An Audience with the Law: An exploration of the notion and role of the audience in the Law and its theoretical and metaphysical/ontological foundations

It is commonly held in legal theory (and practice) that law is an artifact, that it is an artificial creation of human will. Despite this widely held belief, philosophical analyses of law and its nature rarely look to the nature and metaphysics of artifacts more generally. My thesis begins from the assumption that law is an artifact and explores what implications this has for law’s nature. It contends that the analyses of artifacts found in mainstream philosophy of metaphysics can be fruitfully applied to the analysis of law’s nature.