



# Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender

By David J. Getsy

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender** By David J. Getsy

Original and theoretically astute, *Abstract Bodies* is the first book to apply the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies to the discipline of art history. It recasts debates around abstraction and figuration in 1960s art through a discussion of gender's mutability and multiplicity. In that decade, sculpture purged representation and figuration but continued to explore the human as an implicit reference. Even as the statue and the figure were left behind, artists and critics asked how the human, and particularly gender and sexuality, related to abstract sculptural objects that refused the human form.

This book examines abstract sculpture in the 1960s that came to propose unconventional and open accounts of bodies, persons, and genders. Drawing on transgender and queer theory, David J. Getsy offers innovative and archivally rich new interpretations of artworks by and critical writing about four major artists—Dan Flavin (1933–1996), Nancy Grossman (b. 1940), John Chamberlain (1927–2011), and David Smith (1906–1965). *Abstract Bodies* makes a case for abstraction as a resource in reconsidering gender's multiple capacities and offers an ambitious contribution to this burgeoning interdisciplinary field.

 [Download Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expand ...pdf](#)

# Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender

By David J. Getsy

## Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy

Original and theoretically astute, *Abstract Bodies* is the first book to apply the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies to the discipline of art history. It recasts debates around abstraction and figuration in 1960s art through a discussion of gender's mutability and multiplicity. In that decade, sculpture purged representation and figuration but continued to explore the human as an implicit reference. Even as the statue and the figure were left behind, artists and critics asked how the human, and particularly gender and sexuality, related to abstract sculptural objects that refused the human form.

This book examines abstract sculpture in the 1960s that came to propose unconventional and open accounts of bodies, persons, and genders. Drawing on transgender and queer theory, David J. Getsy offers innovative and archivally rich new interpretations of artworks by and critical writing about four major artists—Dan Flavin (1933–1996), Nancy Grossman (b. 1940), John Chamberlain (1927–2011), and David Smith (1906–1965). *Abstract Bodies* makes a case for abstraction as a resource in reconsidering gender's multiple capacities and offers an ambitious contribution to this burgeoning interdisciplinary field.

## Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy Bibliography

- Rank: #1441943 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2015-11-03
- Released on: 2015-11-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x 1.20" w x 7.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 392 pages

 [Download Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expand ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender  
By David J. Getsy**

---

## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

"David Getsy is a key voice among a new generation of art historians who are opening up art and its archives in critical interdisciplinary ways. The chapter on Nancy Grossman in Getsy's new book, *Abstract Bodies*, is a revelation. It should be required reading for anyone looking at and thinking about contemporary sculpture." - **Ian Berry, *Art in America*, Feb 2016**

"As the first art-historical study to include both a transgender history and theory, this book is an important contribution to the field and a call to expand not just our archival knowledge of modernist and contemporary art, but also our theoretical categories." - ***Art Journal*, 2016**

"Getsy offers an innovative, challenging approach to 1960s sculpture. [...] Highly recommended." - ***Choice***

"This meticulously researched book, combining expert archival research, close analysis of less-researched artworks by canonical figures of American abstract sculpture in the 1960s, and a deliberate interdisciplinary analysis, catapults art-historical research [and] engages the rapidly growing scholarship on transgender studies into the twenty-first century." - ***Sculpture Journal*, 2017**

"The contribution made by this book to both art history and to gender studies is incontrovertible." - ***Gender Research* (Japan), 2017**

"Highly recommended."—***Choice***  
(***Choice***)

"In bringing to light a grossly neglected approach to the topic and action of gendering in art production and interpretation, Getsy's book demonstrates that we are still processing the profound event that was 1960s abstraction, still reconciling ourselves to its categorical refusals, semiotic disruptions, and relational revisions."—***Art Journal***  
(***Art Journal***)

"David Getsy is a key voice among a new generation of art historians."—***Art in America***  
(***Art in America***)

### **Review**

'*Abstract Bodies* makes a remarkable intervention into art history, combining a rigorous attention to the history of sculpture with surprising and elaborate readings of the art of the 1960s. As a result of his disciplined attention to abstract forms rather than figural representations of the body, David Getsy has opened a new chapter in art history. This is a brilliant and original book and will change the way we think about the dynamics between art, embodiment, plasticity, and queer form.'

Jack Halberstam, University of Southern California  
(Jack Halberstam *University of Southern California*)

'David Getsy's *Abstract Bodies* represents a welcome convergence of the long established academic discipline of art history with the more recent interdisciplinary field of transgender studies. This book is not a history of transgender artists or transgender themes in art, but rather a path-breaking application of transgender studies as a heuristic lens. His deft coupling of subject matter and critical framework enables readers to grasp the profound extent to which the plasticity of shape and transformation of substance in reference to human being is a central feature of recent Western history.'

Susan Stryker, University of Arizona

(Susan Stryker *University of Arizona*)

'*Abstract Bodies* more than bridges art history and gender studies—David Getsy demonstrates that these fields *need* each other. This book shows us how to see gender's capacities in texture, light and form—loosened from the discourse of sex, gender becomes a material possibility. This is essential reading for anyone who wants to know how to write about sculpture, or who wants to know how queer art history can be.'

Jennifer Doyle, University of California at Riverside

(Jennifer Doyle *University of California at Riverside*)

'The insights that emerge from David Getsy's analyses of sculpture, reception, anecdote, historiography, and of the particular languages – and *voices* – of artists, are provocative and profound. In the process of locating transformational energies in these artists' works, Getsy not only connects us more intimately to each artist but also redirects the field of postwar abstract sculpture.'

Michael Brenson, Bard College

(Michael Brenson *Bard College*)

#### From the Back Cover

'Abstract Bodies makes a remarkable intervention into art history, combining a rigorous attention to the history of sculpture with surprising and elaborate readings of the art of the 1960s. As a result of his disciplined attention to abstract forms rather than figural representations of the body, David Getsy has opened a new chapter in art history. This is a brilliant and original book and will change the way we think about the dynamics between art, embodiment, plasticity, and queer form.'

(**Jack Halberstam**, *University of Southern California*)

'David Getsy's *Abstract Bodies* represents a welcome convergence of the long established academic discipline of art history with the more recent interdisciplinary field of transgender studies. This book is not a history of transgender artists or transgender themes in art, but rather a path-breaking application of transgender studies as a heuristic lens. His deft coupling of subject matter and critical framework enables readers to grasp the profound extent to which the plasticity of shape and transformation of substance in reference to human being is a central feature of recent Western history.'

(**Susan Stryker**, *University of Arizona*)

'*Abstract Bodies* more than bridges art history and gender studies--David Getsy demonstrates that these fields need each other. This book shows us how to see gender's capacities in texture, light and form--loosened from the discourse of sex, gender becomes a material possibility. This is essential reading for anyone who wants to know how to write about sculpture, or who wants to know how queer art history can be.'

(**Jennifer Doyle**, *University of California at Riverside*)

'The insights that emerge from David Getsy's analyses of sculpture, reception, anecdote, historiography, and of the particular languages - and voices - of artists, are provocative and profound. In the process of locating

transformational energies in these artists' works, Getsy not only connects us more intimately to each artist but also redirects the field of postwar abstract sculpture.'

**(Michael Brenson, Bard College)**

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Travis Freeman:**

Book will be written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can know everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important factor to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A e-book Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender will make you to become smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think that will open or reading any book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you in search of best book or appropriate book with you?

#### **Robert Knight:**

Now a day individuals who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources inside can be true or not demand people to be aware of each data they get. How individuals to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Studying a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender book since this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

#### **Mark Morrow:**

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the free time or they will get large amount of stress from both way of life and work. So , once we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not just a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender.

#### **Tamara Reams:**

Do you like reading a book? Confuse to looking for your selected book? Or your book had been rare? Why so many question for the book? But just about any people feel that they enjoy intended for reading. Some people likes looking at, not only science book but novel and Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender or maybe others sources were given understanding for you. After you know how the truly amazing a book, you feel wish to read more and more. Science guide was created for teacher or students especially. Those textbooks are helping them to include their knowledge. In various other case, beside science guide, any other book likes Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of

Gender to make your spare time a lot more colorful. Many types of book like here.

**Download and Read Online Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy  
#9CMYA7KWQGL**

# **Read Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy for online ebook**

Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy books to read online.

## **Online Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy ebook PDF download**

**Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy Doc**

**Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy Mobipocket**

**Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy EPub**

**9CMYA7KWQGL: Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender By David J. Getsy**