

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CREATIVE THEORY OF CRITICISM  
USED IN THE EXAMINATION OF TWO ARTS,  
PAINTING AND LITERATURE

AN ABSTRACT OF  
A THESIS  
PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY  
OF WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

IN PARTIAL PULFILLMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE  
MASTER OF SCIENCE

by  
Patricia Ruth Barkman  
May 1972

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The reason for this new theory of Literary Criticism, The Creative Theory, is that thus far none of the traditional critical theories are adequate for full appreciation works of art such as Finnegans Wake. The approach should be a creative one. Although there have been critics, Tindall, Burgess, Ellmann and Sypher who have been writing creative critiques, a theory itself has never been elucidated.

The creative response, which the theory advocates, is one in which the perceiver of the art work actually experiences creativity, as the piece is re-created within him. The reaction, blended with emotion, imagination, and intelligence involves many different personal concepts such as dreams, concepts of time and space, abstract thoughts, and the nature of one's aesthetic response.

This creative response is initiated by intrinsic qualities within the work. For example, the painting, Girl before a Mirror by Pablo Picasso includes negative-after images, a very subjective phenomena created by eye fatigue. Finnegans Wake expresses subconscious mental activity through its metamorphosis of words which expand into thoughts, which in turn change into metempsychosis and on into a dream.

The theory focuses our attention on the multi-level appeal of art and allows appreciation to flourish.