The huntsman's funeral: targeting the sensorium

Ryan Bishop

Abstract
Using Focault’s early radio address ‘Utopian body’ as a starting point, this paper examines the role of sensorium in the production, circulation and legitimisation of knowledge, especially as it pertains to an understanding of a transparent operation of senses. Using targeting as an example of the ways in which the senses combine with transitive grammar to reinforce specific notions of the subject and subjectivity, the article offers a variety of visual texts and grammatical examples (namely the middle voice) to consider the ways in which Foucault’s writings in The birth of the clinic and ‘Utopian body’ both subvert common-sense understandings of transitivity, the subject, the body and the senses (again through targeting) and reinforce them. The article includes a brief foray into teletechnologies and urban attacks.

Biography
Ryan Bishop received his PhD from Rice University in 1992 and has had three Fulbright Scholarships (Yugoslavia, Thailand and Singapore). He is co-editor of Cultural Politics, an internationally refereed journal published by Berg (Oxford, UK). He is also executive editor of the New Encyclopaedia Project with Mike Featherstone, and is on the Theory, Culture & Society editorial board. ellrb@nus.edu.sg