

# **Aesthetics: Classic Theories – Plato to Kant**

Tate Modern. Monday evenings for six weeks from 20.10.08

Led by Nigel Warburton

Email: [nigelwarburton@aol.com](mailto:nigelwarburton@aol.com)

Weblog: [www.artandillusion.com](http://www.artandillusion.com) (after each session I will put notes on this weblog with suggestions for further reading etc.).

All sessions begin at 6.45 p.m. and finish at 8.15 p.m. followed by an optional free drink and further informal discussion until 9 p.m.

**Course Set Book:** Steven M. Cahn and Aaron Meskin (eds) *Aesthetics: A Comprehensive Anthology* (Blackwell, 2008).

## **Week One: Introduction and Plato on *Mimesis* (imitation)**

[Reading: 1. Kristeller 'Introduction']

Reading 3. Plato from *The Republic*

## **Week Two: Beauty**

Reading: 4. Plato from *Symposium*

[Reading: 6. Plotinus from *Ennead*]

## **Week Three: Taste and Judgement**

Reading: 11. Hume 'Of the Standard of Taste'

## **Week Four: The Sublime**

Reading 12: Burke on the Sublime and the Beautiful

## **Week Five: Painting vs Poetry**

Reading 13: Lessing from *Laocoon*

## **Week Six: Kant on Aesthetic Judgement**

Reading 14: Kant from *The Critique of Judgement*