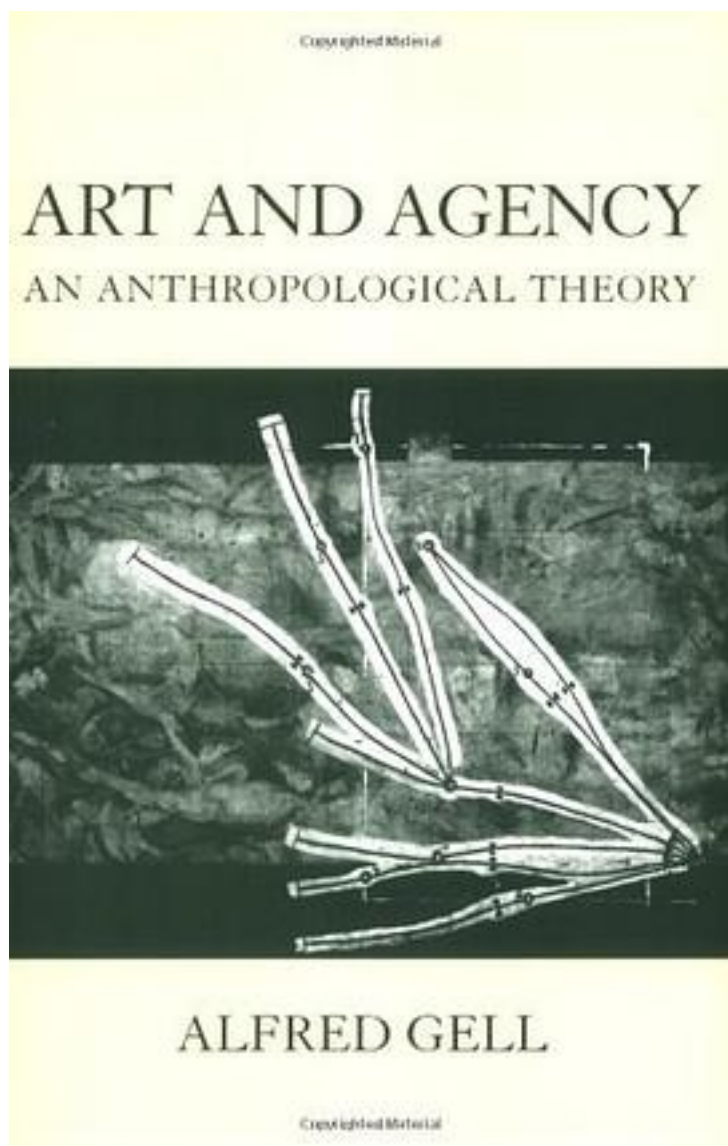


Art and Agency



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著者:Alfred Gell

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Review

This book changes the very basis of the way art has been viewed in the human sciences. It presents what is the first fundamental theory for an anthropology of art. Its publication is a major event. Maurice Bloch, FBA, Professor of Anthropology, London School of Economics. This is a remarkable work ... witty, elegant, broad in its compass and scintillating in its detail. It is characteristically polemical ... alive with his sense of purpose and his quite original and captivating account of how we are captivated by relations between forms ... The book know what to do with the limits of form--one suddenly sees how anthropology might surpass itself. Marilyn Strathern, FBA, Professor of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge An extraordinary achievement. Gell offers a profound new understanding of collective agency which completely reshapes the anthropology of art, redefines its objects of study, and inspires new conclusions. Caroline Humphrey, Reader in Asian Anthropology, University of Cambridge

Review

"[This] is not only a contribution to anthropology but a subtle and original counterweight to the banalities of globalization theory."--Times Literary Supplement

作者介绍:

Alfred (Antony Francis) Gell (June 12, 1945-January 28, 1997): British social anthropologist whose most influential work concerned art, language, symbolism and ritual. Gell is considered one of the most gifted anthropologists of his generation. He as a student studied with Edmund Leach (MPhil, Cambridge University) and Raymond Firth (PhD, London School of Economics). He did his fieldwork in Melanesia and tribal India. He was Reader in Anthropology at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and was a fellow of the British Academy. The School posthumously awarded him a Professorship, a post that he had declined during his life time.

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标签

人类学

艺术史

艺术人类学

anthropology

艺术

Gell

文艺理论

藝術史

评论

十年前读的，早忘光了，只记得里面用大半夜车子发不动令人气得跳脚的故事说明物的agency。当时不能体会的我现在全懂了。

带着对教授的爱和对小飞虫的爱看完了这本书，今天教授表现比较搞笑，不知道是不是因为我在response里提到了人类学家的幽默感（自我存在感爆棚了）。意犹未尽打算翻出Gell之前的作品看看，也很想写个长书评，但是木有时间啊又要继续看傅抱石和康德了。。。

太生猛了，感慨作者英年早逝，如果能再多活二十年，说不定還能寫出什麼顛覆性的東西來

这书能看得我背过气去…

人類學理論主要用來解釋宗教、儀式、族群、婚姻等議題，而Gell本書的貢獻則是他嘗試建立一套理論去解釋“藝術”。在英國社會人類學派傳統下，Gell更關注社會中各元素的關係，於是他建立了Agent和Patience兩大關係，在這兩大關係下又各有index, artist, prototype, recipient四大元素，並檢驗這此元素與元素之間的多重關係，從而幫助我們理解人類學場景中所謂的“藝術”。Gell的邏輯非常清晰，讀的過程中一度有當年讀韋伯《社會學

的基本概念》同樣的感覺，很是佩服。

把anthropology of art的研究范围及研究重点定义了下 可依旧很无聊

Agency is dead

I am not fully convinced by his theory and agency claim. I feel he just made up things for the sake of theorization. The theoretical possibility was made not by conceptual virtuosity, but by surreptitious replacement of the semantic values of key concepts such as "agency" or "personhood." He intends to use humanlike word to claim agency of object.

需二刷

抱歉，仅仅是为了证明我个人的坚强而牺牲了书本。寄希望于后来的我能读懂。

屌爆了，这文笔简直神一般。要是他还在世，爬都要爬去LSE当他学生。
三年后补的：成为了徒孙哈哈哈哈哈，比以前又了解得多了些。

Alfred
Gell在患癌晚期视力严重受损的情况下花三周匆匆写完此书，他甚至没来得及校对就离世了。而就是这本书在艺术史、考古和人类学界都掀起了讨论的热潮。每次为agency理论背书都心甘情愿，实在太钦佩Gell

该说的其它短评都说了。

A purely cultural, aesthetic, 'appreciative' approach to art objects is an anthropological

dead end.

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书评

先避开这个有标新立异之嫌的标题，说说Gell和本书不得不说的故事。
正如Gell的妻子Simeran在开篇所说，Art and Agency的最后一章是Gell在知道自己得了不治之症之后写下的，而之前的第一稿是Gell在1996年复活节为期三周的假期中写就的，在得知时日不多之后，Gell开始抓紧修改润色。
..

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