

## **The Art Of Interdisciplinary Science: Found Art, Outsider Art, or something else?**

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There is a problem with describing the use of an idea in one discipline to solve a problem or articulate a view in another: it is inadequate to describe the idea in terms of either discipline alone. Nor is doing so in a more neutral or general discipline really satisfactory; to properly understand just what this kind of interdisciplinary act involves, and how it comes about, one needs to appreciate the idea in each of the contexts: the one in which it was found, and the one in which it was used. In previous work, I used the metaphor of an artist whose sculpture uses “found” objects: objects (a child’s toy, a tool, a discarded scrap) that the artist views differently from the way in which they are normally viewed in the context in which they are found. Here, I explore employing other metaphors from art criticism, too, including Outsider Art. I will discuss how well these metaphors fit some case studies, including some on which I have already published (e.g., Einstein/Mach, Darwin, Prandtl, Onnes).