

BFA Freshers' Suggested Reading List: History & Theory of Visual Culture 2024

These are not set texts, you are not expected to have read them all before commencing your studies, they are just suggestions of books that contemporary art students often find useful or stimulating.

Author	Title	Publisher
Barthes, Roland	<i>Camera Lucida</i>	Vintage
Chambers, Eddie	<i>Black Artists in British Art</i>	I.B. Tauris
Godfrey, Tony	<i>The Story of Contemporary Art</i>	Thames & Hudson
Jurgenson, Nathan	<i>The Social Photo: On Photography and Social Media</i>	Penguin
Lang, Olivia	<i>Funny Weather: Art in an Emergency</i>	Picador
Kalb, Peter	<i>Art Since 1980</i>	Laurence King
Lorde, Audre	<i>The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House</i>	Penguin
Nochlin, Linda	<i>Why Are There No Great Women Artists? 50th Anniversary Edition</i>	Thames & Hudson
Proctor, Alice	<i>The Whole Picture: the colonial story of the art in our museums and why we need to talk about it</i>	Cassell
Stallabrass, Julian	<i>Contemporary Art, 2nd Edition</i>	Oxford
Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt	<i>The Mushroom at the End of the World</i>	Princeton

You might also take a look at a couple of excellent series and, following your own interests, choose one work or theme to explore in more depth:

- Afterall's One Work <https://www.afterall.org/books/one.work/>
- Whitechapel/MIT's Documents of Contemporary Art <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/series/whitechapel-documents-contemporary-art>

It is also well worth reading art magazines like *Frieze* (<https://frieze.com>), *Art Monthly* (<http://www.artmonthly.co.uk>), and *e-flux* (<https://www.e-flux.com>).

There is a useful repository of moving image and sound art, called Ubuweb, at <http://ubuweb.com/>.

The Tate Modern website also has links to articles and videos on contemporary art and artists: <https://www.tate.org.uk/art>.