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Aesthetics and scarcity
a physics perspective

A theory of aesthetics is presented which is based on natural forms characterized by statistical and algorithmic means. Several strategies and options to create sophisticated natural forms and ornaments are discussed. One of the questions that arises is whether and how the variants of noise and symmetry may contribute towards aesthetics.

Try to answer the following question instantly and without much thinking. Suppose you have ten minutes to spare. Where would you rather be: on Park Avenue in Midtown Manhattan, or in New York's Central Park? Surely, Park Avenue has to offer much more modernity and is dominated by artistic structures created by valiant human imagination. In contrast, Central Park may appear dull with its re-enactment of a natural habitat by landscape gardening. All those trees and plants appear boring compared to the hip of Manhattan's skyrocketing skyscrapers, don't they? It is not unreasonable to speculate that most people would prefer Central Park over Park Avenue when they should choose a location for idling around. (I am not considering here the curiosity of suburbians studying man-made canyons.) Why have so many who could afford left the city centres for rural surroundings? Why is hiking and vacationing in beautiful habitats a means to refresh our minds? You may also ask yourself where you would rather like to live in a galaxy far away, shaken by Star Wars: on the planet Naboo, or on Coruscant? Again, I suppose most people would choose Naboo; at least after the siege of the Trade Federation is lifted. Likewise, why is it so that most of us would not like to spend your holidays in a present-day virtual reality instalments but rather undergo great hardships of travel and visit uncontrollable spots far away? Would it not be much more risk-free, convenient, personalized, funnier, satisfactory and thereby cheaper to go virtual? Why those choices? It is suggested here that there exists a very simple answer to all these whys; though many contemporary artists will not like it. This answer discredits many modernistic artistic emanations such as International Style architecture, as well as paintings and concert hall music as either being too monotonic and dull, or appearing irritatingly irregular and erratic, and it imposes a high burden on those who create virtual human habitats.