

Elena Massarenti

*The aesthesiological dismissal of the visible. Mikel Dufrenne between Merleau-Ponty and Deleuze*

This essay investigates Mikel Dufrenne's aesthesiology as outlined in *L'œil et l'oreille*, which traces the correlation between sensibility and the sensible at the root of the constitution of sense. On the one hand, Dufrenne thereby develops the research started by Merleau-Ponty about the pre-categorical contact of man with nature, but criticizes his emphasis on the visual experience to the detriment of that of other senses, above all the sense of hearing. On the other hand, Dufrenne engages here with Deleuze's *Logique de la sensation*, replacing his conception of a «body without organs» with the idea of a «synergic body», which is also detected at the heart of many contemporary art practices. As a result, the visible appears devoid of the dominant role assigned to it by the philosophical tradition, and aesthesiology becomes a phenomenological counterpart of the anthropology of the image.