



R. M. Brain, *The Pulse of Modernism : Physiological Aesthetics in Fin-de-Siècle Europe*

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R. M. Brain, *The Pulse of Modernism : Physiological Aesthetics in Fin-de-Siècle Europe*, Seattle, University of Washington Press, 2015, 384 p.

- Robert Brain traces the origins of artistic modernism to specific technologies of perception developed in late-nineteenth-century laboratories. Brain argues that the thriving fin-de-siècle field of « physiological aesthetics, » which sought physiological explanations for the capacity to appreciate beauty and art, changed the way poets, artists, and musicians worked and brought a dramatic transformation to the idea of art itself.
- **Robert Michael Brain** is associate professor of history at the University of British Columbia.