

Antonella Romano

On Certainty

On Certainty starts from the physical deconstruction of a second-hand book, not as content but as condition—its weight, sequencing, and material persistence after use and time. Pages are displaced, altered, and reassembled into a single fragmented image whose grid-like structure loosely recalls the discontinuous, and accumulative visual logic of an Instagram feed.

The intervention works through small shifts and interruptions that unsettle the relation between image, text, and orientation without fully collapsing it. The work remains in that tension: where interpretation hesitates, where legibility is at risk but not lost, and where certainty appears less as something denied than as something temporarily weakened, exposed through its own construction.

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artist's book (open), 180x90 cm, 2023, exhibition view.



13. The Chimera of Race

Linnaeus examined the human species and found several differences which he diversified. He not only described the types physical but also attributed to them certain behavioral and mental traits. For example, he recognized by their dark skin color, frizzled hair, and flat noses. In addition, declared Linnaeus, they were "crafty, content, negligent, . . . governed by caprice." As for the so-called European Linnaeus found them "gentle, acute, industrious, . . . governed by reason."

Two things are wrong with Linnaeus' descriptions of what he considered to be the four categories of humankind. First of all, skin color, hair, nose, and chin have no genetic relation to personality, intelligence, or behavior. Second, that such a belief has long been an intellectual assumption of people in Western societies. Films and popular fiction still portray stereotypes of and intractable Africans as lazy, and American Indians as stoic. The traits of behavior and personality that distinguish one group from another are not inherited but are learned. English people are explained to be the

most intelligent and civilized because of their skin color. Genes are not the only factor in determining human behavior. According to a recent study, genes are not the most obvious of factors in skin



SEX STEREOTYPING THE NORTH AMERICAN CHILD

affairs that in various instances, even live five times as long as males. In the opposite sex, the dominant roles and positions are always reversed. In the opposite sex, males are more dominant than in all monkey and ape species. Those who



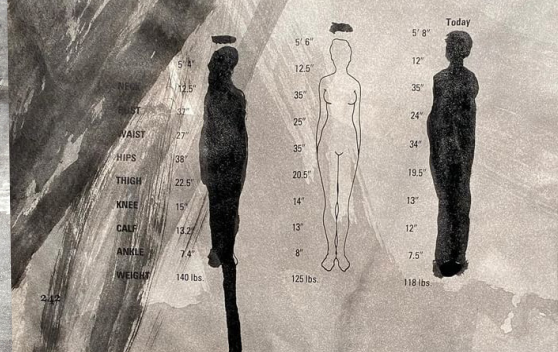
The chart outlines the evolution of the human brain from the prosimian to the human. It shows the development of the brain from a small, rounded shape to a large, rounded shape. The text explains that the human brain is the most complex of all, and that it is the result of a long evolutionary process. It also mentions that the human brain is the only one that can think and reason.

A BLACK IQ TEST FOR WHITE

Minority children (black, brown, and children on IQ tests that have been designed by members of the dominant culture. If instead the tests were designed by members of the dominant one in the United States, white children would undoubtedly find them easier to solve. IQ questions are based on the dominant experience—were prepared for white,

- After a pair of dice is thrown, the dots showing on top add up to seven. What is the total number of the dots facing down? (a) seven (b) snake-eyes (c) boxcars (d) Little Jesus (e) eleven.
- Cheap chittins taste rubbery unless they are cooked long enough. What is the minimum amount of time they should be cooked? (a) fifteen minutes (b) one hour (c) two hours (d) a day (e) a week
- A "handkerchief head" is (a) cool cat (b) a porter (c) an Uncle Tom (d) a hood (e) a preacher.
- "I ain't got no dust" means I have no (a) money (b) women (c) clothes (d) drugs (e) wine
- Another name for Al Hajj Malik Shabazz is (a) LeRoi Jones (b) Malcolm X (c) Muhammad Ali (d) Bill Cosby (e) none of these
- A "yard" is (a) a measuring stick (b) a hundred dollars (c) a playground (d) some drugs (e) a cigarette lighter
- A "set" is (a) a pair of new shoes (b) a gig (c) lights (d) a movie (e) none of these
- "Candid sweets" is/are (a) beautiful black sisters (b) a dance (c) reefers (d) sugared yams (e) comedians
- "The hawk" is (a) the wind (b) the rain (c) a knit cap (d) pants (e) shoes
- January 15 is (a) Black Independence Day (b) the anniversary of the founding of Liberia (c) celebration of the Selma, Alabama, bus boycott (d) Booker T. Washington's birthday (e) Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday
- In the famous blues legend, whom did "Stagger Lee" kill? (a) his brother (b) Frankie (c) Johnny (d) his girl friend (e) Billy
- Which of the following words does not belong? (a) gray (b) shine (c) blood (d) spook (e) black
- Which has more meat? (a) pig feet (b) neck bone (c) ox tail (d) pig tail

Answers: 1. (a) 7 (b) 2 (c) 11 (d) 12 (e) 13 2. (a) 15 (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) 1 (e) 1 3. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 4. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 5. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 6. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 7. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 8. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 9. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 10. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 11. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 12. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5 13. (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4 (e) 5



18. The Family as an Institution

The family is the basic unit of society. It is the place where the individual is first socialized. The family is the place where the individual learns the values and norms of the society. The family is the place where the individual finds love and support. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of belonging. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of purpose. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of identity. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of self. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of life. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of death. The family is the place where the individual finds a sense of everything.





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artist's book, ink and white correction fluid on second-hand book pages, 180x90 cm, 2023