University of Texas at Dallas Arts & Humanities Spring 2024

Contemporary Art AHST 3318-001 (28096) Dr. Charissa N. Terranova We 1:00-3:45 JO 4.614 terranova@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: By appointment Office Location: ATC. 2.704

> 04/03/2024 Conceptual Art

Conceptual Art Dematerialization Language



Lucy Lippard and John Chandler, "The Dematerialization of Art," Art International Vol. 12, no. 2 (February 1968), pp. 31-36 The era of Conceptual art – which was also the era of the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, the Women's Liberation Movement and the counter-culture – was a free-for-all, and the democratic implications of that phrase are fully appropriate, if never realized.

-- Lucy Lippard



During the 1960s the anti-intellectual, emotional intuitive processes of art-making characteristic of the last two decades have begun to give way to an ultra-conceptual art that emphasizes the thinking process almost exclusively. As more and more work is designed in the studio, but executed elsewhere by professional craftsmen, as the object becomes merely the end product, a number of artists are losing interest in the physical evolution of the work of art. The studio is again becoming a study. Such a trend appears to be provoking a profound dematerialization of art, especially of art as an object, and if it continues to prevail, it may result in the object's becoming wholly obsolete.

Lucy Lippard and John Chandler, "The Dematerialization of Art," Art International, Vol. 12, no. 2 (February 1968), pp. 31-36. "Conceptual art means...work in which the idea is paramount and the material form is secondary, lightweight, cheap, unpretentious and/or 'dematerialized'."

-- Lippard and Chandler

## FLATBED PICTURE PLANE (1972) Leo Steinberg

Robert Rauschenberg, Monogram, 1957-59

COMBINE



The all-purpose picture plane underlying this post-Modernist painting has made the course of art once again non-linear and unpredictable. What I have called the flatbed is more than a surface distinction if it is understood as a change within painting that changed the relationship between artist and image, image and viewer. Yet this internal change is no more than a symptom of changes which go far beyond questions of picture planes, or of painting as such. It is part of a shakeup which contaminates all purified categories. The deepening inroads of art into non-art continue to alienate the connoisseur as art defects and departs into strange territories leaving the old stand-by criteria to rule an eroding plain.

This picture plane, as in the enormous canvas called Overdraw (1963), could look like some garbled conflation of controls system and cityscape, suggesting the ceaseless inflow of urban message, stimulus, and impediment. To hold all this together, Rauschenberg's picture plane had to become a surface to which anything reachable-thinkable would adhere. It had to be whatever a billboard or dashboard is, and everything a projection screen is, with further affinities for anything that is flat and worked over—palimpsest, canceled plate, printer's proof, trial blank, chart, map, aerial view. Any flat documentary surface that tabulates information is a relevant analogue of his picture plane—radically different from the transparent projection plane with its optical correspondence to man's visual field. And it seemed at times that Rauschenberg's work surface stood for the mind itself—dump, reservoir, switching center, abundant with concrete references freely associated as in an internal monologue—the outward symbol of the mind as a running transformer of the external world, constantly ingesting incoming unprocessed data to be mapped in an overcharged field.



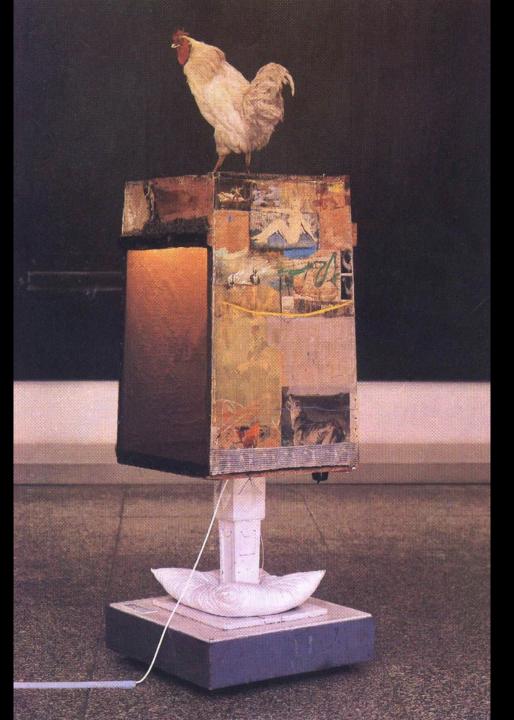
#### Robert Rauschenberg, Overdraw, 1963



Robert Rauschenberg, Overdraw, 1963



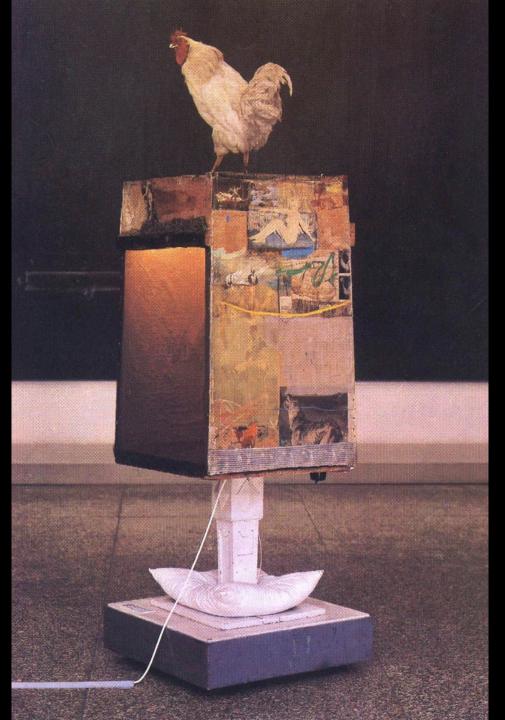
Jasper Johns (far right) and Robert Rauschenberg (far left)



January 12–February 6, 1959: Rauschenberg participates in *Art and the Found Object*, Time-Life Reception Center, New York. Exhibits *Odalisk* (1955/1958), *Gloria* (1956), and *Interior* (1956). Rauschenberg purchases a ready-made by Marcel Duchamp, *Bottle Rack* (1914, fourth version 1960), from the exhibition for \$3



Left: Rauschenberg, Odalisk, 1956/59 Right: Marcel Duchamp, Bottle Rack (Readymade), 1914





#### Left: Rauschenberg, Odalisk, 1956/59 Right: Marcel Duchamp, Bottle Rack (Readymade), 1914

Odalisk is a painting and afreestanding Combine that rests on the floor like a sculpture. It is a vertical construction made from a box open on two sides, topped with a rooster, and fastened to a white post mounted on a board with casters. A pillow is inserted between the white post and the base. The stuffed bird, a recurring theme in the Combines, moves from the global structure of the artwork into the actual space. The rooster is an obvious sexual allusion, the phallic complement to the odalisk figure. The artwork is covered with collages of images of female nudes from magazine photos and reproductions of erotic paintings – like Love and Psyche (1817) by François-Edouard Picot and Pastoral Concert (1509) attributed to Giorgione or the young Titian – echoing the motif of the recumbent concubine in a harem, reflected in the title Odalisk.

http://mediation.centrepompidou.fr/education/ressources/ENS-Rauschenberg-EN/ENS-rauschenberg-EN.htm



## COMBINE/ASSEMBLAGE

## HAPPENING/PERFORMANCE/EVENT SCORES

SYSTEMS

## LANGUAGE

CONCEPTUALISM

#### Homes for America

#### D. GRAHAM

Belieplain	Garde
Brocklawn	Garde
Coloria	Green
Colonia Manor	Island
Fair Haven	Levito
Fair Laws	Middl
Gimentields Village	New (
Green Village	Pinet
Paireboro	Plaim
Plasmant Grove	Pland
Presenant Plains	Pleas
Sumat Hill Garden	Pleas

len City len City Park d Park own City Park Lawn dome Manor antside antville

110

the set of brasing developments conthe state of the second second in the second science in southerns California speculators or 'opmany buildes adapted mass production techtons under overconcentrated there. This Commun Method consisted simply of deter the second bases the exact amount and lengths of present handler and multiplying them by the matter of standardized houses to be built. A statistics we set up near the site of the pro-sign lamber into those sizes. By granter use of userhines and factory mailtonic gasts, assembly hor standardization,



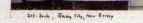


Sant in Courses, at - Erne



"The Serande" - Cape Catal and the

Each house in a development is a highly con-structed Miell although this fact is ultren con-readed by false fullfortune breck walls. Shells tun be added or solutinetted each. The standard unit is a how or a series of boxes, sometimes contemptionsly called 'pillboxes. When the hors has a sharply oblique root it is called a Cape Cod-When it is longer than wale it is a 'ranch.' A



The logic relating each sectioned part to the ea-tire plan follows a systematic plan. A develop-ment contains a limited, set number of house models. For instance, Cape Caral, a Florida pro-ject, advertises eight different models.

A The Sonata B The Concerto C The Overture D The Ballet E The Frelude F The Serenade G The Noctune II The Rhapsody



Cantes Court , Onlynness, Development, Dening City as of

In addition, there is a choice of eight exterior colors; 1 White 2 Monastone Grey



4 Scafoam Green 5 Lawn Green 6 Bamboo 7 Coral Pink 8 Colonial Red

As the color series usually varies independently of the model series, a block of eight houses infi-izing four models and four colors might have forty eight times forty-eight or 2.004 possible arraugements.





#### Dan Graham, Homes for America, 1966-67

#### two-story house is usually called 'colonial.' If it becatory insise is usually called column. If, it consists of contigoous bayes, with one slightly higher elecation it is a split level. Such stylatic offlerentiation is advantageous to the lassic struc-ture (with the possible exception of the split level whose plan simplifies construction on discon-tinuous ground levels).

Tors Calatons Barrarys , 'Tas Marra Marra', Barray Coby ardi-

which are two boxes split by adjoining walls and baving separate entrances. The left and right basic units reparate entrances. The set and right basic units are instruct respectivelyings of each oth-er. Often sold as private units are strings of apartment-like, quasi-discrete cells formed be subdividing laterally an estended rectangelar parallelopiped into as many as ten or twelve sep-arate dwellings.

Developers usually build large groups of judy-vidual houses sharing smithar floor plane and whose overall grouping possessis a diverse floor plan. Regional shorping centers and industrial parks are sometimes integrated as well into the general scheme. Each development is excinued to block-docust areas containing a sories of iden-tical or sequentially related types of houses all of which how universe or streamed as development. which have uniform or staggered set-backs and land plots.

There is a recent trend toward 'two home homes'

3 Nickle

Dan Markon

#### Homes for America D. ORAHAM

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Garden City Garden City Park Graentawn Island Park Aiddiaville New City Park Plantioms Manor "leasenteide Pleasantville

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"The Sawaness" - Cape Cotel month , MA.

Each house in a development is a lightly con-structed shell although this fact is after con-realed by fake (ballistion) betck walks. Sinch can be added or subtracted costy. The standard must is a have or a series of howev, concethney con-negations of called spillbrase. When the how has a sharply oblique root it is called a Cape Cad. When it is longer than wide it is a rareb. A

They blows blows, ", Tarry Coby and

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A The Sonata

B The Concerto C The Overture

D The Ballet E The Prelude

F The Serenade

G The Noetone II The Rhapsud

1 White

3 Nickle

2 Moonstone Grey

4 Scafoam Green

5 Lawn Green

S Colonial Red

ratagements.

Dan Martin

6 Bambou 7 Coral Pink

ek of houses is a self-contained sequence is no development - selected from the acceptable arrangements. As an ex-if a section was to contain eight houses of ar model types were to be used, any of

mal possibilities could be used:

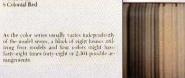




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	AACCDDBB	ACDBACDB
	AADDCCBB	ADBCADBC
	AADDBBCC	ADCBADCB
	BBAADDCC	BACDBACD
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	DDBBCCAA	DBCADBCA
	DDCCAABB	DCABDCAB
	DDCCBBAA	DCBADCBA

in addition, there is a choice of eight exterior





Dan Graham, Homes for America, 1966-67

The 8 color variables were equally distributed among the house exteriors. The first buyers were more likely to have obtained their first choice in color. Family units had to make a choice based on the available colors which also took account of both husband and wife's likes and dislikes. Adult male and female color likes and dislikes were compared in a survey of the homeowners:

Female

Fawi

'Like' Male Skyway Colonial Red Skyway Blue Lawn Green Patio White Nickle Colonial Red Yellow Chiffor Lawn Green Yellow Chiffon Nickle Patio White Fawn Moonstone Grey Moonstone Grey



Two Family Units States Extand, NºY.

Dislike	
Male	Femal
Lawn Green Colonial Red Patio White Moonstone Grey Fawn Fawn Cellow Chiffon Nickle Sickle	Patio Whit Faw Colonial Re Moonstone Gre Yellow Chiffo Lawn Gree Skyway blu Nickl



A given development might use, perhaps, four of these possibilities as an arbitrary scheme for different sectors; then select four from another scheme which utilizes the remaining four unused models and colors; then select four from another scheme which utilizes all eight models and eight colors: then four from another scheme which utilizes a single model and all eight colors (or four or two colors); and finally utilize that single scheme for one model and one color. This serial logic might follow consistently until, at the edges. it is abruptly terminated by pre-existent high-ways, bowling alleys, shopping plazas, car hops,





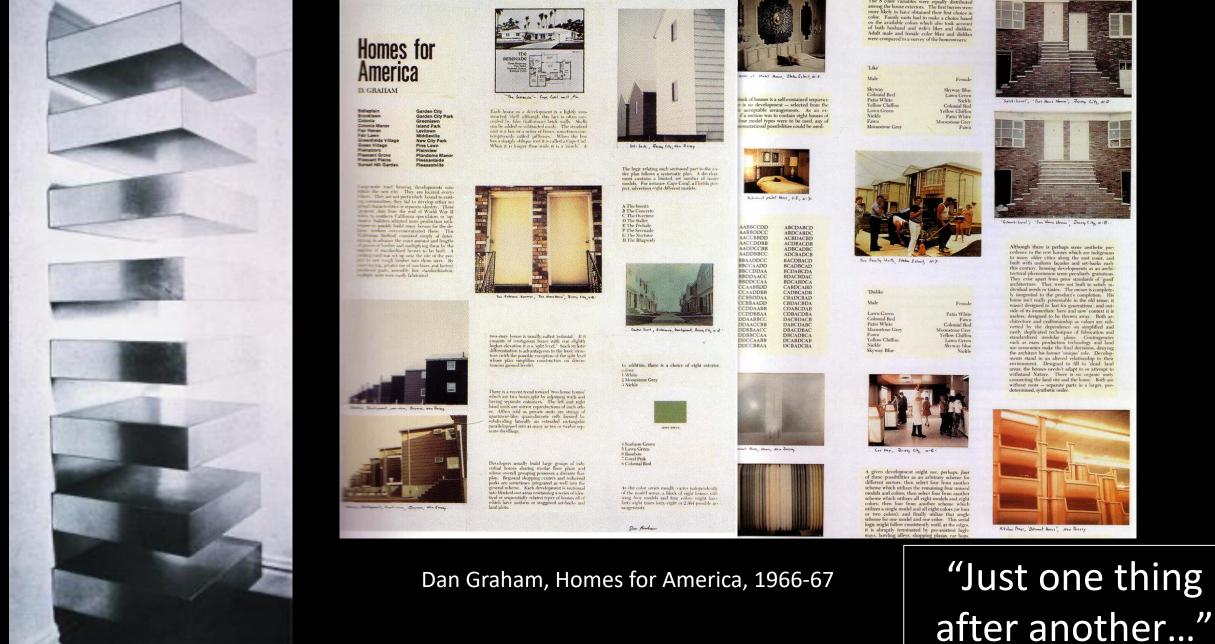
"Grand-Level", "Two Homes Homes", Jusy City, N.J.

Although there is perhaps some aesthetic pre-cedence in the row houses which are indigenous to many older cities along the east coast, and built with uniform façades and set-backs early this century, housing developments as an architectural phenomenon seem peculiarly gratuitous. They exist apart from prior standards of 'good' architecture. They were not built to satisfy individual needs or tastes. The owner is completeby tangential to the product's completion. His home isn't really possessable in the old sense; it wasn't designed to 'last for generations', and outside of its immediate 'here and now' context it is useless, designed to be thrown away. Both architecture and craftsmanship as values are sub-verted by the dependence on simplified and easily duplicated techniques of fabrication and standardized modular plans. Contingencies such as mass production technology and land use economics make the final decisions, denying the architect his former 'unique' role. Developments stand in an altered relationship to their environment. Designed to fill in 'dead' land areas, the houses needn't adapt to or attempt to withstand Nature. There is no organic unity connecting the land site and the home. Both are without roots - separate parts in a larger, pre-determined, synthetic order.



Kitchen Trays, 'Direment House', New Jersey

#### STRUCTURE OF INFORMATION



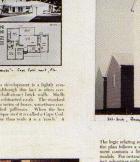
**Donald Judd** 

Donald Judd, Iron Stacks, 1965-8

















DCBADCBA

DDCCBBAA





Colonial Re Patio White

cellow Chiffo

### then select four from anothe





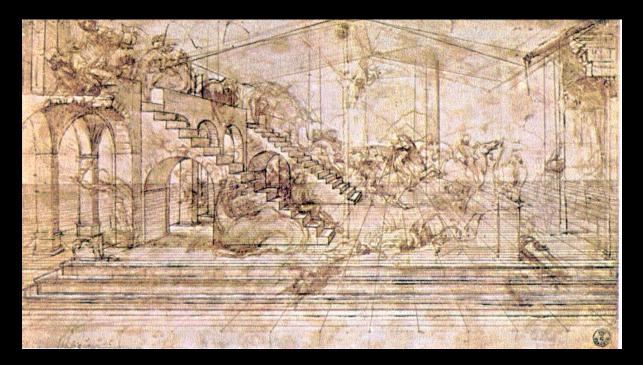
male color likes and dislike

published appearance of art ("Minimal" in this case) as place conceived, however, solely in terms of information to be construed by the reader in a massreadable-then-disposable contextdocument in place of the fact...Place in my article is decomposed into multiple and overlapping points of reference – mapped 'points of interest – in a two dimensional point 'grid'. There is a 'shell' present placed between the external 'empty' material of place and the interior

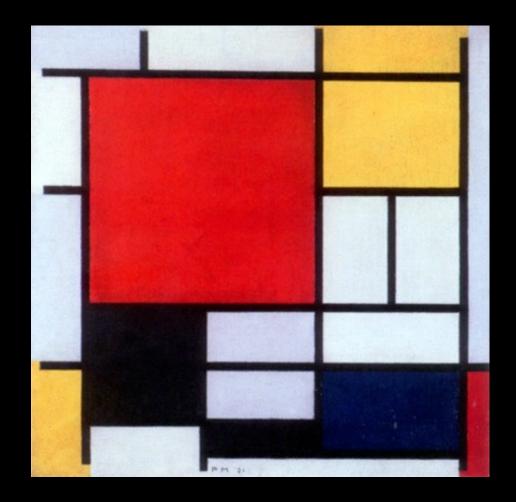
Graham says: "This was the first

'empty' material of language; a complex of interlocking network of systems whose variants take place as information present (and) as (like) the medium – information – (in) itself."

Dan Graham, Homes for America, 1966-67



Leonardo da Vinci, Adoration of the Magi, 1481 Painting and the GRID



Piet Mondrian, Composition with Red, Yellow, Blue, and Black1921Painting and the GRID



Dan Graham, Figurative, 1969

ALL

BY

Factures you think 18-year-olds books come, your surfew should be littled and math be outlawed

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and an internally worn sanitary protocolor. Tampas Lampons. Why does a girl with a mind of bar seen on along with women all over the world?

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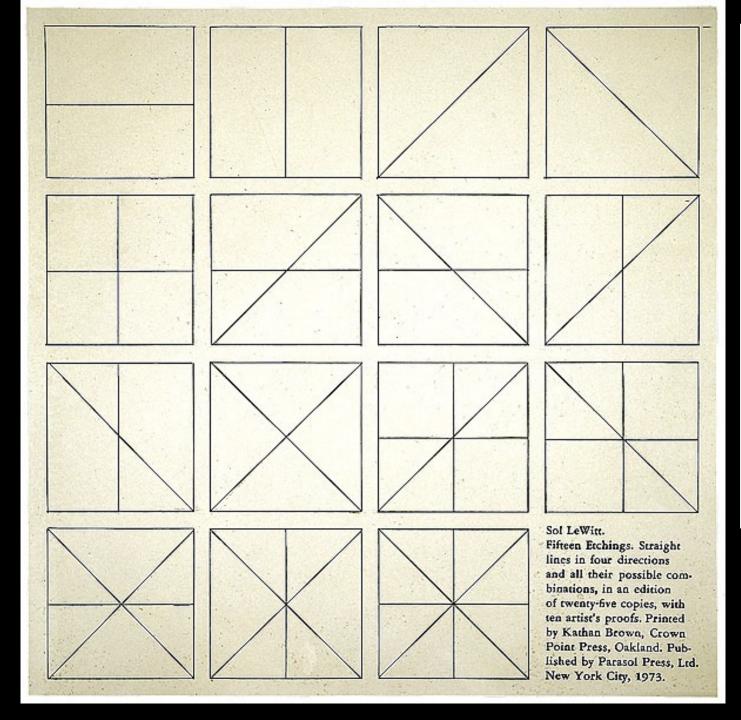
unt Tempax tampons today.

THERE TAMPOND ARE MADE ONLY BY



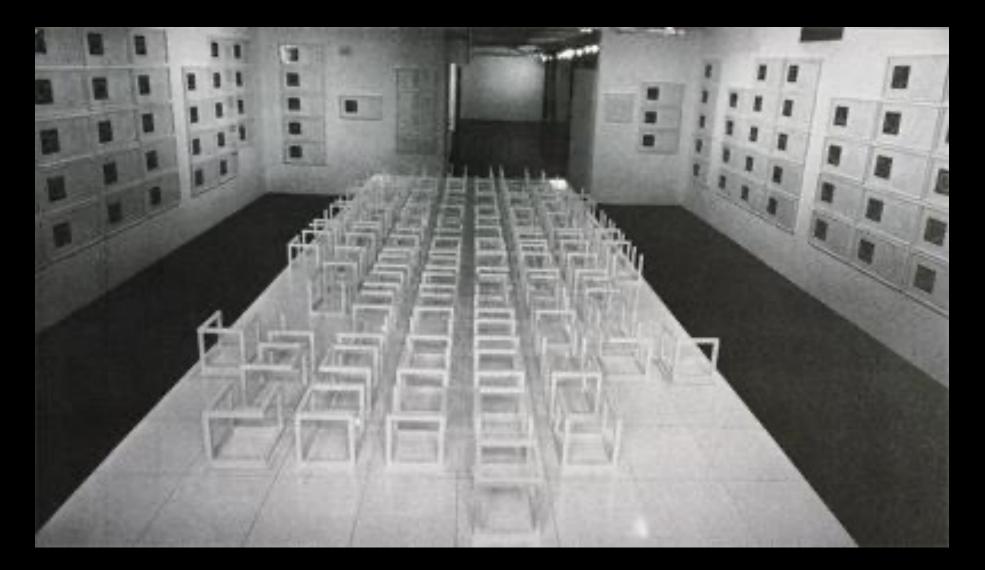
The linchpin of Sol LeWitt's work is the "structure": both the literal materiality of art but also the structures of discourse, language, and institutions.

Sol LeWitt, Untitled, 1966



With the Title Page from Straight Lines in Four Directions and All Their Possible Combinations, a portfolio of etchings, we find the basic and elemental square shot through with an aesthetic of information. Though part of portfolio of etching, it is reminiscent of his book art. The art book is a Conceptualist genre rooted in dada and Surrealism. Artist's books are meant to facilitate the easy dissemination, delivery and consumption of ideas...revolutionary ideas. As LeWitt explained: "Artist's books are, like any other medium, a means of conveying art ideas from the artist to the viewer/reader. Unlike most other media they are available to all at a low cost. They do not need a special place to be seen. They are not valuable except for the ideas they contain. Art shows come and go but books stay around years."

Sol LeWitt, Title page from Straight Lines in Four Directions and All Their Possible Combinations, 1973



Sol LeWitt, All Variations of Incomplete Open Cubes, 1974 122 Permutations

#### Sentences on Conceptual Art by Sol Lewitt

- 1.Conceptual artists are mystics rather than rationalists. They leap to conclusions that logic cannot reach.
- 2.Rational judgements repeat rational judgements.
- 3.Irrational judgements lead to new experience.
- 4.Formal art is essentially rational.
- 5. Irrational thoughts should be followed absolutely and logically.
- 6. If the artist changes his mind midway through the execution of the piece he compromises the result and repeats past results.
- 7. The artist's will is secondary to the process he initiates from idea to completion. His wilfulness may only be ego.
- 8. When words such as painting and sculpture are used, they connote a whole tradition and imply a consequent acceptance of this tradition, thus placing limitations on the artist who would be reluctant to make art that goes beyond the limitations.
- 9. The concept and idea are different. The former implies a general direction while the latter is the component. Ideas implement the concept.
- 10.Ideas can be works of art; they are in a chain of development that may eventually find some form. All ideas need not be made physical.
- 11.Ideas do not necessarily proceed in logical order. They may set one off in unexpected directions, but an idea must necessarily be completed in the mind before the next one is formed.
- 12.For each work of art that becomes physical there are many variations that do not.
- 13.A work of art may be understood as a conductor from the artist's mind artist to another may induce an idea chain, if they share the same concept.
- 14. The words of one artist to another may induce an idea chain, if they share the same concept.
- 15. Since no form is intrinsically superior to another, the artist may use any form, from an expression of words (written or spoken) to physical reality, equally.
- 16.If words are used, and they proceed from ideas about art, then they are art and not literature; numbers are not mathematics.
- 17.All ideas are art if they are concerned with art and fall within the conventions of art.
- 18.One usually understands the art of the past by applying the convention of the present, thus misunderstanding the art of the past.
- 19. The conventions of art are altered by works of art.

20.Successful art changes our understanding of the conventions by altering our perceptions.

21.Perception of ideas leads to new ideas.

- 22. The artist cannot imagine his art, and cannot perceive it until it is complete.
- 23. The artist may misperceive (understand it differently from the artist) a work of art but still be set off in his own chain of thought by that misconstrual.

24.Perception is subjective.

- 25. The artist may not necessarily understand his own art. His perception is neither better nor worse than that of others.
- 26.An artist may perceive the art of others better than his own.
- 27. The concept of a work of art may involve the matter of the piece or the process in which it is made.

28.Once the idea of the piece is established in the artist's mind and the final form is decided, the process is carried out blindly. There are many side effects that the artist cannot imagine. These may be used as ideas for new works.

- 29. The process is mechanical and should not be tampered with. It should run its course.
- 30. There are many elements involved in a work of art. The most important are the most obvious.
- 31.If an artist uses the same form in a group of works, and changes the material, one would assume the artist's concept involved the material.
- 32.Banal ideas cannot be rescued by beautiful execution.
- 33.It is difficult to bungle a good idea.
- 34. When an artist learns his craft too well he makes slick art.
- 35. These sentences comment on art, but are not art.

First published in 0-9 (New York), 1969, and Art-Language (England), May 1969



Robert Barry, Inert Gas Series, Argon, 1969

Barry uses "nothing" as a palette: "There something about void and emptiness which I am personally very concerned with. Nothing seems to me the most potent thing in the world."

He is preoccupied with representing the unseeable and invisible.



Robert Barry, Inert Gas Series, Helium, 1969

"The 'Inert Gas' pieces were an attempt to use material - inert gas - which is an undetectable material, you can't smell it or see it, and use this material to create a kind of large environmental sculpture, if you will. It was one of the last works that I did in '69, where I actually used physical material. And so it was a kind of transitional work, in that I was still using material, even though one's understanding of the work and appreciation really had to be totally mental. One would have to use one's imagination. I used inert gas - neon, helium, xenon, krypton - because they were, first of all, called the "noble gases". I always thought they were sort of romantic. They were completely unknown about 100 years ago, we didn't know they existed, and yet we breathe them in and exhale them, we live around them and move in these inert gases. They have very beautiful names, like "new", "hidden" their names in Greek are quite nice. So, I just kind of liked that as a material. And we take it from the atmosphere - we can't manufacture them – they're in the atmosphere, so they must be removed from the atmosphere. They're used in industry they're used for certain kinds of lighting. If an electrical charge is put into neon, for instance, it creates a certain kind of light, which is what they're used for primarily, but there are other uses for them. So it was a very interesting material for me to work with and I felt that this was something that I could deal with and fit into what I was trying to do at the time." -- Robert Barry

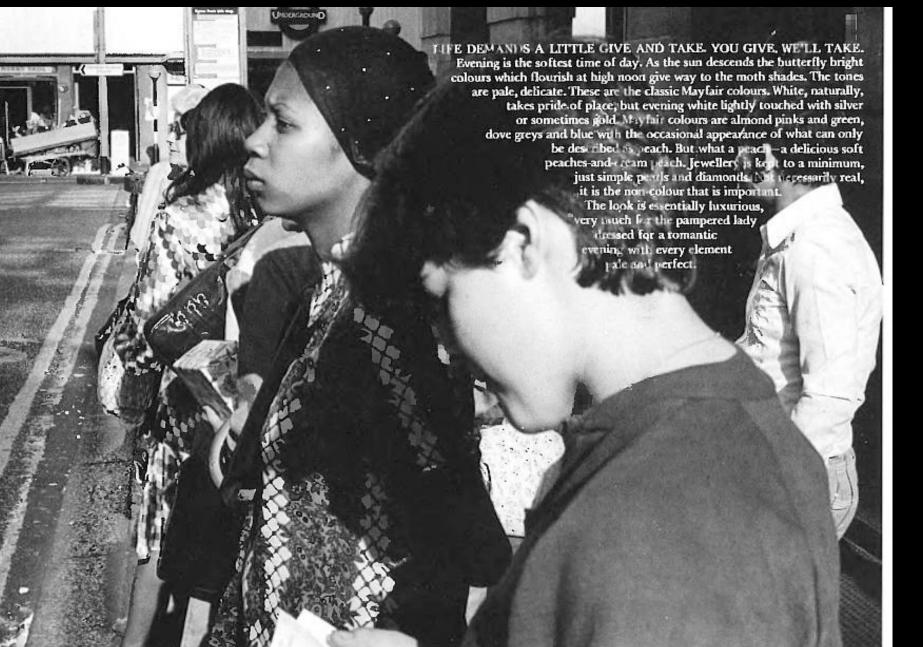


#### Robert Barry, Inert Gas Series, Helium, 1969

# SOME PLACES TO WHICH WE CAN COME AND FOR A WHILE. "BE FREE THINK ABOUT WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO" (MARCUSE)

Robert Barry, Marcuse Piece, 1970 -- From German philosopher Herbert Marcuse's "An Essay on Liberation:" 'Some places to which we can come and for a while "be free to think about what we are going to do".'





Victor Burgin, Life Demands a Little Give and Take, 1974 PHOTOCONCEPTUALISM

REPET	ITION	
REPETITION, REPRO-	REOCLURANCE, RECAP-	
DUKTION, DUPLICATION	ITULATION, REITERATION	
REDUPLICATION, RE-	RESTATE MENT, RE-	
DOUBLING, RELVERENCE,	VIEW, REHASH, REASSERT	
REAFFIRMATION, REDUNDAN		
DILOGY, REPETIOUS-	PITTER-PATTER, RE-	
NESS, REPETITIVENESS	· PEAT, CHORUS, DUP-	
MONÓTONY, MONOTONE,	LICATE, REPRODUCE,	
TEDIUM, HUMDRUM, DING-L	ONG, SINGSONG, REPETOND,	
REDUPLICATE, RE-	DO IT AGAIN, GO OVER	
DOUBLE, DITTO, COME	DWELL UPOW, SING	
AGAIN, REPEAT ONE-	THE SAME OLD SONG,	
SELF, RETELL, RESTATE,	RUN OVER AGAIN, DO IT	
AGAIN, NEVER HEAR	AGAIN AND AGAIN,	
THE LAST OF IT, GO	RECUR, REOCCUR,	
OVER AND OVER,	OFTEN, FREQUENTLY,	
ELABORATE, REPEAT,	TIME AFTER TIME,	
TIMES WITOUT NUMBER, Y	IEAR AFTER YEAR, DAY	
AFTER DAY, MANY	BY DAY, A NUMBER	
TIMES, RECURRENT,	OF TIMES, RETURN	
RECURRING, RE-	ING, REAPPEARING	
TURNING, REAPPEARING	, EVER- RECURRING	
THICK COMING, FRE-	THICKCOMING, FKET	
QUENT, INCESSANT	QUENT, INCESSANT,	
OVER, OVER-AGAIN,	OVER, OJER-AGAIN,	
TWICE MORE, DITTO , ONCE -	MORE, DITTO, TWICE MORE,	
ENCOR E,		

"The question that interested me was, how do you use language and not wind up writing poetry? What transforms it from the literary to the visual?" -- Mel Bochner

#### Mel Bochner, Portrait of Robert Smithson, 1966



Robert Smithson: Partially Buried Wood Shed Kent State University, Ohio, 1970



Robert Smithson, Spiral Jetty, Great Salt Lake, Utah, 1970









REPET	ITION	
REPETITION, REPRO-	REOCLURANCE, RECAP-	
DUKTION, DUPLICATION	ITULATION, REITERATION	
REDUPLICATION, RE-	RESTATE MENT, RE-	
DOUBLING, RELVERENCE	VIEW, REHASH, REASSERT	
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RECURRING, RE-	ING, REAPPEARING	
TURNING, REAPPEARING	, EVER- RECURRING	
THICK COMING, FRE-	THICKCOMING, FKET	
QUENT, INCESSANT	QUENT, INCESSANT,	
OVER, OVER-AGAIN,	OVER, OJER-AGAIN,	
TWICE MORE, DITTO , ONCE -	MORE, DITTO, TWICE MORE,	
ENCOR E,		

"The question that interested me was, how do you use language and not wind up writing poetry? What transforms it from the literary to the visual?" -- Mel Bochner

#### Mel Bochner, Portrait of Robert Smithson, 1966

ob-jec'tive, 1. Of or pertaining to an object. 2. Characterized by emphasis upon or the tendency to view events, phenomena, ideas, efc., as external and apart from self-conciousness; not subjective; hence detached ... 6. a. Philos. Contained in, or having the nature or status, of an object, or something cognized or cognizable; as to render an abstraction objective. b. Existing independent of mind; pertaining to an object as it is in itself or as distinguished trom conclousness or the subject, -Syn. see FAIR: MATERIAL

Mel Bochner, Portrait of Donald Judd, 1966





Left: After Hans Holbein the Younger, Henry VIII, 1536/37 Right: Gilbert Stuart, Portrait of Horatio Gates, 1793-94



Hans Holbein the Younger, The Ambassadors, or Jean de Dinteville and Georges de Selve, 1533

### MEMENTO MORI

ob-jec'tive, 1. Of or pertaining to an object. 2. Characterized by emphasis upon or the tendency to view events, phenomena, ideas, efc., as external and apart from self-conciousness; not subjective; hence detached ... 6. a. Philos. Contained in , or having the nature or status, of an object, or something cognized or cognizable; as to render an abstraction objective. b. Existing independent of mind; pertaining to an object as it is in itself or as distinguished From conclousness or the subject, -Syn. see FAIR : MATERIAL

Left: Mel Bochner, Portrait of Donald Judd, 1966 Right: Donald Judd, Untitled, 1966



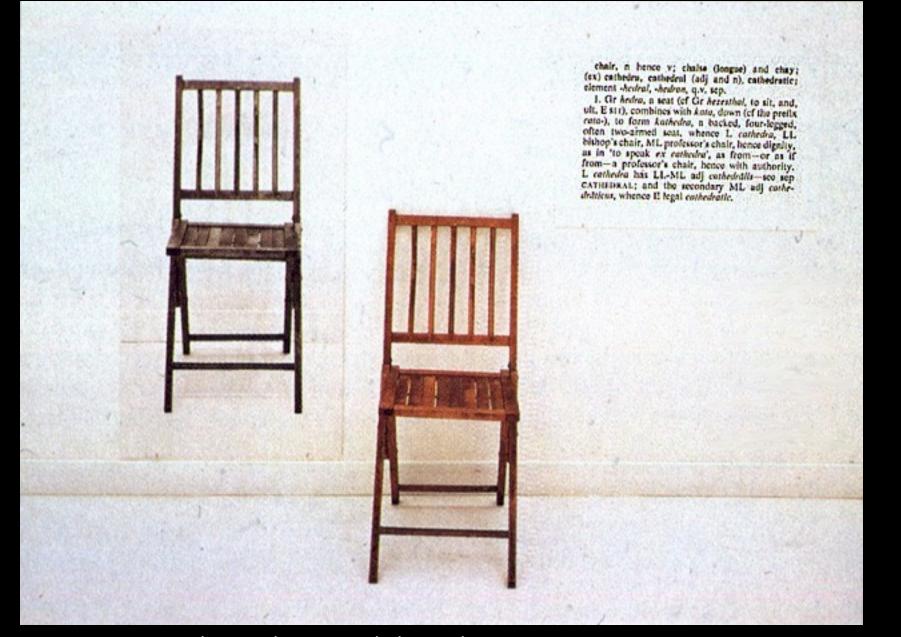
Alfaville, Godard's Apocalypse by MEL BOCHNER	A centrally located circular light, too intense to look at, blinks on and off at regular intervals. The sound track opens in a raspy, monotone: "Sometimes reality is too complex Piction gives it form"	"In a series of pictures he transforms the nothingness of listless and uniform days into an oppressive condition of repugnancy, bore- dom, Jalse hopes, paralyzing disappoint- ments and pitcous Jears. Nothing happens but that nothing becomes heavy-a grey and random human destiny moving towards its end." Erich Auerbach on Flaubert's Madame Bovary.
Alphaville Locations: Deserted lobbies, parking lots, shopping plazas, cloverleaf in- tersections, curtain-wall buildings, self-serv- ice clevators, hotel bathrooms, phone booths, circular staircases, highways around large cities, a bedroom with a juke box.	"My movies are blocks."—Jean-Luc Godard. CAST: Lemmy CautionEddie Constantine Natasha von BraunAkim Tamiroff	Alfaville — ruled by a mad physicis outcast from earth governed by a computer, "Alfa 60," which acts always in the "common good" phenomena maintained by a "crisis constant" the state provides strangers with womer anxiety as an operational value behaviorism for Alfa 60 the boundary of life is language "There is nothing else to experience except words; as long as words keep their meanings and meaning its words" political exceu- tions are carried out in a swimming pool.
10		

### STRUCTURE OF INFORMATION

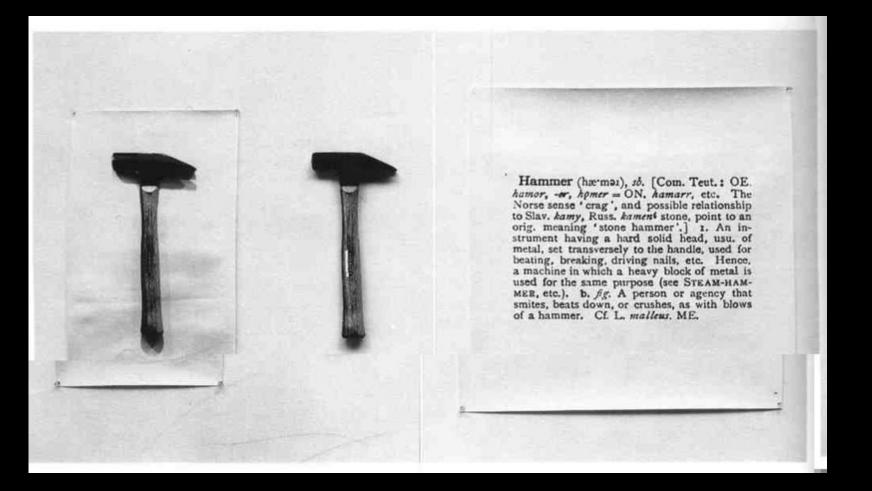
### THE GRID

# With Alfaville, the "movie stars are found objects."

Mel Bochner, Alfaville, Godard's Apocalypse, 1968



#### Joseph Kosuth, One and Three Chairs, 1965



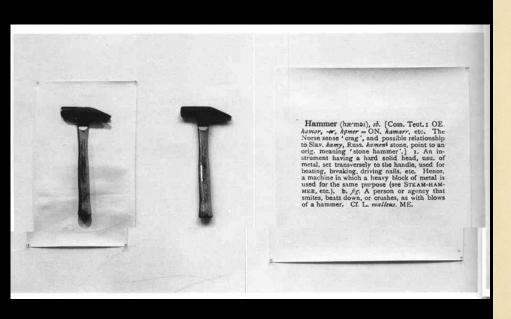
### EPISTEMOLOGY

### LANGUAGE

### SEMIOTICS

## CONCEPTUAL ART

#### Kosuth, One and Three Hammers, 1965



Kosuth, One and Three Hammers, 1965



Ceci n'est pas une pipe.

magnitte

Magritte, Treachery of Images, 1929

Art (ait), sb. ME. [a. OF. :- L. artem, prob. f. ar- to fit. The OF. ars, nom. (sing. and pl.), was also used.] I. Skill. Sing. art; no pl. 1. gen. Skill as the result of knowledge and prac-2. Human skill (opp. to nature) ME. tice. 3. The learning of the schools ; see 11. 1. ta. spec. The trivium, or any of its subjects -1573. b. gen. Learning, science (arch.) 1588. 14. spec. Technical or professional skill -1677. 5. The application of skill to subjects of taste, as poetry, music, etc.; esp. in mod. use: Perfection of workmanship or execution as an object in itself 1620. 6. Skill applied to the arts of imitation and design, Painting, Architecture, etc.; the cultivation of these in its principles, practice, and results. (The most usual mod. sense of art when used simply.) 1668.

Joseph Kosuth, Art as Ideas as Art, 1967

"I felt I had found a way to make art without formal components being confused for an expressionist composition. The expression was in the ideas, not the form – the forms were only a device in the service of the idea."

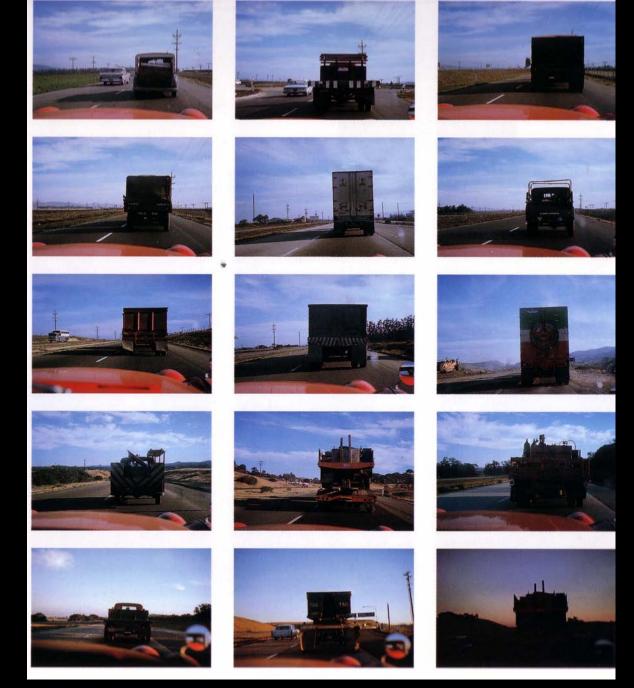
Joseph Kosuth



Joseph Kosuth, Place des Écritures, (Copy of Rosetta Stone), 1991, Figeac, France, birthplace of Jean-François Champollion, Egyptologist and decipherer of hieroglyphs Rosetta Stone, 196 BCE, decree on behalf of Ptolemy V in two written languages (Egyptian and Greek), using three scripts (hieroglyphic, demotic and Greek) (45 × 28.5 × 11 in)

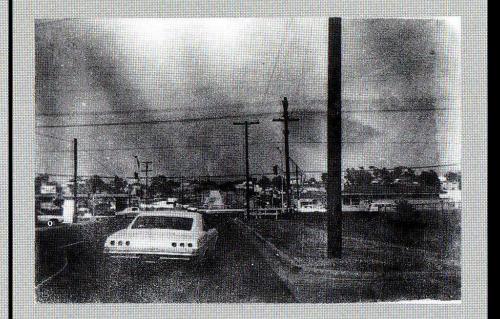


and the second TOTAL STATE SERVICE STATE STATES FREE THEE EXCORDER PORT TAR TO AFFEN COM ENDER FARE FERENTED TO THE CALENT AEXIME MINENED STREET EFASTHIZ KANTHIZZAN IKAIT TON AND HZAZERS ATTO SPIE TIKON NKFATGS FALT MAN



John Baldessari, The Back of All the Trucks While Driving from Los Angeles to Santa Barbara, 1963





#### ECON - O - WASH 14 TH AND HIGHLAND NATIONAL CITY CALIF.

LOOKING EAST ON 4TH AND C CHULA VISTA, CALIF.

John Baldessari, National City Series, 1966-68

QUALITY MATERIAL ---

CAREFUL INSPECTION --

GOOD WORKMANSHIP.

ALL COMBINED IN AN EFFORT TO GIVE YOU A PERFECT PAINTING.

John Baldessari, Quality Material, 1966-68 TERMS MOST USEFUL IN DESCRIBING CREATIVE WORKS OF ART:

GIVE VISION ENJOY DIRECTION CHARM FLAVOR INFLUENCE A NEW SLANT INTEREST FORCE DELIGHT UNIQUENESS AROUSE PERMANENCE COMMUNICATE INSPIRATION CULTIVATE A GLOW NURTURE PLAN INTELLIGENTLY MOTIVATION ENCHANTMENT DETACH TRANSFER BLEND CHALLENGE ENLIGHTEN ELEVATE INVIGORATE SATIATE ENTHRALL IMPROVE TAKE SERIOUSLY PRECISE CARE VALUE FLAGRANCE OUT OF THE ORDINARY

DISCIPLINE DELICATE COMMAND ATTENTION EXALT DEVELOP SATISFY BEAUTIFY IDENTIFY INSPIRE ORIGINATE CREATE ASSOCIATE CHERISH ALTER REVISE CRITICIZE IMPRESS IMPART

John Baldessari, Terms Most Useful in Describing Creative Works of Art, 1966-68

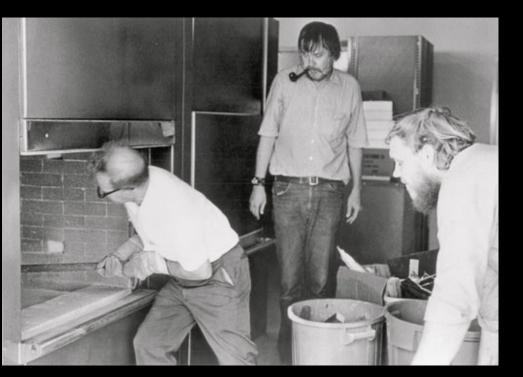


John Baldessari and friends, Cremation Project, 1970



The ashes from the paintings were baked into cookies and placed into an urn, and the resulting art installation consisted of a bronze commemorative plaque with the destroyed paintings' birth and death dates, as well as the recipe for making the cookie.





John Baldessari and friends, Cremation Project, 1970

### DESTRUCTION AS A CREATIVE TOOL

### DESTRUCTION AS GENERRATIVE



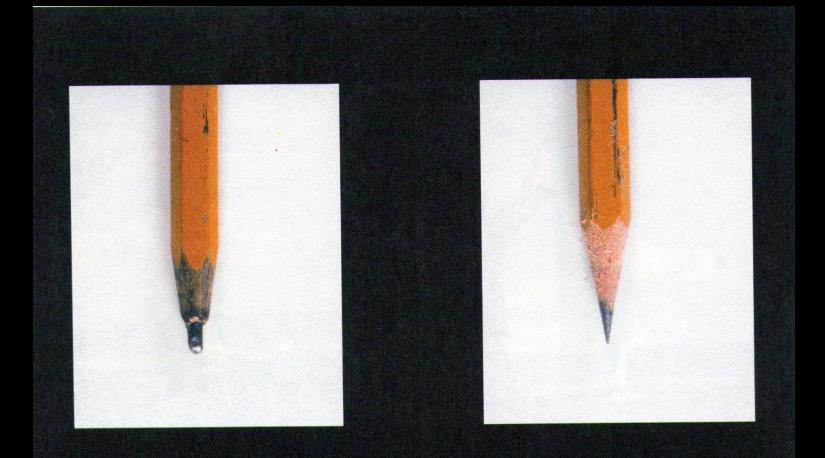


Jean Tinguely, Study for an End of the World, No. 2 , 1962

Jean Tinguely, Homage to New York, 1960

I will not make any more boung art. I will not make any more bound art. I will not make any more boring art. I will not make any more boing art. A will not make any more boring out. I will not make any more boring art. A well not make any more boring art. I will not make any more boring art. I will not make any more boring art. twill not make any more boring art. I will not make any more boing art. I will not make ong more boring art. A will not make any more boing art. I were not make any more bring art. of will not make ony more boring art. I will not make any more boring art.

John Baldessari, I Will Not Make Any More Boring Art, 1971



I HAD THIS OLD PENCIL ON THE DASHBOARD OF MY CAR FOR A LONG TIME. EVERY TIME I SAW IT, I FELT UNCOMFORTABLE SINCE ITS POINT WAS SO DULL AND DIRTY. I ALWAYS INTENDED TO SHARPEN IT AND FINALLY COULDN'T BEAR IT ANY LONGER AND DID SHARPEN IT. I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK THAT THIS HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH ART.

John Baldessari, The Pencil Story, 1972-73

#### Adrian Piper, My Calling Card, #1, 1986



#### Dear Friend,

I am black.

I am sure you did not realize this when you made/laughed at/agreed with that racist remark. In the past, I have attempted to alert white people to my racial identity in advance. Unfortunately, this invariably causes them to react to me as pushy, manipulative, or socially inappropriate. Therefore, my policy is to assume that white people do not make these remarks, even when they believe there are no black people present, and to distribute this card when they do.

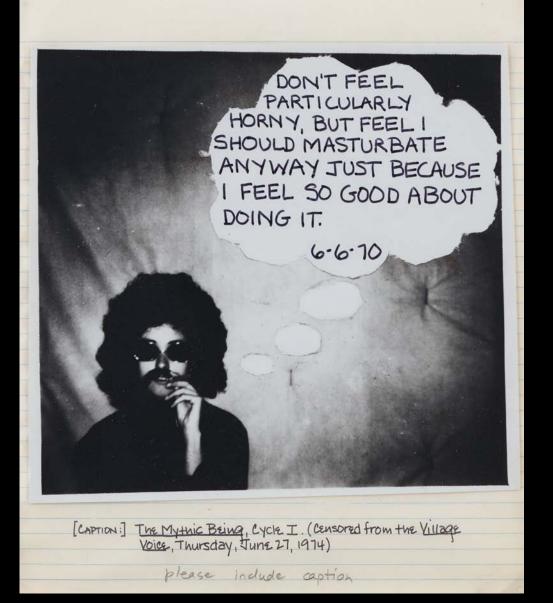
I regret any discomfort my presence is causing you, just as I am sure you regret the discomfort your racism is causing me.

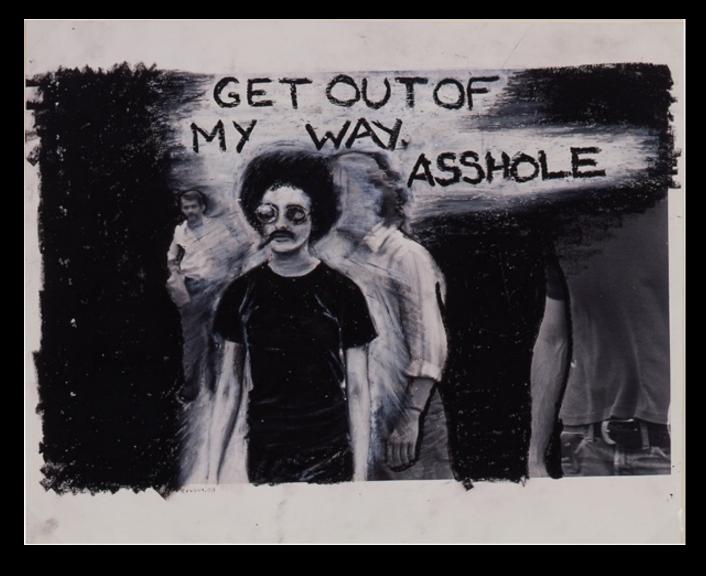




Adrian Piper, Catalysis III, 1970

Adrian Piper, Catalysis IV, 1971





#### Adrian Piper, The Mythic Being, Cycle I: 6/6/70 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVcXb8En Tw

#### Adrian Piper, I am the Locus (#5), 1975, oil crayon

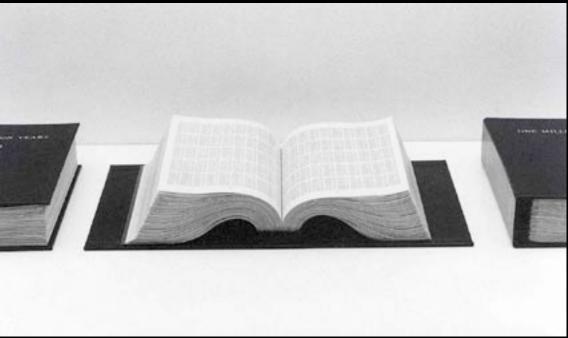


On Kawara, Date Painting, May 7, 1975

To make date paintings, Kawara works by a rigid set of self-imposed rules or constraints (think here about algorithms). The letters and numbers are always centralize on the rectangle, hand-painted in a basic sans serif font. The depth of each canvas is the same and each is painted on the sides where the canvas wraps round the edge of he stretcher. The process here involves the application of four or five coats of paint and outlining the date by hand. If Kawara does not finish a canvas by midnight, he destroys it. Once finished, the canvas is catalogued and then placed in a cardboard box especially made for its size alongside a clipping from a newspaper published in the same city and on the same day that the artist made the painting. History as recorded in daily events, whether global, national, or local, is bound together with the residues of individual activity and memorialized under the rubric of the date. In addition to the title, determined by the day on which the work was executed, a subtitle may be appended. These vary widely from diaristic notes to impersonal records, as the following examples from January 1966 attest: "I thought about memory and sense," "Janine came to my studio," "I am painting this painting," "USA began to bomb North Vietnam again."







One Million Years is made up of ten volumes inside of which one finds the recording of dates. Past - For all those who have lived and died Future - For the last one. The first volume "For all those who have lived and died" starts in 998031 BC and ends in 1969 AD, namely one million years later.

On Kawara, One Million Years – Past, 1971

This 24 CD boxed set was produced in association with the live reading and recording of "One Million Years (Past and Future)" by On Kawara (September 3 - November 23, 2002).

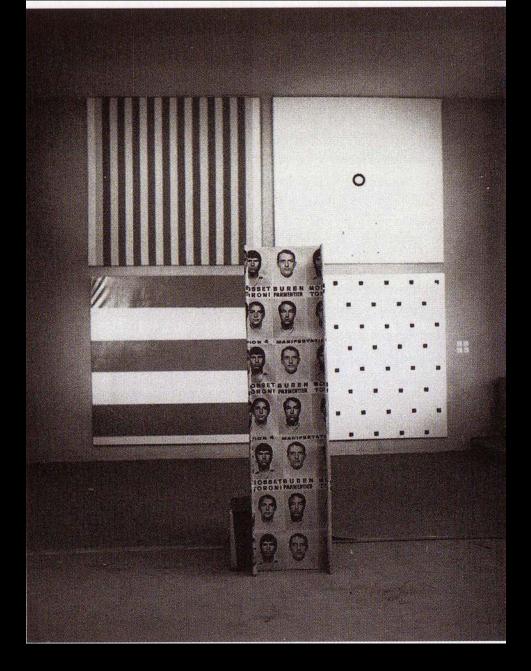


On Kawara, One Million Years –Future, 2002

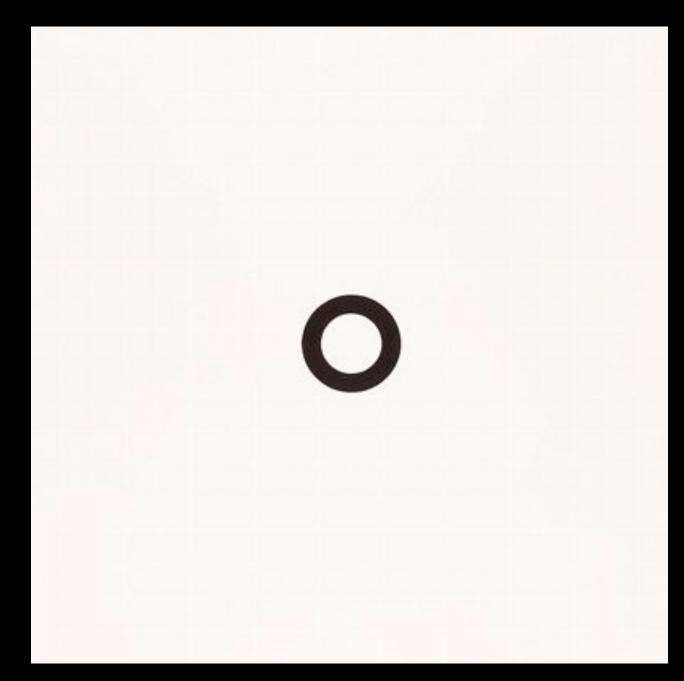


For Buren, Mosset, Parmentier and Toroni, "painting is no longer what art has always been: a distraction. It is no longer a blindfold placed in front of the spectator's eyes so that he doesn't have to look at reality. All that painting [as practised by BMPT] does is exist."

Installation of work by BMPT at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, 1967 Daniel Buren, Olivier Mosset, Michel Parmentier, and Niele Toroni



#### Installation of work by BMPT at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, 1967

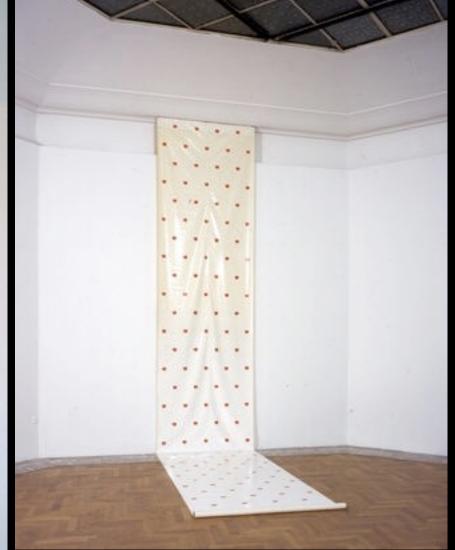


Olivier Mosset, Zero Degree Painting, One of over 200 identical paintings, 1966-1974

Roland Barthes, Writing Degree Zero, 1953



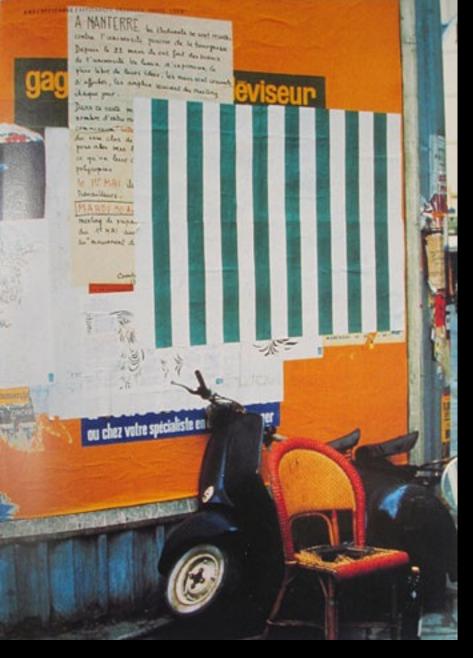
Niele Toroni's metric square brush strokes of oil on canvas

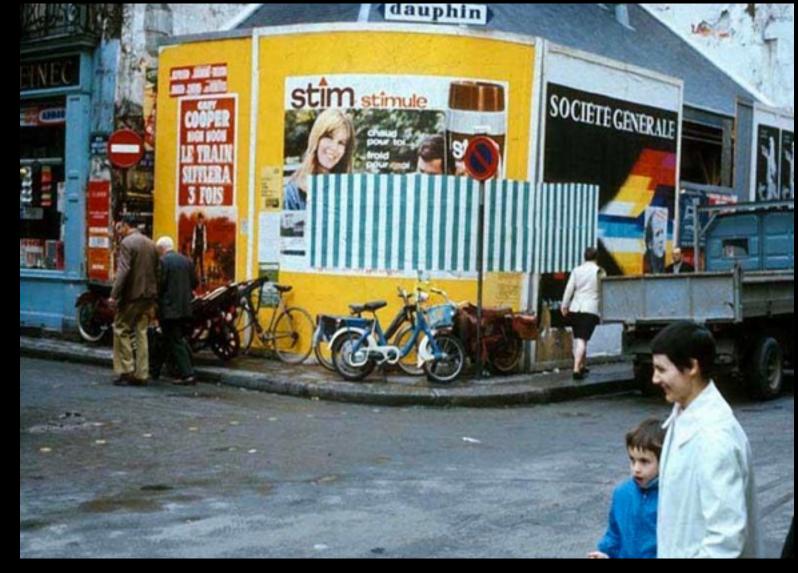


Niele Toroni – Imprints of a No. 50 Paintbrush Repeated at Regular Intervals of 30 cm., 1968



Michel Parmentier, Painting No. 10, 1965





Daniel Buren, Poster, (1 of 200 in Paris), 1968



Daniel Buren, Sandwich Men, Paris, 1968



Students and workers rally in Paris in May 1968 – Paris, France





Daniel Buren, Poster, (1 of 200 in Paris), 1968

Daniel Buren, Untitled, 1971, Paris



Daniel Buren, Photo-Souvenir, Within and Beyond the Frame, 1973



Daniel Buren, Photo-Souvenir, Within and Beyond the Frame, 1973



Daniel Buren, Photo-Souvenir, Within and Beyond the Frame, 1973





Daniel Buren, Photo-Souvenir, To Transgress, 1976



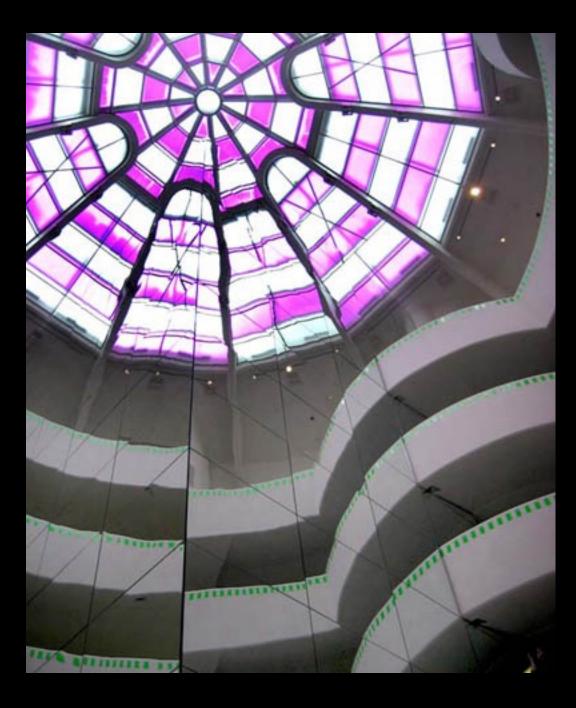
Daniel Buren, Exhibition of an Exhibition, A Piece in 7 Pictures, 1972



Daniel Buren, Photo-Souvenir of Painting-Sculpture, 1971



Daniel Buren, Eyes of the Storm, 2000-2005





Michael Asher, 73<sup>rd</sup> American Exhibition, 1979

Asher had the bronze cast of Jean-Antoine Houdon's late-eighteenth-century sculpture of George Washington moved from the front steps of the museum and installed inside one of the European Painting and Sculpture galleries.



Art handlers move statue into place for Michael Asher's untitled installation for the 73rd American Exhibition, Gallery 219, Art Institute of Chicago, 1979

Michael Asher, 73<sup>rd</sup> American Exhibition, 1979



# INSTITUTIONAL CRITIQUE

## POST-MEDIUM CONDITION



"I get everything that satisfies my soul from bringing together objects that are in the world, manipulating them, working with spatial arrangements, and having things presented in the way I want to see them."

Fred Wilson, Mining the Museum, 1992-3 INSTITUTIONAL CRITIQUE

-- Fred Wilson



In 1992, a huge sign was hanging from the façade of the Maryland Historical Society announcing that "another" history was now being told inside. The sign referred to African-American artist Fred Wilson's exhibition project "Mining the Museum," which presented the museum's collection in a new, critical light.

Incorporated in 1844, the Maryland Historical Society was founded to collect, preserve, and study objects related to the state's history. This mission included accounts of colonization, slavery and abolition, but the museum tended to present this history from a specific viewpoint, namely that of the its white male founding board. It was this worldview that Wilson aimed to "mine." He did so simply by assembling the museum's collection in a new and surprising way, deploying various satirical techniques, first and foremost irony.

Fred Wilson, Mining the Museum, 1992-3 INSTITUTIONAL CRITIQUE

-- Elisabeth Ginsberg





Fred Wilson, Cabinet Making, Mining the Museum, 1992-93 Maryland Historical Society





Fred Wilson, Mining the Museum , 1992-3 Maryland Historical Society INSTITUTIONAL CRITIQUE

SECTION FINANCIERE

MUSEE D'ART MODERNE

A VENDRE

1970 - 1971

FAILLITE

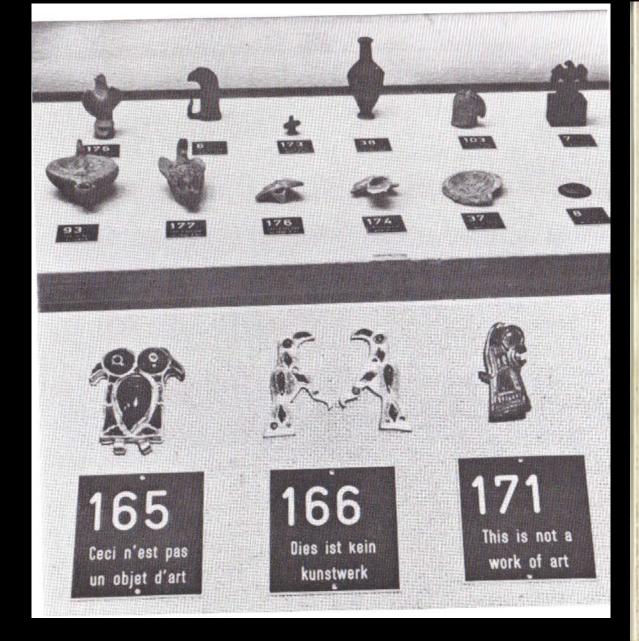
DEPARTEMENT DES AIGLES

Marcel Broodthaers, Museum of Modern Art, Department of Eagles Series, 1968 POST-MEDIUM CONDITION

MUSEE D'ART MODERNE

XIX SIECLE (BIS)

DEPARTEMENT DES AIGLES



### MUSEUM



Kunstmuseum Basel Kupferstichkabinett Staatliche Museen Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz Berlin (West) Antikenabteilung, Kunstbibliothek, Kunstgewerbemuseum Kupferstichkabinett, Museum für Islamische Kunst Nationalgalerie, Skulpturenabteilung, Museum für Völkerkunde Abt. Amerikanische Archäologie Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (Ost) Vorderasiatisches Museum Akademisches Kunstmuseum der Universität Bonn Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire Brüssel Département d'Antiquités Précolombiennes, Département de Céramique, Département de Folklore, Département de Tapisserie Musée Royal d'Armes et d'Armures Brüssel Musée Wiertz Brüssel Hetjensmuseum Düsseldorf

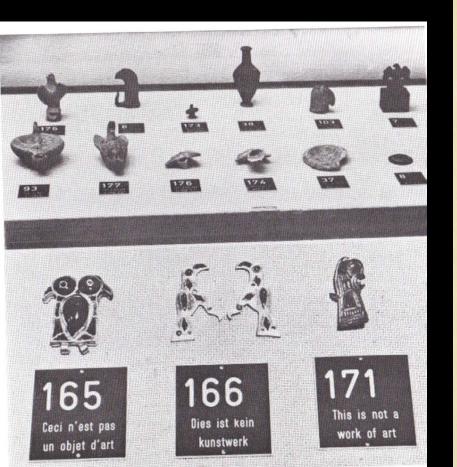
Marcel Broodthaers, Museum of Modern Art, Department of Eagles Series, 1968







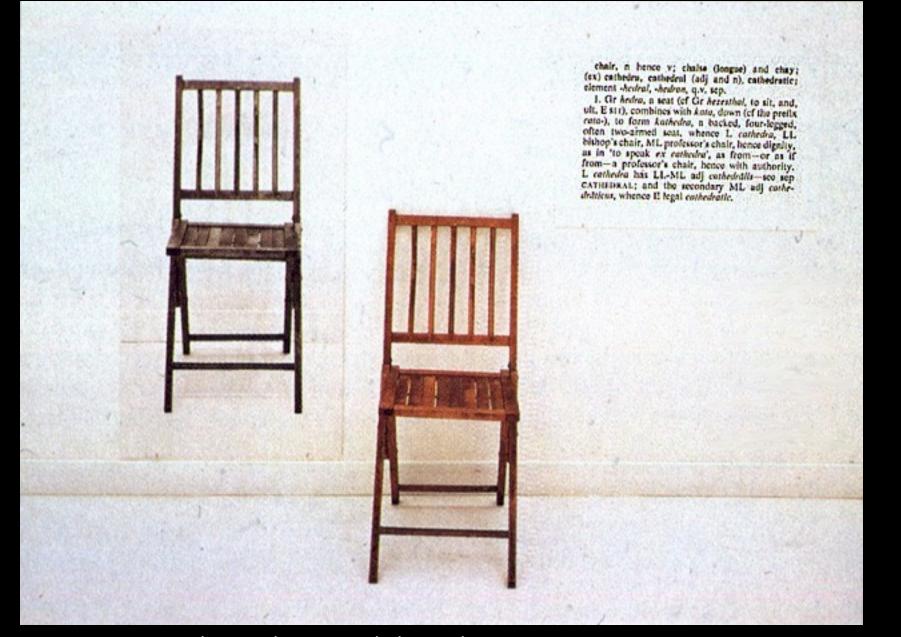






Ceci n'est pas une pipe.

Magritte, Treachery of Images, 1929



#### Joseph Kosuth, One and Three Chairs, 1965



# Rosalind Krauss, "A Voyage on the North Sea" Art in the Age of the Post Medium Condition (1999)



"For the eagle principle, which simultaneously implodes the idea of an aesthetic medium and turns everything into a readymade that collapses the difference between the aesthetic and the commodified, has allowed the eagle to soar above the rubble and to achieve hegemony once again."

Marcel Broodthaers, Museum of Modern Art, Department of Eagles Series, 1968