

Spring 2021

Philosophy 2450: Philosophical Problems in the Arts

Prof. Richard Fletcher

WF 9:35-10:55am

Online



Aline Baiana *Alliance for a sunny world or the Rainbow Serpent flows in free rivers*
Sharjah Biennial 14, 2019

This course will examine major philosophical problems in the arts (e.g. reality, representation, form, expression, taste, judgment, definition and identification) through close readings of core texts in Western aesthetics (e.g. Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Tolstoy, Hegel, Freud, Bell, Benjamin, Heidegger, Danto, Lyotard). Our aim will be to engage with how these problems contribute to forming a working definition of art through analytic arguments, decolonial critique and global Indigenous aesthetics. We will also examine ethical questions from within the art world, inspired by an experimental encounter with artists at a series of recent global art exhibitions (documenta 14, 14th Sharjah Biennial, 1st Toronto Biennial and 22nd Sydney Biennale).

This course fulfils the GE in Visual and Performing Arts.