

Special Issue

Visual Symmetry 2018

Message from the Guest Editor

Humans value visual symmetry. Why is symmetry so special to human perception? Is it because symmetry grabs people's attention? Is it because symmetry is one of Gestalt laws? Symmetry seems to facilitate various functions ranging from visual processing to sexual selection. It is suggested that perception of symmetry develops in children and sensitivity to symmetry declines with aging. While perception and appreciation of symmetry seems to be an important visual cue to humans, neural mechanisms of perception of symmetry are not completely understood. Sasaki et al. investigated neural correlates of symmetry using functional magnetic resonance imaging and found strong involvement of higher visual areas in perception of symmetry. However, it is still not clear how perception of symmetry is associated with grouping of objects, aesthetic sensation, reward, and attention. Here we call for papers, which address why and how visual symmetry affects the human psychology.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2019)



Symmetry

an Open Access Journal
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CiteScore 5.3



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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