Annotated Bibliography

Arakawa, Shusaku, and Madeline Gins. *The Mechanism of Meaning*. New York: Abbeville, 1988. 1-29. Print.

This book deals with perception and how we formulate meaning. It is a series of puzzles, tricks, and maze like games composed of fragments for tracking attention. It was fun and interesting to observe and track the movement of my attention, and how I create my own subjective meaning.

"A Woman's Garden." Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. Web. 29 Feb. 2012. <http://www.dallasarboretum.org/Gardens/A\_Womans\_Garden.htm>.

This video describes the details of the Women’s Council, and the story of how they helped to create the Women’s Garden at the Arboretum. The fact that this garden is the only one of its kind in the country is emphasized to accentuate its uniqueness. This made my long hours of study there more grounded with background knowledge, and therefore it felt more complete.

Elkins, James. *The Object Stares Back [on the Nature of Seeing]*. San Diego [u.a.: Harcourt Brace &, 1998. 1-160. Print.

The proposal that objects reciprocate the emotions and thought that we put into them by looking is presented in this book. We change the object and the object changes us, and both are in a constant state of development.

Haeckel, Ernst*. Art forms in Nature*. New York: Dover Publications, 1974. Print.

Haeckel was deeply drawn to the essence of nature, particularly sea creatures and oceanic life forms. He drew these figures with extreme precision, and prized his passionate ability to do so. Seeing such intricate inspiration stemming from nature was encouraging considering the similar subject of my studies. I felt compelled to base my art and my thinking off of the naturally occurring forms around me.

Hammatt, Heather. “Ample Amphibians.” Landscape Architecture 90.8 (2000): 14. Print.

This brief article offers sight through the lens of Hammatt’s experience. She depicts her perspective of the Arboretum, and concludes that it is a space for all ages. It was interesting to compare her experience to that of my own.

Itten, Johannes. *Design and Forms ; the Basic Course at the Bauhaus*. New York: Reinhold Pub., 1964. Print.

This book is a retelling of the effective teachings of Johannes Itten. It portrays the compelling events that unfolded in her sessions, as well as specific methods of design, use of materials, harmonizing the mind and body to create, and systems of value. The features presented here influenced my film which I shot mostly in black and white emphasizing the shades of light and dark and how intensely they contrast, especially when moving.

Learjet15. "Time Lapse of Hosta Plant Growing." YouTube. YouTube, 17 Apr. 2010. Web. 02 Mar. 2012. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-gFOnMwo3A>.

The time lapse of a plant enables the viewer to witness the expressive movements of growth that we normally don’t see due to their slow moving motion. It makes the plant seem much more alive and energetic. It reminds me of dancing, and I would like to write a poem called plant dance based on the video combined with the mention of such movements in *The Secret Life of Plants.*

Leonard, Annie. "Extraction." The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff Is Trashing the Planet. Shi Bao Chu Ban, 2010. Print.

This chapter was exceeding effective in presenting shocking information about what goes into producing the things that people consume, and what a harmful waste it can be. It aims to surface awareness in the reader, and hopefully bring about considerate change in individual action. With me, it was a complete success. I look at everything differently now, and find enhanced appreciation for natural phenomenon that is commonly overlooked, such as water.

Louv, Richard. *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-deficit Disorder*. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin of Chapel Hill, 2005. 1-20. Print.

Richard Louv is from a time where people still possessed an intimate relationship with nature, and expresses extreme discomfort at the sight of that connection beginning to fade at the hand of technology. He underlines the importance of redefining a relationship with the environment, and proposes ways in which to do it in order to improve the existence of the planet as well the human race. Reading it not only enabled me to feel my strong bond with nature, but also to realize the importance of the Children’s Garden at the Arboretum in helping to re-connect the youth with the earth.

MacDonald, Sharon, and Gordon Fyfe. *Theorizing Museums*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1996. 1-25. Print.

Speaking of time and space and the influence of the two on the experience of the viewer was compelling and different from how museums are usually discussed. The book conveyed a sense of the global impact of exhibitions, and how they add order to the world. This shined a new shade of light on my perspective on exhibits. It grounded by experiences in time and space, making them more tangible, and then leading to consideration of what those exhibits provide for the rest of the world.

Menkhoff, Inga. *Optical Illusions: Amazing Deceptive Images--where Seeing Is Believing*. Bath: Parragon, 2007. Print.

Touching on the wonders of how our minds connect with our eyes to formulate tangible images is a feature of this book, but Menkoff propels it to the next level by delving into the detail of mistakes our eyes make, and can never correct. Images are presented to provide examples of this deceptive phenomenon, as well as explanations of what is occurring during the malfunction of our vision. To view something with the knowledge of its incorrectness, and still be incapable of seeing what is truly there provokes extreme realization of the inevitable subjectivity experience. It got me thinking on the other lenses of perspective that we (as humans) cannot remove, such as the scope of colors that we’re capable of comprehending. Even though there are millions of different shades of energy out there, we can only see the ones conceivable by our limited eyes. It makes the simple act of looking more interesting.

Miller, Robert. "Dallas Arboretum’s Educational Project Should Be Ready by 2013." Dallas Morning News 19 Mar. 2011. Print.

This article presented information on the upcoming Children’s Garden at the Arboretum. Even though most of the information is provided on the arboretum’s website, reading it let me tap into the anticipation of the city. The people of Dallas are eagerly awaiting its opening, excited to see the results. The article added an element of the future into my history research paper (which obviously contained more elements of the past.)

Morgan, Susan Conlon, Susan L. Hamilton, Michael L. Bentley, and Sharon Myrie. "Environmental Education in Botanic Gardens: Exploring Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Project Green Reach." The Journal of Environmental Education 40.4 (2009): 35-52. Print.

The results of an environmental program for school children k-8th is provided in this journal. It contains the details of projects performed amongst the youth by trained teacher teams, and depicts positive results that include a new knowledge and appreciation for nature. The director of the horticulture program at the arboretum was a member of one of these selected teachers, and this provides proof that positive things will grow from the Children’s Garden opening in 2013 at the Arboretum. It enabled my research paper “Oil Nature Earth Children” to have a more meaningful focus.

Pfiester, Sam L. The Golden Lane = Faja De Oro. Georgetown, TX: Chengalera, 2011. 255-70. Print.

This book described the historical events of the Tampico Oil Boom in the early 1900s. It highlights specific events in relation to Everette DeGolyer, revealing the story of his life, and how it affected the future of dependency on petroleum. Reading it was a rich experience due to fact the Mr. DeGolyer was the original owner of the land that the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden now sits on. It provided intriguing insight into the past of the place of my study, providing all sorts of connections to the inner transformation of my field site.

Rizzolatti, Giacomo, and Corrado Sinigaglia. Preface. Mirrors in the Brain: How Our Minds Share Actions and Emotions. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2008. Print.

This provided basic information of the discovery and function of mirror neurons. It substantiated my already existing knowledge on the subject, and aided an interesting component of my quantitative research assignment.

Rock, Irvin. Perception. New York: Scientific American Library, 1984. Viii-14. Print.

Floating through the different theories of perspective, this book makes a point to outline that art is simply a depiction of reality that has been affected/slightly altered by the mind. Perceivable scales are described to convey the limitations of human perception, and the process of how we (as humans) perceive things is illustrated in a diagram of the human brain. It enabled me to appreciate my perception, and creations that blossom out of it, in a new, scientific way that saturated my humanity.

Singh, Prabhas K. "Museum and Education." ORHJ XLVII.

The point that museums have always been a place for educating the population is made very clear in this journal. It goes from the Latin definition of the word museum itself, and floats throughout early history, and the first museums. Reading it put my museum on a timeline in my mind, and I visualized the patterns that have remained constant through history as well as the ones that have undergone complete evolution.

*The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden*. Dallas, TX: Brown Pub. Group, 2010. Print.

This book aimed to let the viewer experience the Arboretum through its pages, with background information, as well as present situations, and large colored photographs of the site in all seasons. It was extremely helpful in acquiring details of how the city teamed up with the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society to achieve the dream of the 66 acre garden that is now a reality.

"The History of Dallas Arboretum's Alex Camp House.(Brief Article)." Dallas Business Journal. American City Business Journals, Inc. 2000. AccessMyLibrary. 19 Feb. 2012

This article provided the basics of the Camp Estate which is the second part of land that is now the Dallas Arboretum. It is a simple run down of the lives and deaths of Alex and Roberta Camp, and a short description of the functions the house currently serves to the botanical garden. It was helpful when composing my research paper, and striving for all the historical information I could find.

Tompkins, Peter, and Christopher Bird. Introduction. *The Secret Life of Plants*. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. Print.

This piece of writing is a wonderfully detailed realm of insight on the magic of plant life. It presents amazing information about the abilities, movement, and senses possessed by plants; and how these wonders interact with people whether they are conscious of it or not. It heightened my connections with the growth surrounding me, and gave a plethora of powerful information to support my effortless obsession with nature. It inspires a greater understanding of life.