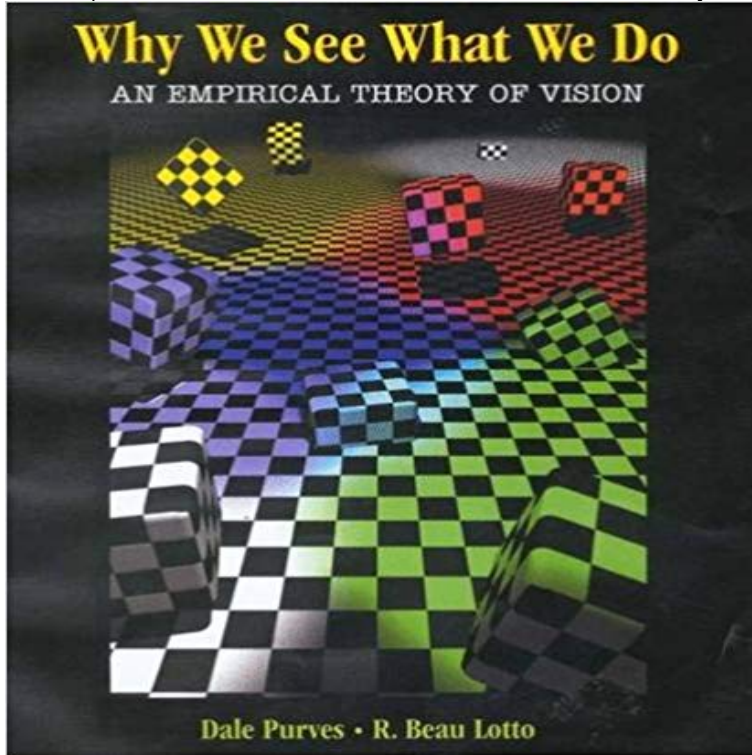


Why We See What We Do: An Empirical Theory of Vision



This provocative book reviews a broad range of evidence leading to the conclusion that the visual system is not organized to generate a veridical representation of the physical world, but rather a statistical reflection of the visual history of the species and the individual observer. Thus, what humans actually see is a reflexive manifestation of past rather than a logical analysis of the present. The idea that the images we consciously entertain represent the historical significance of visual stimuli follows from the inability to decipher ambiguous retinal information analytically, and has far-reaching consequences not only for vision but brain function generally. The immediate benefit of this approach is that it provides a framework by which to understand a variety of fundamental visual illusions that are otherwise difficult, if not impossible, to explain. With its straightforward style, *Why We See What We Do* can be understood by individuals with little or no background in neuroscience or vision. It includes chapter introductions and summaries that make the overall argument easy to follow, over 400 bibliographic citations, and a complete glossary.

Why We See What We Do: An Empirical Theory of Vision. Dale Purves and R. Beau Lotto. Sinauer Associates, Sunderland, Massachusetts. ISBN: 0-878-93752-8

Why We See What We Do: An Empirical Theory of Vision. Article PDF (46.89 KB). David Burr. Istituto di Neuroscienze del CNR, University of Florence. Abstract. Get this from a library!

Why we see what we do redux : a wholly empirical theory of vision. [Dale Purves R Beau Lotto] The intention of this textbook is not to dismantle a current conception of vision and replace it with something entirely different. Since there is at present no

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Why We See What We Do: An Empirical Theory of Vision [Review Article]. Published in: *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* (Volume: 15 , Issue: 7 , Oct. 1 2003).

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The argument we advance is that the visual system contends with the inevitably uncertain significance of sensory information for behavior by generating

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In February 2012, the author acquired improved stereoscopic vision after viewing Martin Scorsese's film *Hugo* in 3D. The author had been

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The empirical part of the title refers not to experiments, but

to Hermann von Helmholtz's radical empiricism of the 19th century, the stance that the organization Rather, what we see is based on the history of the species and the individual as a means of contending with the inherent uncertainty of light stimuli. It follows that visual perceptions are reflexive manifestations of past behavioral success rather than the result of a logical processing of present stimuli. - 7 sec Watch Download Why We See What We Do: An Empirical Theory of Vision PDF Online by will remind vision researchers of James Gibsons and David Marrs seminal efforts, and it may prove as influential. -- Vincent A. Billock, Science

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