

ARTH 383 - Art & Philosophy

- Guest lecture on Grotesque (notes in book)
- Uncanny- when that which that is familiar becomes threatening
- Freud collects experiences that provoked feeling of uncanny
- the evil eye > Lacans 'the gaze' (not film studies > that which makes objects of individuals)
 - delusions of being watched (Freud)
- Lacanian extemity is an intrusion of the real on the homely
- object petit 'a', an object cause of desire (lacans)
 - but if we obtained it, it would be too much, we can never have it
- Benjamin 'aura' > what a work of art originally possesses, in it's original context, before being placed in museum or mechanically reproduced
 - the aura doesn't exist, but we desire what it entails
 - we are only aware of aura in its absence
- Dollard: the uncanny came about with Enlightenment and modernity with the loss of sacred spaces
 - at same time emerges the Gothic novel (revolutionary violence in France)
- Lacans - doubling of the father figure
- Olympe- father appears as a disturber of love (the real law, Kantian practical reason)
- "anxiety is produced by a lack of lack" (Kant infinite judgment)
 - negation of a negation
 - so lack/loss is necessary condition for subjectivity
- Dollard : Frankenstein by Mary Shelley > emerges with modernity (modern myth) > speaks to uncanniness of division of nature and culture (compared to spiritual)
 - out of place within culture

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

- 'the abject' > division imposed and sought to be overcome
 - self and other, interior and exterior
 - correlate with theory of disgust (ie the Gross Clinic 1875)
- abject refers to something lowly (pejorative)
- abjection as mode of resistance to aesthetic hierarchies
- 'abject' begins to be applied to art that's disturbing/disgusting
- Kristeva, Powers of Horror > abject is that which we exteriorize to become a subject
- Hans Bellmer > denigration of representation
- Freudian defence mechanism of negation (neurotic)
 - by virtue of negation affirms the statement