

# Black

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Dumb Fixity:

Question / Issue:	Relationships between designing/making and meaning/life of objects
Convener:	Jos Bouys
Participants:	Eugene Nyca Macki Alison Carrier Rosy Martin

## Discussion & Recommendations/Discoveries:

Gap between how objects come to be designed/made and how interpreted/analysed; so that as if objects arrive fully formed - ignoring the conscious thought that objects embody.  
Discourses written by different groups of people - so it is not if objects are immaculately conceived.

Thought processes of designers helps informing our understanding of objects. A lot invested in emotional life of objects.  
Production processes not embodied in object - so you have to know extra knowledge.  
~~Design VIA Show~~

The role of craft/craftmanship. Experience of contact with things in the world. Two different layers embedded in one: language/perception material/experience of objects as tool/art object.  
example

How can objects tell full story/multiple histories?

James Elkin first historian who makes art, so looks at quality of making.

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craft embodied / designer taste /  
understanding / functionality.

people notice no function: because otherwise unnoticed. Can designed objects make themselves noticed? Maybe not being noticed is better: do designers need to make objects that are noticed? Something being very minimal, can be very "loud". Spaces, objects only activated by people's engagement.

plastic cup, made in ceramic (addy viti)

(addy value)

craft/materiality: luxury used to be quality/craftsmanship now more brand/experience — aura.

Has the value of craft/quality/hand-made/one-offs been subverted.

production + consumption cycles affect how we feel about objects,  
<sup>but cultural studies</sup> gone from ~~object~~ to aura

David Hockney - less about 'meaning' than about marking, mark-making, colours, line. A relief just to look in this way.

Everything becomes so conceptual that we are forgetting the art/craft of making. Is this about skill - what is good drawing or bad drawing for example?

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<b>Question / Issue:</b>	Relationships between designing/making and meaning/life of object.
<b>Convener:</b>	Jon Boys
<b>Participants:</b>	

**Discussion & Recommendations/Discoveries:**

Are we in a situation where the skill/craft is not considered relevant & in making and consuming?