Relationship Between Creative Experience, Recognition of Creative Process and Aesthetic Impression in Art-Viewing

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Abstract

This study examined the roles recognition of the creative process behind artworks plays in cognitive processes of art-viewing. To this end, we conducted an experiment (N = 45) in which prior experience of participants was manipulated and investigated whether and how creative experience influences subsequent cognitive processes while viewing artworks. We revealed that having creative experience before art viewing changes viewers recognition of the creative process behind artworks and causes them to have a more positive impression of the artworks. It was also revealed that these two changes are correlated. In particular, the emotion of admiration, which is considered a kind of social emotion, was found to be highly correlated with the recognition of assessed difficulty of the creative process. These results suggest the importance of recognition of the creative process behind artworks and contribute to understanding the cognitive process of art-viewing.