Faculty and full Professor at the Audiovisual Communication Department. PhD in Communication Sciences at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), Master of Art in Film Theory at the San Francisco State University. B.A. in Modern History at the University of Barcelona (UB). Director of the »Master de Documental Creativo« from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. He currently teaches »Visual Studies« and »Film Documentary« at the UAB.

»Fundesco« Essay Award for »La violación de la mirada« (The Rape of the Look), and Essay Award at the XXVII Irun's Literary Contest for »Elogio de la paranoia« (In praise of paranoia). Award from the Spanish Association of Film Historians.

Among his publications:

- »Imagen, memoria y fascinación: notas sobre el documental en España« (Image, memory, and fascination: Notes about the Film Documentary in Spain) (ed.)
- »La puesta en imágenes: conceptos de dirección cinematográfica« (The mise-en-image: concepts of film directing)
- »La imagen compleja« (The Complex Image)
- »La forma de lo real« (The Form of The Real)
- »Pasión y conocimiento« (Passion and Knowledge)
- »La imagen interfaz« (The interface image)