art and language: reconfigured boundaries

Joseph Kosuth, 'Titled (Art as Idea as Idea)' [Water], 1966. Photostat, mounted on board, 48 x 48 inches (121.9 x 121.9 cm). Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York,Gift, Leo Castelli, New York 73.2066. © 2012 Joseph Kosuth/Artists

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http://www.guggenheim.org/new-york/collections/collection-online/show-full/piece/?search='Titled%20(Art%20as %20Idea%20as%20Idea)'%20%5BWater%5D&page=&f=Title&object=73.2066

wa-tor (wá'tèr), n. [AS. wwter = D. water = G. wasser, akin to Icel. valn, Goth. watē, water, also to Gr. εδωρ, Skt. udan, water, L. unda, a wave, water; all from the same root as E. wet: cf. hydra, otter¹, undine, and wask.] The liquid which in a more or less impure state constitutes rain, oceans, lakes, rivers, etc., and which in a pure state is a transparent, inodorous, tasteless liquid, a compound of hydrogen and oxygen, H<sub>2</sub>O, freezing at 32° F. or 0° C., and boiling at 212° F. or 100° C.; a special form or variety of this liquid, as rain, or (often in pl.) as the liquid ('mineral water') obtained from a mineral spring (as, "the waters of Aix-la-Chapelle".

# Installation view of *Information, 2, July – 20 September 1970 © The Museum* of Modern Art, NY



Installation view of *Language IV*, 2-25 June 1970, the Dwan Gallery, New York. Photograph by Walter Russell. Dwan Gallery (Los Angeles, Calif. and New York, N.Y.) records, Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.



Mel Bochner, Language is Not Transparent (1970), at Language IV. 2-25 June 1970. The Dwan Gallery, New York. Paint and chalk/wall, 50 x 77 inches.

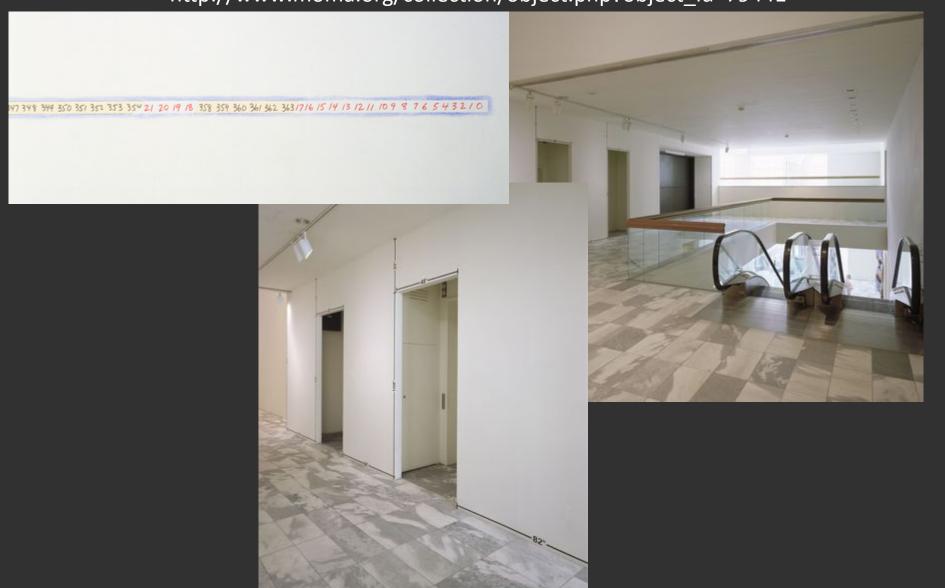


# Mel Bochner, *Theory of Boundaries* (1969-70). National Gallery of Art, Washington.

http://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/bochnerinfo.shtm http://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/2007/bochner/bochner\_vr.shtm

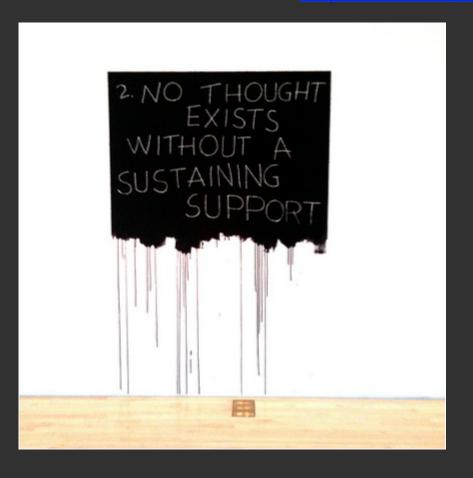


# Mel Bochner, Measurement Room (1969). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Tape and Letraset http://www.moma.org/collection/object.php?object\_id=79441



Mel Bochner, Language: 1996-2006, 5 October 2006-7 January 2007. The Art Institute of Chicago

http://collectionsonline.lacma.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=146998;type=101





#### Serial Project, I (ABCD)

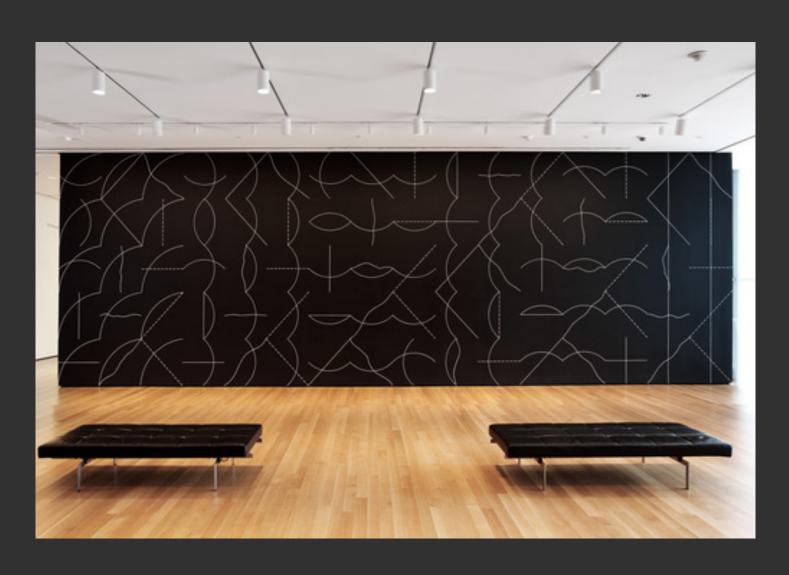
**Sol LeWitt** 1966. Baked enamel on steel units over baked enamel on aluminum, 20" x 13' 7" x 13' 7" (50.8 x 398.9 x 398.9 cm).

http://www.moma.org/collection/browse\_results.php?criteria=O%3AAD%3AE %3A3528&page\_number=3&template\_id=1&sort\_order=1



### Installation view of Sol LeWitt's *Wall Drawing #260* at The Museum of Modern Art, 2008. Sol LeWitt. *Wall Drawing #260*. 1975.

http://www.moma.org/visit/calendar/exhibitions/305



#### CONTENTS

Clark Coolidge	3	Poem
o Hannibal Acconci	4	ON
llaume Apollinaire	5	POETRY
Aram Saroyan	12	Poem
Robert Greene	15	A pleasant Tale of a man that was marryed to sixteene Wiues, and how courteously his last wife intreated him.
Aram Saroyan	22	Poem
Aram Saroyan	25	Poem
Bernadette Mayer	27	Poems
Aram Saroyan	32	Poem
Gustave Flaubert	35	CARNAC
Aram Saroyan	46	Poem
John Giorno	49	GOLDEN CYCLE
Aram Saroyan	54	Poem
William McGonagall	57	Poems
Aram Saroyan	64	Poem
Aram Saroyan	67	Poem
Clark Coolidge	69	Six Works
Bruce Marcus	77	Trainor pursues the essence of a sexless friend
Ron Padgett & Ted Berrigan	79	INNER LANDSCAPES

clark Coolidge

of things just pass things pure up cize pass think it her me one lem keep off cover for pay the art be lose made at the star star matter all the me Wyeth I think well pattern's a lot of paint make by a happens matter feel of our such Taylor all! at the me around THEM guess don't print about now those those not part on me anyway articles say not the words image I'm everyone pop to who there five didn't the films wick just there surface no reason reason my sedge current everything question people cover pay being me turns up here awful first objects working original tory out ture wick trends able ter come as a doing ings thing made asked image forget have don't over anyway influenced several I do to do paintings off for ren TV to do all men what to make I have painters give are mer used or fashion esquire people little more concerts try much it looks I am fac turning soulp prob understood men gave are the same everyone goten more me anyway article I and ticular ence really US me one them things artist I think I like it I like to I'm just a anymore ago could doesn't this western several screen sleeping people hours doing smoking last star for as what he to all make as just it's sym violent putting inside bringing home could movies float rectangles hadn't print how they though know all surface & me involved are to sit more real bright cover keep films tap-dancer I feel I but I'm those those objects a social day have wick ter question give are are and every it's thing day up have what make tell what work admire don't art I don't just I at all and feeling working working man people well patterns who when actor real here work know the and modest just focuses I'm everyone artists I do to do all I'm one whose anothe very much is as think people what people we're it's cize up pure silver float phase I floating these free sex beth Alexander anything at matter all make all men give are the directions then & I make out buying people to here really you there's just mean it's if colors it way bitionist Braille surface American great just things artist I just jects me funny every stand by my to do I do take artist any up us it's so don't not hard I'm all one oh I'm neither me ing all men tims for made it streets guide the factory camera objects ences selves you sit are doing with plays any fashionable and could somebody's me hanging around them factory leaves bothered are with to sit more things day mean my films little there me one lem and that're a vacuum like work we're great alone we time all surface me behind it was her own she has wears movies 80 only no up Andy of my there I

ture surface

POEMS

steps, shops noses, ears, eyes steps mouths, bills, beaks shops telephone whiskers, horns, tufts ships at sea and telegraph hair, fur, feathers post cards wires

> hair, fur, feathers a protecting b insulating

1.short 2.medium 3.long

black hair, blue black wigs, hairpieces brown hair, grey, light (a)hoofs brown, platinum hair, (b)hoofs

reddish brown, yellow hair tons of steel 1.blondes 2.brunettes 3. redheads

the palms of the hands cleaning women soles of the feet elevators

windows

iii.myopic

limbs

persons persons working

white space

microscopes noses, ears, eyes

binoculars telescopes

crossed periscopes black eyes, blue eyes are like cameras brown eyes, grey eyes i.blind ii.color blind green eyes, red eyes

compound eyes floodlights

> lids, brows, lashes observatory

antennas

nails, claws, wings antlers, antennae, arms legs, feet, hoofs, paws

fangs, teeth

color vision 5.sex television tower

shedding molting 1.height

shells, torsos, trunks

2.weight 3. color of eyes 4. color of hair

visitors

miles of pipeline

A surface of glass in a frame frames glass A surface of glass in a frame, frames glass playing maze playing placing playing play

playing playing

plenty of money plenty of hands, feet, noses, faces many eyes, ears, jaws, legs all resting many eyes at ease

many fathoms, feet, furlongs, hands, inches many leagues, links, meters, microns, miles, points, rods many rods

The sun that shines is red everything else The sun that shone is blue It can be seen the sun is green Damaged, burned, collided Exploded, foundered, vanished Run aground Sunk by mine, sunk by storm Torpedoed, wrecked The sun is grey the sun seems Yellow something Suns everything else Everywhere else spaces

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							2 0		2		2							
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90		91		92		93		94		95		96		97		98		99

ol LeWitt

Sol LeWitt Sichard Johnny John and Sichard Jerome Rothenberg	36	SENTENCES ON CONCEPTUAL ART
Robert Smithson	9	NON-SITE MAP OF MONO LAKE,
John Perreault Yvonne Rainer	11	THREE POETRY EVENTS
Parmadette Mayer	20	Untitled
Clark Coolidge	25	SONNET XXI SUITE VII ("triplicates")
Vito Hannibal Acconci Jerome Rothenberg	32 36	Four Pages Poem
Hannah Weiner Les Levine	39 41	Poems THE DISPOSABLE TRANSIENT ENVIRONMENT
Bernadette Mayer	48	Poem
Adrian Piper Adrian Piper	49 50	Untitled Untitled
Eduardo Costa, John Perreault, and Hannah Weiner	53	THE FASHION SHOW POETRY EVENT ESSAY
Kenneth Koch	56	THE CONQUEST OF PIZARRO
Philip Corner	57	I CAN WALK THROUGH THE WORLD AS MUSIC
Jack Anderson John Perreault	60	Poems SCRAMBLE
John Perreault	64	SONNET
Vito Hannibal Acconci Clark Coolidge	65 71	ACT 3, SCENE 4 WARHOL
Rosemary Mayer John Inslee	74	FIRECRACKERS Poem
Bernadette Mayer	90	MOON IN THREE SENTENCES ALTERNATIVES
John Perreault	91	ALTERIVATIVE

Conceptual artists are mystics rather than rationalists. They en to conclusions that logic cannot reach. Rational judgments repeat rational judgments. Illogical judgments lead to new experience. Formal art is essentially rational. Irrational thoughts should be followed absolutely and logically. If the artist changes his mind midway through the execution of ne piece he compromises the result and repeats past results. The artist's will is secondary to the process he initiates rom idea to completion. His willfulness may be only ego. When words such as painting and sculpture are used, they connote whole tradition and imply a consequent acceptance of this tradiion, thus placing limitations on the artist who would be reluctant o make art that goes beyond the limitations. The concept and idea are different. The former implies a genral direction while the latter are the components. Ideas implement he concept. 0. Ideas alone can be works of art; they are in a chain of developent that may eventually find some form. All ideas need not be ade physical. 1. Ideas do not necessarily proceed in logical order. They may set me off in unexpected directions but an idea must necessarily be completed in the mind before the next one is formed. 2. For each work of art that becomes physical there are many variaions that do not. 13. A work of art may be understood as a conductor from the artist's mind to the viewers. But it may never reach the viewer, or it may

never leave the artist's mind.

- 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 conventions of the present, thus misunderstanding the art of the pas
- 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. One artist may mis-perceive (understand it differently than the artist) a work of art but still be set off on 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 betternor 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 min and the final form is decided, the process is carried out blindly. There are many side effects that the artist cannot imagine. These 4

W be used as ideas for new works. The process is mechanical and should not be tampered with. It

mere are many elements involved in a work of art. The most sould run its course.

pportant are the most obvious. If an artist uses the same form in a group of works, and chanthe material, one would assume the artist's concept involved the

property in the property is a second by beautiful execution.

It is difficult to bungle a good idea. when an artist learns his craft too well he makes slick art.

These sentences comment on art but are not art.

moving art -V.H.A.

## Σημείωμα Χρήσης Έργων Τρίτων

"Η δομή και οργάνωση της παρουσίασης, καθώς και το υπόλοιπο περιεχόμενο, αποτελούν πνευματική ιδιοκτησία της συγγραφέως και του Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών και διατίθενται με άδεια Creative Commons Αναφορά Μη Εμπορική Χρήση Παρόμοια Διανομή Έκδοση 4.0 ή μεταγενέστερη.

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