

BIOMEDICAL VISIONS

The Art of Science and the Science of Art

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ICI Berlin In English

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Image credit:
Ketty La Rocca, Craniologia 12, 1973,
lightbox, handwritting on X-ray, 78 x 58 x 16 cm
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Michelangelo Vasta and Keesa Willborn, Düsseldorf

Biomedical visualisations can validate patient experiences and perceptions empowering patients and convincing doctors in the search for a diagnosis, treatment, or cure. However, they are often deceptive and of questionable legibility. They are also inaccessible to non-specialists and often de-contextualized. This can lead to epistemic uncertainty, overdiagnosis, unnecessary interventions, healthcare inequalities, and epistemic or social injustice. The discussion builds on, but aims to go beyond the analysis of the creation and use of images in biomedical knowledge and practice as well as their social conditions and consequences.

