Episode: Pleasure and Persuasion in Lens-based Media
Edited by Amanda Beech, Jaspar Joseph-Lester, Matthew Poole

Media-culture is an undeniable force in our lives. Its pervasive and pleasurable power has primarily been located in discourses on ‘spectacle’ and the persistent connections between technology and dominance. However, when traditional modes of critique produce a media-culture, the question of how our experiences of images constitute the political is imperative.

This new collection of essays edited by the research group Curating Video brings together an international field of researchers from the realms of cultural studies, visual art, psychoanalysis, and political philosophy to explore new contexts and issues that are crucial to understanding the experience and meaning of images. Without idealising or demonising media culture these essays interrogate the critical status of lens-based media, taking up the pressing dilemmas of a politics of the image and its contemporary condition.

With essays by Amanda Beech, Jaspar Joseph-Lester, Sharon Kivland, Norman M Klein, Suhail Malik, Uriel Orlow, Matthew Poole, and Johanna Sumiala

Amanda Beech is an artist, writer and curator. She is Course Director of MA Critical Writing and Curatorial Practice, Chelsea College of Art Jaspar Joseph-Lester is an artist and writer. He is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Sheffield Hallam University Matthew Poole is Programme Director of the Centre for Curatorial Studies, and Director of MA in Gallery Studies and Critical Curating, University of Essex.