

Abstract of the Dissertation

“Children’s Drawings

Empirical research and interculturality with particular reference to Ghana”

by Heidrun Wolter

This dissertation sets out to show how to read drawings done by children from other cultures.

The first part gives an overview of the historical research on children’s drawings from different countries. The various approaches to analysing children’s drawings are summarized and critically examined.

Ensuing chapters deal with the visual perception in children, including the influence of cultural factors, the visual process being described in detail. In addition, a general overview is given of Ghana at the time the project was carried out.

The second, empirical, part of the dissertation begins with a description of the projects conducted, which involved having children draw pictures on different topics in two different places in Ghana. Also, two different methods of different authors for the analysis of children’s drawings are presented. These differing evaluation methods are applied in the case of the Ghanaian children’s drawings on two different topics.

In the final part, the results of the differing analysis methods are presented with a view to encouraging an appropriate reception of children’s drawings from other cultures.

The different approaches to the analysis of Ghanaian children’s drawings allow a deeper understanding of how best to analyse drawings of children from other cultures.

This dissertation addresses itself to transcultural aspects as a contribution towards more internationally-oriented art education in the future.