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Autore	Hyman John
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- ILLUSTRATIONS -- PREFACE -- INTRODUCTION -- 1. Galileo's Myth -- 2. Frames of Reference -- 3. Perceiving Powers -- 4. Art and Imitation -- 5. Art and Occlusion -- 6. Art and Optics -- 7. Art and Experience -- 8. Words and Pictures -- 9. Realism and Relativism -- 10. The Canvas of the Brain -- CONCLUSION -- NOTES -- BIBLIOGRAPHY -- CREDITS -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	"The longer you work, the more the mystery deepens of what appearance is, or how what is called appearance can be made in another medium."-Francis Bacon, painter This, in a nutshell, is the central problem in the theory of art. It has fascinated philosophers from Plato to Wittgenstein. And it fascinates artists and art historians, who have always drawn extensively on philosophical ideas about language and representation, and on ideas about vision and the visible world that have deep philosophical roots. John Hyman's The Objective Eye is a radical treatment of this problem, deeply informed by the history of philosophy and science, but entirely fresh. The questions tackled here

are fundamental ones: Is our experience of color an illusion? How does the metaphysical status of colors differ from that of shapes? What is the difference between a picture and a written text? Why are some pictures said to be more realistic than others? Is it because they are especially truthful or, on the contrary, because they deceive the eye? The Objective Eye explores the fundamental concepts we use constantly in our most innocent thoughts and conversations about art, as well as in the most sophisticated art theory. The book progresses from pure philosophy to applied philosophy and ranges from the metaphysics of color to Renaissance perspective, from anatomy in ancient Greece to impressionism in nineteenth-century France. Philosophers, art historians, and students of the arts will find The Objective Eye challenging and absorbing.

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