

*I adore simple pleasures. They are the last refuge of the complex.* Oscar Wilde

Pleasure:

Most of us got here- art school- because we like making things. But the pleasures we find are various. For some of us immense reward is to be found in the reverie of a methodical, time consuming task. For others pleasure is found in the discovery of an appropriate solution to a problem- the thrill of finding a form that answers some internal question. For some of us, pleasure can be found in the escape to a solitary place, or for others, it is the experience of making with others that makes pleasure. For many of us the pleasure of making comes from feeling and seeing our brain work- whether it is directed by an acknowledged aim, or driven by intuition. For some of us though, pleasure lies less in making than in seeing.

In the following series of lectures we will examine diverse pleasures- the thrill of performing live, the delight of seducing others through desirable objects, the special pleasure of melancholy, the pleasure of profound skill, lightly applied, the pleasure of annoying others and testing limits. While making art might make pleasure, there are plenty of other things that do too, so is there any special pleasure that making or looking at art generates?