

Contents – At a glance: TAS volumes I and II

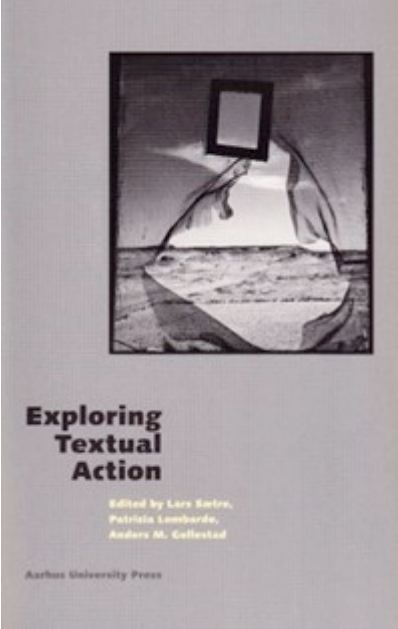
Lars Sætre, Patrizia Lombardo, Anders M. Gullestad (eds.): *Exploring Textual Action*, Aarhus, Aarhus University Press, 2010. 439 pp. ISBN 978 87 7934 460 0.

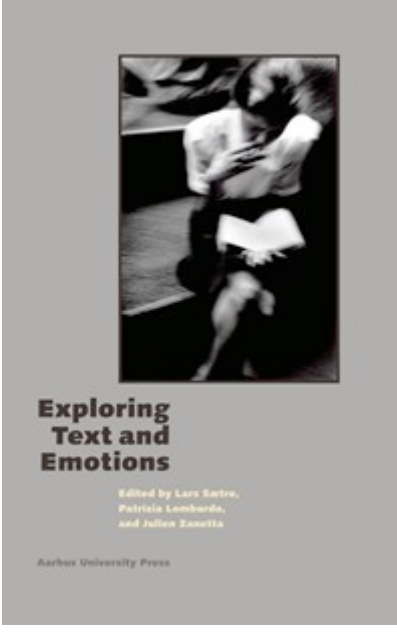
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Lars Sætre, Patrizia Lombardo, Julien Zanetta (eds.): *Exploring Text and Emotions*, Aarhus: Aarhus University Press, 2014. 449 pp. ISBN 978 87 7934 558 4.

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	<p><i>Exploring Textual Action</i> (2010) questions how we analyse works of art after the performative turn and shows how the interplay of <i>performativity</i> (textual action), <i>space and topography</i> and the <i>converging</i> of genres and art forms is essential in modern drama, theatre, prose fiction, poetry and film. The volume also fosters a keen concern for the development of congenial theory. – Its 14 detailed essays analyse works of art ranging from Balzac, Melville and George Eliot, to Breton, Kafka, Benjamin, Blixen and Woolf; and from W.C. Williams, Bresson and Scorsese, to Sarraute, Duras, Reygadas, Dumont and Waltz. The approach of these studies discloses the art works as creative and dynamic utterances with active and shaping forces so powerful, and consequential, that they have the potential to transform human perception and blur clear distinctions between art and “real” life. – Using an alternative and dynamic method and suggesting a direction towards the detailed analysis of literature, art, media and culture, <i>Exploring Textual Action</i> addresses current debates within the humanities.</p>
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<p><i>Exploring Text and Emotions</i> (2014) investigates the functions, values and effects of emotions in literature and the arts, fostering the affective turn in textual theory and analysis. – Fifteen essays on various art works analyse how modern fiction, drama, theatre, poetry and film, as well as Greek tragedy, succeed in both expressing and suggesting a vast and nuanced array of emotions while provoking affective responses in readers and spectators. The volume focuses on the exemplary way in which literature and the arts act upon our minds and have a strong impact on our understanding of aesthetic, political and moral values, challenging, shaping and transforming culture. The volume also intends to show how seminal writers and works have anticipated contemporary theories of emotions and can contribute to their growth. – Linking formal, aesthetic and cultural-studies approaches, and combining the latest developments in the affective sciences with the close reading of texts, the volume puts forward a new direction for the study of literature, arts, media and culture.</p>	
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