

Editorial

The present issue of *The Nordic Journal of Aesthetics* has not been put together according to an over-all theme but is based on individual dealings with a wide range of different aesthetic problems. The issue opens with Reinold Schmücker's analysis of what he regards as a misleading idea of autonomy, prevailing within aesthetics, which implies that art is non-functional and which has had as one of its consequences the fact that the category of mistake has almost disappeared from the modern concept of art. Instead Schmücker develops a concept of autonomy as a normative artistic competence. The title of the piece which was originally given as a keynote lecture at the 2008 meeting of The Nordic Society of Aesthetics in Uppsala is "The Lord of Flaws: The Autonomy of the Artist and the Function of Art". Jukka Mikkonen continues in an analytical vein in "Truth-Claiming in Fiction: Towards a Poetics of Literary Assertion" where he problematizes the concept of an *implied author* in relation to truth-claims conveyed by a literary work of art. Mikkonen argues that, ontologically, assertions in fiction should be attributed to the actual author, and that, epistemologically, literary truth-claiming should be related to the actual intentions of the author. In "Sub Specie Aeternitatis: An Actualization of Wittgenstein on Ethics and Aesthetics" Somogy Varga interprets Wittgenstein's understanding of the relationship between ethics and aesthetics with particular focus on *nonsensicality*. Varga shows that ethics and aesthetics are interdependent in Wittgenstein, while both provide a view *sub specie aeternitatis* enabling a view of the world as a whole. In his note on "Appropriate Musical Metaphors" Nick Zangwill argues against a unitary account of what makes metaphorical descriptions of music in terms of emotion appropriate in favor of a pluralistic perspective on metaphorical appropriateness.

The next two contributions continue the debate on Richard Shusterman's theory of popular culture that began in the last issue. Wojciech Małecki's "Pragmatist Aesthetics, the New Literacy, and Popular Culture" is a response to Stefán Snævarr's critique of Shusterman in "Pragmatism and Popular Culture" in *Journal of Aesthetic Education* 41:4 (2007), while Snævarr's "Popular Culture" is a response both to Małecki and to Shuster-

man's answer to Snævarr's first article in the last issue of *The Nordic Journal of Aesthetics*. In closing we return to the philosophy of Wittgenstein with Kalle Puolakka's review of Hanne Appelqvist: *Wittgenstein and the Conditions of Musical Communication*.

Furthermore, it is my great pleasure to announce that Åsa Arketeg (Stockholm, Södertörn), Arnulf Christian Mattes (Oslo), and Kalle Puolakka (Helsinki) have been appointed national Review Editors of Sweden, Norway, and Finland, respectively. These appointments are part of our efforts to strengthen the journal's review section and to improve the coverage of publications on aesthetics within the Nordic countries and of international publications relevant to our readers. We are happy to be able to welcome them as members of the editorial team.

Jacob Lund