

Ana Clemente et al.: Musical and Visual Aesthetic Sensitivity
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We have proposed a new and revolutionary construct and measure of aesthetic sensitivity, in line with current knowledge and useful for investigating valuation processes. We conceive it as responsiveness, i.e., the extent to which a particular feature affects someone's liking or preference, and measure it as the individual variability in the liking for that feature. We examined aesthetic sensitivity to balance, contour, symmetry, and complexity in music and images separately and across domains within non-experts in music and visual art. Our conception has proven valid and useful, sensitive to subtle temporal variations, and consistent across domains. The results shed light on the nature of aesthetic judgments and uncovered an underlying binary profile related to a preference for information density linked to personality and other traits. Our notion creates a platform for more sophisticated research on aesthetic experience and contributes to understanding valuation processes, which makes it of interest to many fields.