

PREFACE

This book argues for a complete revision in the way we think about the distinction between the perception and the cognition of visual space. For too long the literature has offered a false dichotomy between (a) the perception of visual space and (b) our conscious judgements of visual space. In this book I argue that there is a distinct intermediate level, namely (c) our unconscious post-perceptual judgements of visual space. I argue that pictorial cues operate at this level, and consequently so too must Cue Integration (the integration of depth cues into a single coherent percept). Not only does this argument require us to re-evaluate (a) the distinction between perception and cognition, (b) Cue Integration, and (c) pictorial space, it also requires us to reconsider (d) how we experience depth with one eye. It also has implications for neurophysiology (if Cue Integration operates at the level of V2, does this imply V2 is engaged in cognition rather than perception?) and clinical psychology (questioning the thesis that Cue Integration is reduced in schizophrenia because subjects see ‘more clearly through psychosis’). A full introduction is provided by Chap. 1. This book began as a response to the literature on depth from one eye, and I am very grateful for the comments and encouragement that I received from Jan Koenderink and Dhanraj Vishwanath on this initial draft in September 2015, as well as to Chris Frith and Vid Simoniti for kindly reading over that work. I also benefited immensely from the comments of two anonymous reviewers, a discussion with Brian Rogers, and the presentation of elements of this work

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