

Combining artistic and scientific perspectives in the study of synesthesia

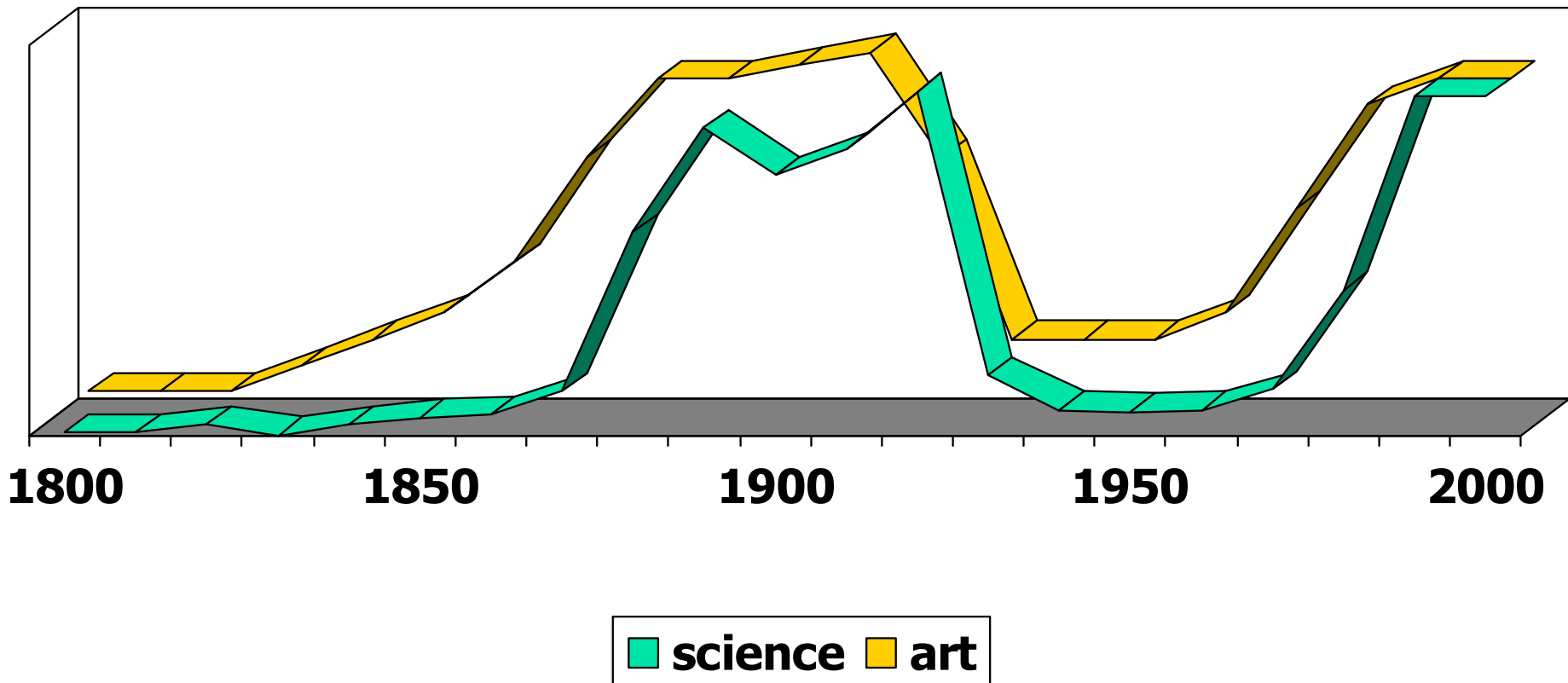


Crétien van Campen, researcher

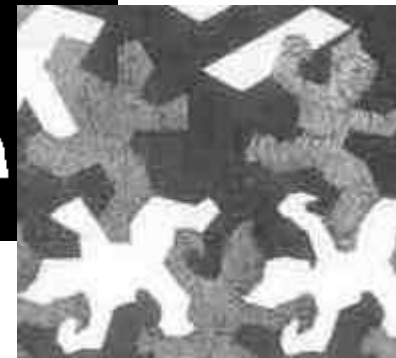
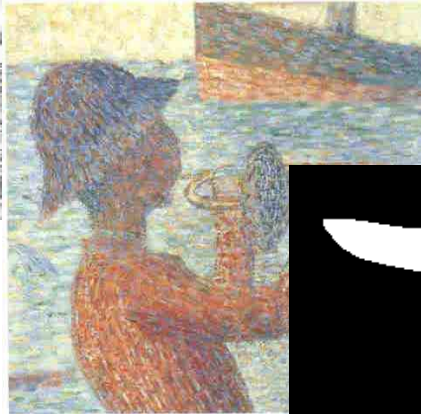
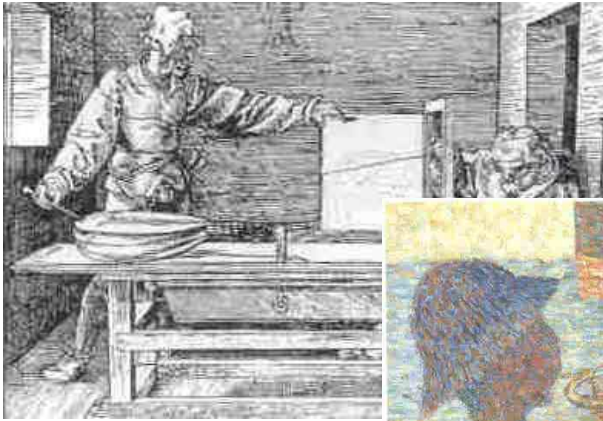
Clara Froger, artist

The Netherlands

Interest in synesthesia in art and science



Parallel study of perceptual phenomena in art & science





Differences in approach

ART

- Early discovery
- Phenomenological exploration
- First person perspective

SCIENCE

- Rediscovery
- Analytic study
- Third person perspective



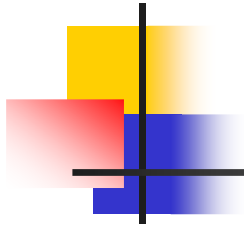








Colors of the Dutch word KOEL (= cool)



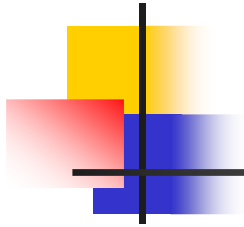
Chosen color chip in test



painting



Influence of context on colored letters I



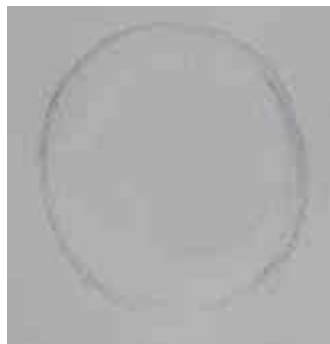
test



painting



Less influence of context on colors



Sounds of musical instruments

Played on: double bass guitar trumpet

D major
chord

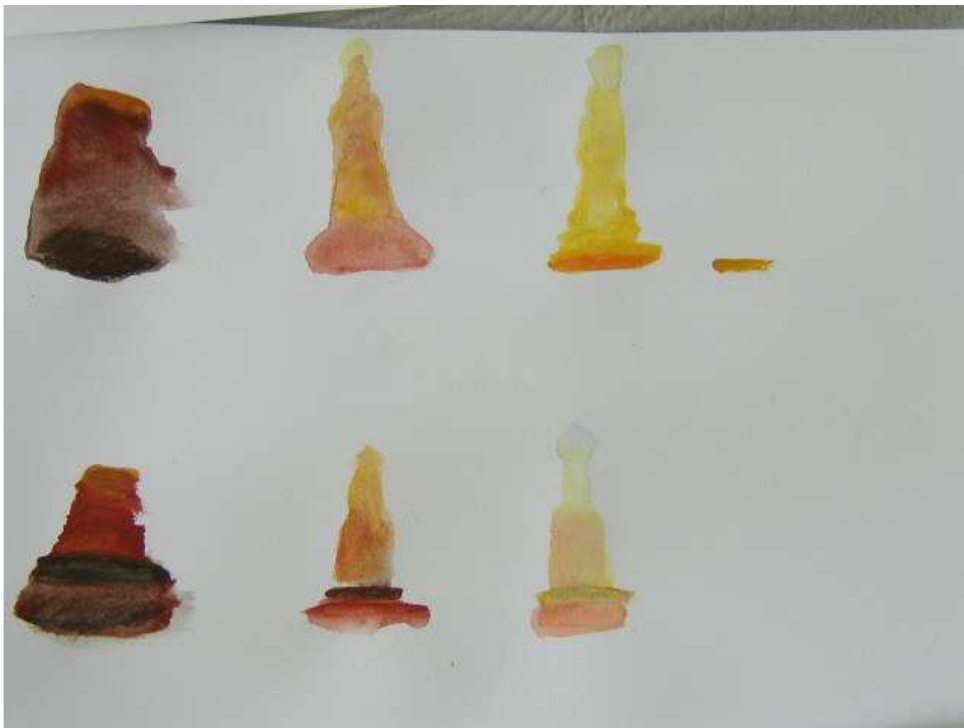


D minor
chord

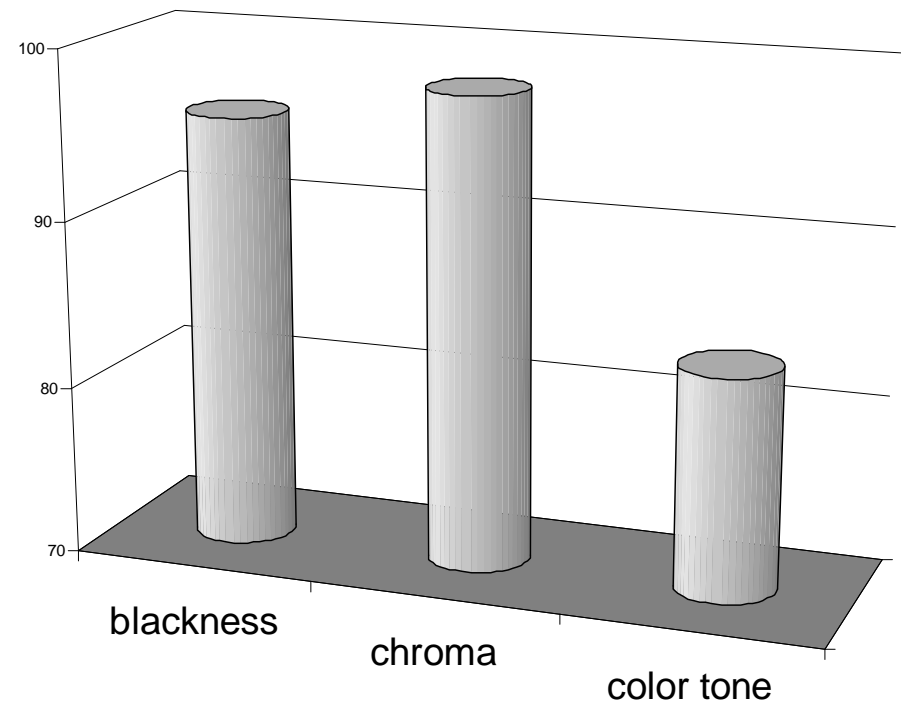


Comparing two types of information on colored-music synesthesia

Painting



Test results







Discussion of results

Choosing color chips

- Color only
- Loss of information but computable

Painting

- Aspects of color, form and space
- More representative but non-computable



conclusion

- Art and science contributed in different ways
- Artists and researchers both profit from critical interaction
- Changing between first and third person perspectives