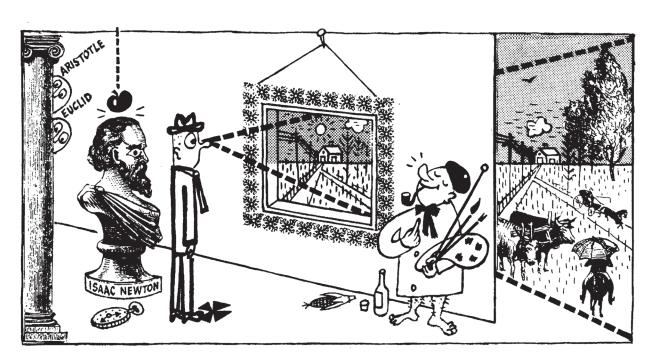


HOW to LOOK

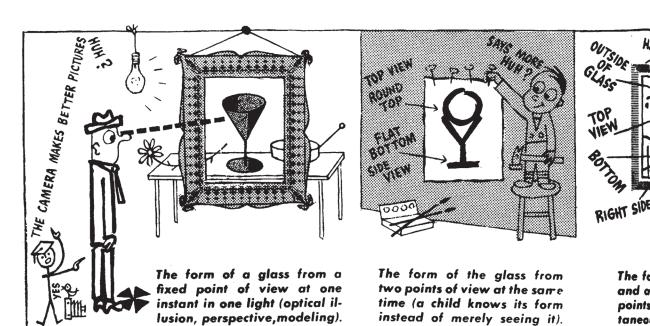
Ad Reinhardt

Art Comics

HOW TO LOOK AT A CUBIS

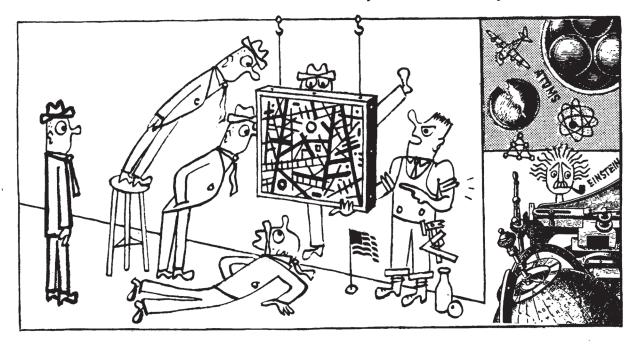


If you think that every painting should look like something real, then you live in that century (long gone) that believed the real world was a matter of what things look like. This art of imitation and illusion "saw" things from a fixed, absolute point of view (later satirized by surrealist painters who make something look not only like one thing but also like six or seven other things).

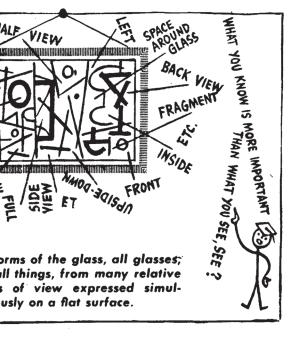


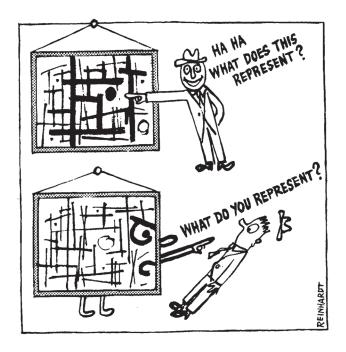
T PAINTING

Here's the beginning of an explanation of modern art. After we've studied it a little more, we'll tell you a little more—about surrealism, abstraction, or whatever you want. —— By Ad Reinhardt.

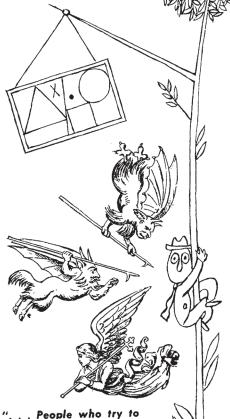


A cubist painting is not a "picture" or a window-frame-hole-in-the-wall, but a new object hung on the wall and is part of the early twentieth century's overturning of traditional ideas of time and space. It explored its world (1908) from many relative points of view (later developed into abstract painting which shows what lines, colors and spaces do, and mean, by themselves).





HOW TO WIEW HIGH (ABSTRA



"... People who try to explain pictures are usually barking up the wrong tree." —Picasso



When you "commune with nature" you enjoy, at first hand, beautiful natural sounds that are not "man-made."



When you "commune with nature" you also enjoy, at first hand, beautiful natural sights that are not "man-made." ("Only God can make a tree.")

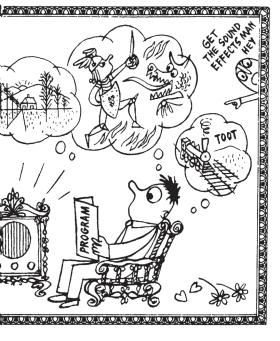
Some gram ural s

7668

Some ings, repro and c



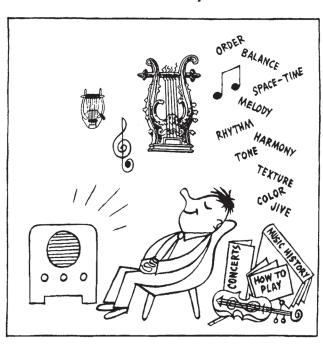
A continuation of an explanation of modern art. Because music is the most abstract of the arts, abstract painting is often compared to chamber music and jazz (like "architecture is frozen music.") 🔊 🕒 By Ad Reinhardt.



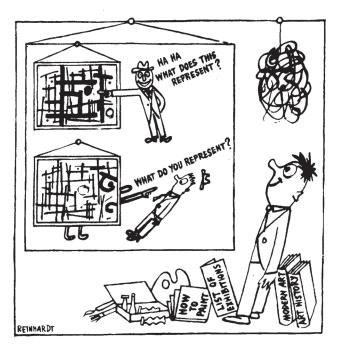
"man-made" sounds (opera, pro-



"man-made" sights (picture-paintillustrations, etc.) imitate or try to duce or remind you of natural scenes ssociations (second-hand).



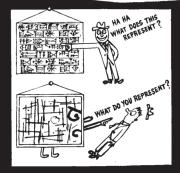
A lot of "man-made" sounds don't try to imitate—they are to be enjoyed for their own rhythms and structures.



Some "man-made" sights (abstract, nonobjective paintings) try to recreate new relationships of lines, colors and spaces and are to be enjoyed as such.

HOW TO LOOK AT LOW (SURREALIST) ART

If you still think that "paintings" should be "pictures" then you weren't around a few years ago when surrealism turned the "picture-art" tradition inside out and ran it into the ground. Digging deep into your mind's recesses, surrealist art hits below the belt and the things you see become lots of other things . . .



A painting is not a simple something or a pretty picture or arrangement, but a complicated language you have to learn to read . . .



After you've learned how to look at things, and how to think about them, clear up the problem of what you personally represent . . .



Third of a series explaining modern art by Ad Reinhardt.

If you're someone who can't tell himself from a hole in the ground, here's what you look like (in perspective) from one . . .



If you've never lost a week end what do you know of your subconscious- or your unconscious?



Don't look now, but things sometimes aren't what they seem but they're often something else



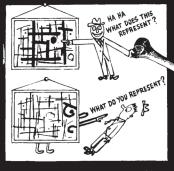
If you don't look like Garson or Gable, maybe you're something else to somebody



The surrealist claims his dream world is more interesting than your dull, nasty, everyday one . . .



"Buckeye" pictures hit the spot (that's a lot) . . . is the thing for you (nickelnickelnickel) j

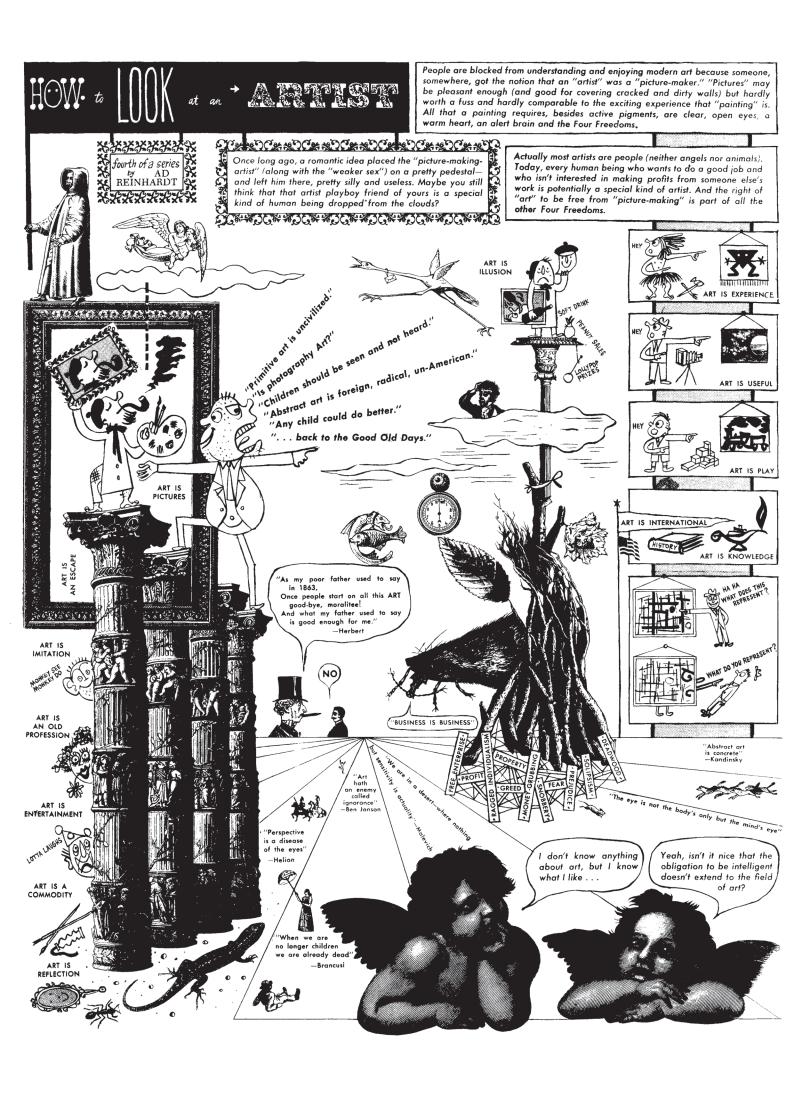


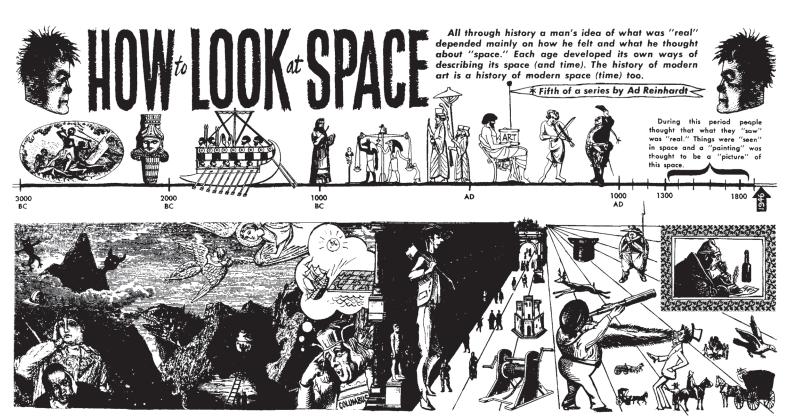
Make no bones about it — anything that requires no effort from you is not worth anything . . .







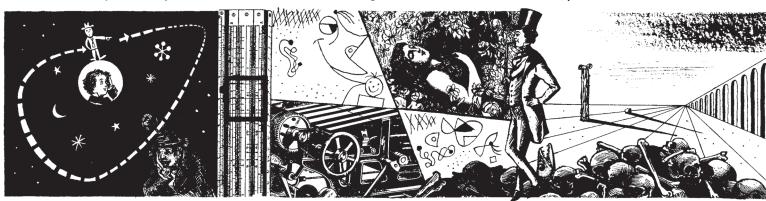




Once space scared people. Space was a big, blooming, buzzing confusion. Even now, what space (or people) represent is still a big mystery but we know more about what they "do," today.

Somewhat later, space was thought to be a quiet and immovable something into which things and people fitted. And an empty space was a thing, too, an ether—or something.

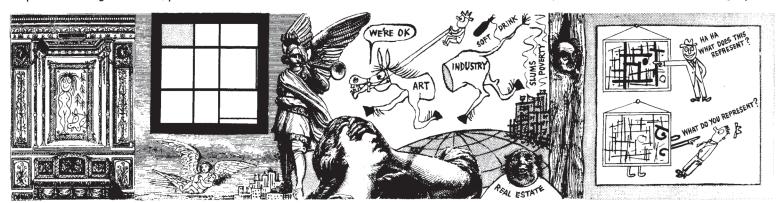
A "picture" was a one-sided representation of this space and after the horse-and-buggy (and Hoover) era, a machine began to make pictures that moved (movies, you know).



Space was a three-dimensional thing until Einstein showed that it had a "warp in a fourth dimension." (A ray of light traveling for 500 billion years would come back to where it started.) Space is a relationship between things and time (space-time).

A drawing is a division of space, a line is an edge of a space, shapes and colors are spaces, and a painting is a flat space. (Architecture is the Art of spaces, movies is the Art of pictures.) ("Art is science in the flesh.")

Spaces in surrealist art are lost, buildings empty, objects, usually bones, are dead—a shocking picture of the low spiritual state of a world which endures greed, race-hate and human exploitation. Spaces today have neither natural nor human dignity.



Abstract paint areas are real spaces—lofty, alive, emotionally ordered and intellectually controlled. A Mondrian painting represents "the maximum in the elimination of the irrelevant." If you like a "picture" of trees, cows, and nudes you like trees, cows, and nudes, which, as you well know, are not the flat spaces of a "painting."

Maybe you think things are o.k. and that you're "doing all right." But someday the monotonous and ugly spaces you live and work in will be organized (by your children) as intelligently and as beautifully as the spaces have been in some paintings. A painting of quality is a challenge to disorder and insensitivity everywhere. . . .

An abstract painting will react to you if you react to it. You get from it what you bring to it. It will meet you half way but no further. It is alive if you are. It represents something and so do you. YOU, SIR, ARE A SPACE, TOO.





We saw that pictures these days are only imitations and substitutes of real things and therefore not "high" art. If you think that a "picture" of a sunset or a nude is real, then you don't have much fun, do you?

We saw that "pictures" belonged to another age, when human beings (after years of concern with religious salvation and the supernatural) discovered the natural world and what it looked like (the Renaissance).

We saw that perspective, shading, anatomy, naturalistic drawing are simply a bag of illustrative tricks and that anyone can do it better with a camera, huh? We saw that an artist who makes "pictures" and purveys subject-matter is a peddler of phoney spaces (buckeye) and optical illusions. We saw that "pictures" are a kind of opium of the people and not good.



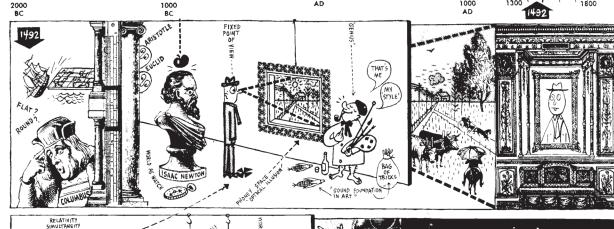
We saw that surrealists spend their space-time satirizing the tricks, tools and techniques of the "picture-making trade." Not only one picture or story, but numberless pictures, endless stories, infinite subject-matter.

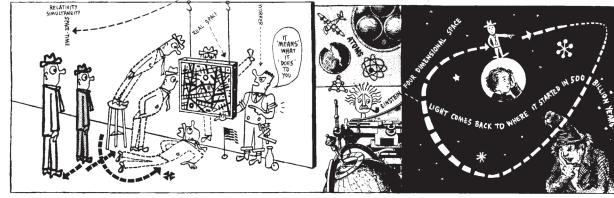
Because surrealist painters ran the "picture-art" tradition into the ground, and out-illustrated the illustrators, we called it "low" art, see....

We saw that both light and time is space, that you yourself are a space, that a painting is a flat space. We saw that an abstract painting is not a window-frame - peep - show - hole in - the - wall but a new object or image hung on the wall and an organization of real space relations, line structures, color activity.

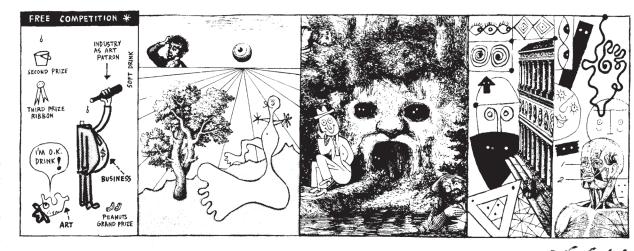
Because it paralleled the condition of "pure" music, we called it "high" art and no "picture."...

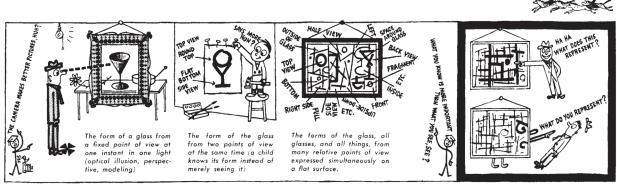
Now we can go on to really look.

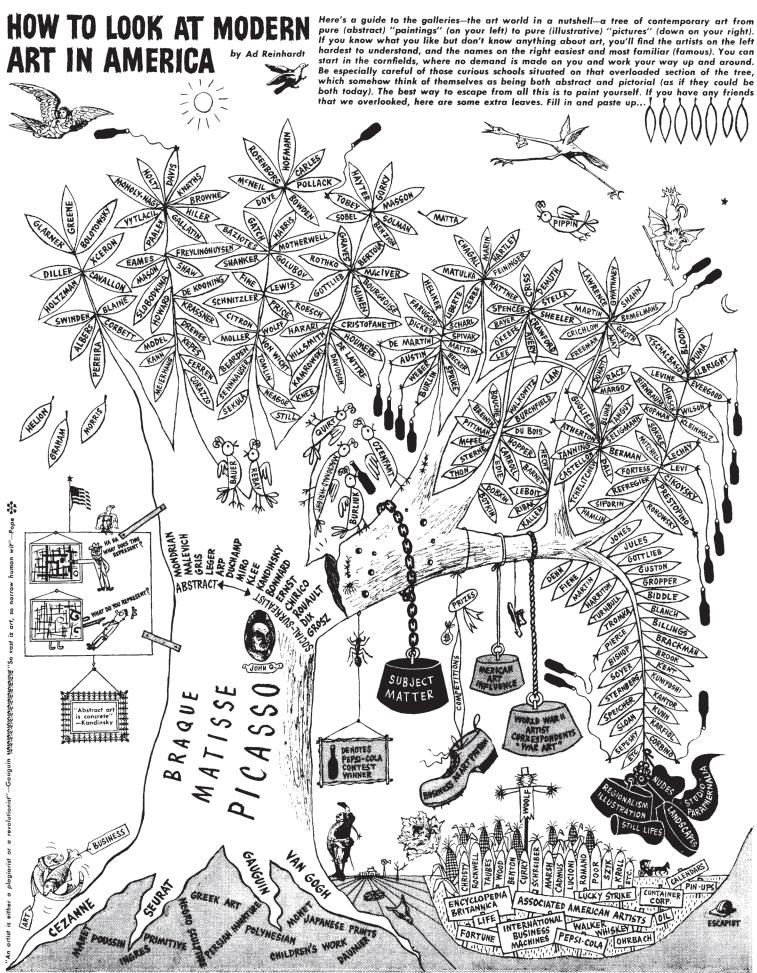




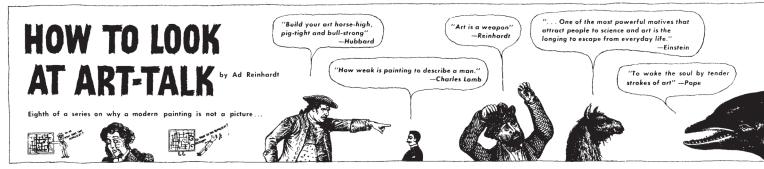
(Five minute break, boys, to refresh your memory.)

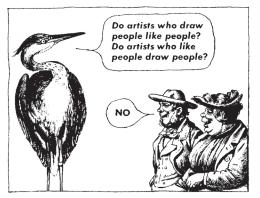






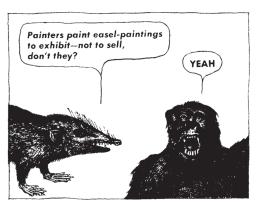
"The time is out of joint"—Hamlet (Shakespeare) : MCNC (Folks are better than angels"—Taylor 00000000"Art is long, and (space)-time is fleeting"—Longfellow 地名地名地名 "Movies are the Best pictures"—Reinha

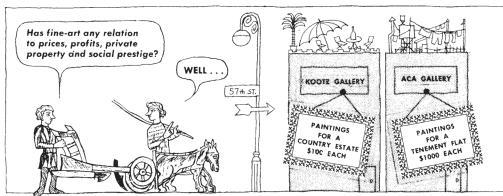


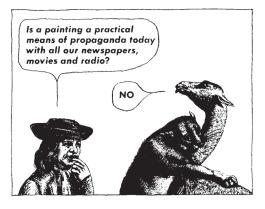








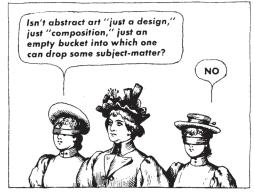


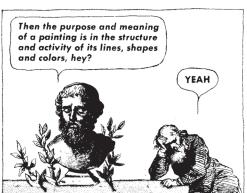












HOW TO LOOK

Ninth of a series by Ad Reinhardt

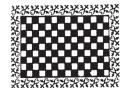
Looking at "pictures" in a gallery or museum a couple of times a year is not "art-appreciation." A real-oil-painted-pic-ture belonged to a camera-less century and now gets in the way of a real public participation in painting-activity. The real meaning of a painting is in its real structure (real lines, colors, spaces) and this can't really be described in non-visual terms (words). But we'll SEE—what is—what isn't—(no passing the buck-eye or watching the pot-boiler)—we're against dopey art and dopey art-talk.



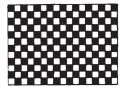
HOW TO LOOK IN EASY LESSONS HOW TO SHOW THESE ART-PAGES TO YOUR GRANDMOTHER HOW TO LOOK OUT FOR ART-TALK AND ART-WRITING HOW TO LOOK AT A TIMELY AND TIMELESS, MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL, CONCRETE AND **ABSTRACT HISTORY OF ART**

COMING ATTRACTIONS

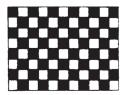
HOW TO FORGET HOW YOU'VE BEEN TAUGHT TO LOOK



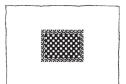
In simple, clear, scientific In simple, clear, scientific, concrete, semantically-checked language of vision, this is NOT an abstract painting.



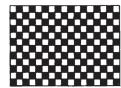
division, a "picture" (of a checkerboard) and a "weapon" (to beat YOU at checkers).



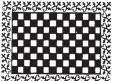
"applied" to linoleum fashion and industrial design, and advertising layout.



We promise not to copyright its design, arrangement, "composition," balance, rhythm, harmony, "technique" or "style."

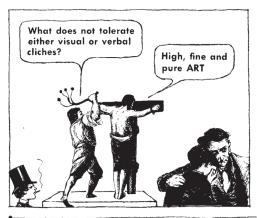


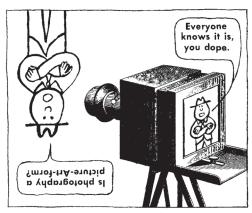
social issues, has no faith, no hope, no direction. It is idealist, decadent, escapist.

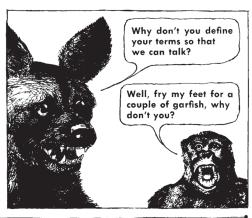


Though you can bring any-thing you want to it, we cannot guarantee its quality as aesthetic experience.

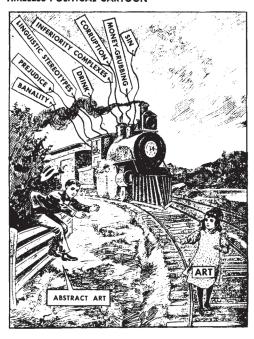
"One is never tired of painting, because you have to set down not what you know already, but what you have just discovered"—William Hazlitt







TIMELESS POLITICAL CARTOON



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SCULPTURE DEPARTMENT



CHICKEN PICTURE **DEPARTMENT**

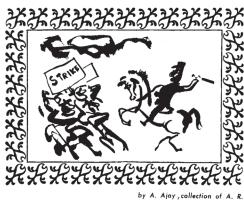
by Esteban Soriano, 1940, collection of A. R.







SOCIAL PROTEST PAINTING OF THE SEASON













We are not responsible for the opinions (and art-work) ex-pressed elsewhere in this paper. The editors' views do not neces-sarily reflect those of the author of this page.

HOW TO LOOK HINGS

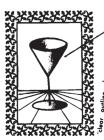


THROUGH A WINE-GLASS



"One can never experiart through scriptions. Explanations and analyses can serve at best as intellectual preparation. They may, however, encourage one to make a direct contact with works of art"-Moholy-Nagy

A modern painter's worst enemy is the picture-maker who somehow creates in people the illusion that one need not know anything about art or art-history to understand it. But looking isn't as simple as it looks. Looking at a sequence of painting "styles" during the last hundred years (from Manet to Mondrian) we see how the "subject-matter" (or picture-purpose) of a painting disappeared into thin air (and thick pigments) and how the framed-titled-painted-picture became creatively kaput (finished) and how looking itself is a creative activity. To those horrified that we may take the mystery out of painting, we promise to keep the question of color-quality a deep (bright) secret. (This page plans no four-color-process-printing). But we're for creative painting always, and as for a "picture" if it isn't worth a thousand words, the hell with it.



"classic" imitation or illu



"The principal person in a pi



but what Our glass

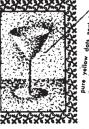


The subject-matter of Cezanne a glass but a color-space struc-ture and rhythm.

ş Op



Cubism breaks our glass into bits and pushes space around until it flickers like an early movie-montage.

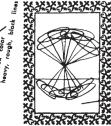




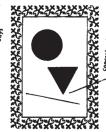


of paint tell us Rouault's feelings "outside things"

and



a glass in motion will always look like a walking dog or a wagging tail.



essential structural ele ments of all glasses and all things. (a finale and a fresh "constructivist" start.)



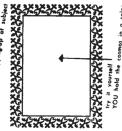




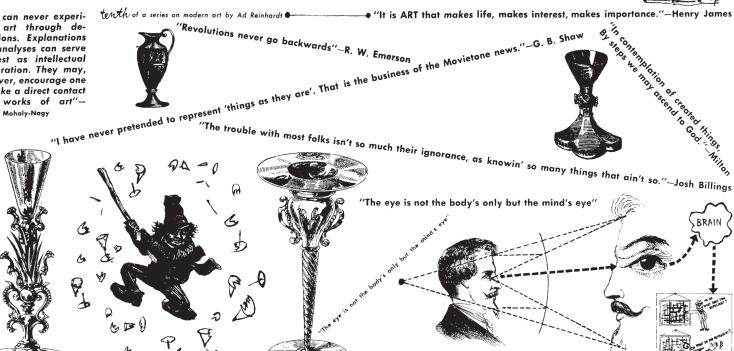
"Wit" is the only thing that can still tackle a subject-matter and get away with it.

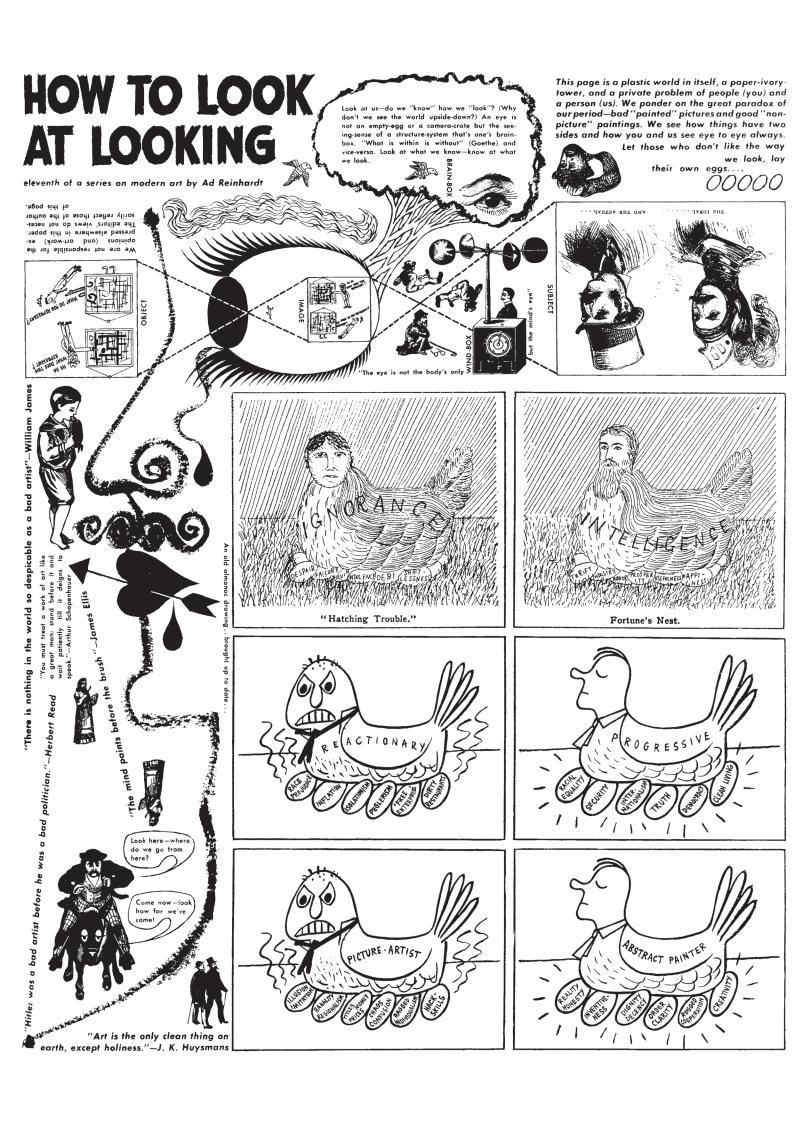


"The eye is not the body's only but the mind's eye."



a flat space. An artist tries to make it alive—YOU are its subyou alive.





HOW TO LOOK AT A GOOD IDEA 淡淡淡淡淡淡淡淡淡淡淡

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twelfth of a series on modern art by Ad Reinhardt

This is a good idea (Wolfgang Paalen's)—and means that people should be pulled into "painting activity" so that it can have social meaning (higher wages, shorter hours) instead of merely passively "looking" at "pictures"—which does NOT mean that it is NOT a good idea for anyone to take any artist by the scruff to ask him what his "pictures" represent.

"BOOM IN MODERN ART" DEPARTMENT

2015 Nichols Canvon Rd. Hollywood 46, Calif. June 8, 1946 Dear Reinhardt,

June 8, 1946

Dear Reinhardt,

I want to tell you how much I enjoyed your "Tree of Art" in PM. You have however placed my leaf in the wrong position. Hence this comment.

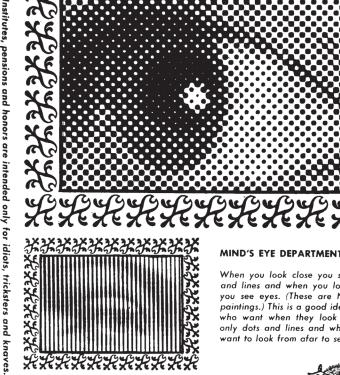
It should be lying on the ground drying up (probably to the left of the tree). Why? I've committed "artistic suicide." Some months ago I sold all my paraphernalia and closed up shop.

You might be interested in my reasons for dropping off the tree so I'll briefly sketch some of them. I can't get a show of my paintings, which, after thirty years of work, is unbearably discouraging. In spite of being "invited" to show in large shows, the juries regularly reject my entries. In the last two years I've written over forty letters to museums and have had the courtesy of but two replies in spite of the fact that he ladies and gentlemen who received them are purportedly paid to attend to such matters.

My evaluations of the reasons for this apparently unfavorable state of affairs would have little validity, as an artist is admittedly quite incapable of judging the merits or demerits of his own work. The only comment which I might feel qualified to make therefore is that the pretended open mindedness of the galleries and museums which, from their titles and attitudes might be presumed to show "Modern Art" is less real than imagined. It is my impression that most doors seem closed to those who are not near enough to the trunk of your tree. near enough to the trunk of your tree.

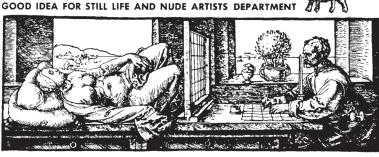
sincerely Hilaire Hiler

Hilaire Hiler is a well known painter and author. His most recent book is "Why Abstract?"



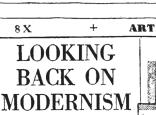
MIND'S EYE DEPARTMENT

When you look close you see only dots and lines and when you look from afar you see eyes. (These are NOT abstract paintings.) This is a good idea for people who want when they look close to see only dots and lines and who when they want to look from afar to see eyes.



This good timeless idea (Albrecht Dürer's, four centuries ago) is as good as working over a photograph if you want to paint a picture. Simply get a handy box-wire-screen, a simple graph-paper-sheet, then conveniently "fix" your eye and simply "copy" what





Don't be a

QT.

pa

By HOWARD DEVREE of the hest

for the museum to have, for the merely plastering on some white sake of the uninitiated general paint to indicate highlights and public, a small gallery with a then letting the mind supply the standing exhibition to explain ab-traditional explanation. Granted straction visually? For example, it is over-simplification, yet, as an an oversize brandy glass against entering wedge, so simple a device a neutral backdrop, played on by need not be despised. alternating lights from different parts of the room, would explain to the visitor how the outline of the glass changes and how the highlights break up its surface at different points under changing conditions. If a Gris and a Braque

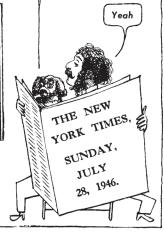
LOOKING FORWARD TO LOOKING BACKWARD DEPT.



This is a good idea by Robert Delaunay, George L. K. Morris, Ad Reinhardt and Howard DeVree. This is a

hung near by, the visitor might well get an elementary no-tion of why painters of abstrac-And wouldn't it be worth while to the old academic method of Granted







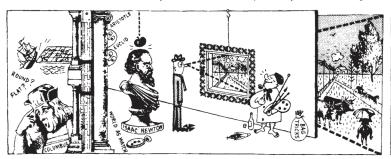
HOW TO LOOK AT THINGS AGAIN

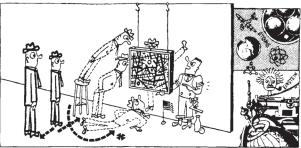
forthright, fun-loving, fortnightly feature on modern art by Ad Reinhardt 🐰 the thirteenth and a rough recapitulation of a series showing

a. the Best pictures today are not paintings

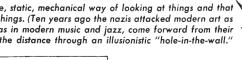
b. the Best paintings today are not pictures

To not overlook the lagging lay public; to not fear too much the obvious or the oversimplified; to not be afraid to be attacked as "artist's artist;" to beat down the aesthetically insensitive and the politically indecent; to fight the foul in art, too, to the finish — these things we look at as good.





We saw that "pictures" were imitation "window-frame-peep-shows" and parti of an old, stable, static, mechanical way of looking at things and that modern paintings were (forty years ago) part of a new, moving, relative, changing outline of things. (Ten years ago the nazis attacked modern art as crazy, democratic, decadent and bolshevik.) We saw that the elements in modern painting, as in modern music and jazz, come forward from their flat plane to face the onlooker honestly for his active participation instead of vanishing in the distance through an illusionistic "hole-in-the-wall."



IN A PIG'S-EYE DEPARTMENT

makes interest,

is ART that makes life,

so many things that ain't so."-Josh Billings

as knowin'

trouble with most folks isn't so much their ignorance,















in love with scenery; he is primarily a man in love

with

painting"—Malraux

acceptation of created things, by steps we may ascend to

are natural-sounds and natural-sights. There are man-made-sounds and pictures that copy natural scenes and actions. And there is man-created music and painting that doesn't do this at all, but achieves new audio and visual rhythms and structures.































We saw (through a wine-glass) how painting in past periods freed itself from "story," "subject-matter" and "skill," from "fixed, final" ideas, from "flux, fusion, feeling" and "flicker" conceptions until it became flatly no picture but a "field" of color-activity. Today painting has a different meaning from a picture. Instead of succumbing to the pressure (which also produces fascism) for hand-painted pictures (which deadens your mind), free yourself from your frustrations and paint yourself. Art is not a bag of trade-tricks or hack-skills, a property of the few, but a dangerous propaganda for changing and controlling the world so that everyone can be creative.

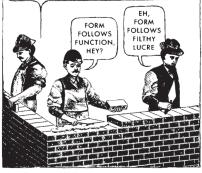
We are not responsible for the opinions (and art-work) expressed elsewhere paper. The editors' views do not necessarily reflect those of the author of this page.

HEY, LOOK AT THE FACTS

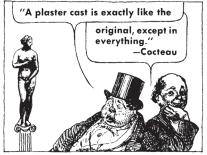
a page on modern art by Ad Reinhardt

ARCH., SCULP., PIC., & REV. DEPT.'S

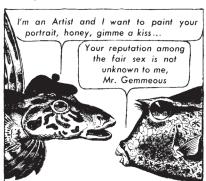
"Ah, to build, to build! That is the noblest art of the arts. Painting and sculpture are but images, Are merely shadows cast by outward things On stone or canvas, having in themselves No separate existence. Architecture Existing in itself, and not in seeming A something it is not, surpasses them As substance shadow."—Longfellow



Three guys and the hard facts about housing.



Two guys and the cold facts about sculpture.



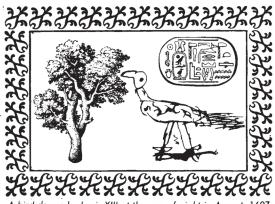
A gemmeous-dragonet to a horned-trunk-fish.

Georgia O'Keefe Fills me with grief, Her pelvic bones Call forth moans.

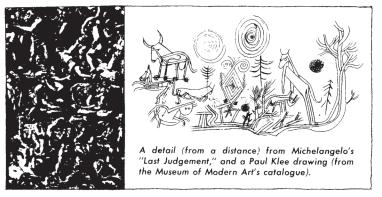
Never in strait space cubic At the Modern Museum of Art Have I viewed such extravagant pubic Mistakes of the whole for the part.





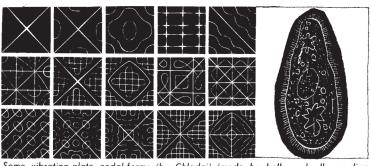


A bird drawn by Louis XIII at the age of eight in August, 1607, looking at a fifteenth century German tree and the face of the ring of Cheops, King of Egypt, who, says Herodotus, built a pyramid around 900 B.C.





Various vegetable-hair-forms and some microscopic star-like crystal-form snow-flakes.



Some vibrating-plate nodal-forms (by Chladni) (made by bells and all sounding bodies) and a paramecium (a free fresh-water animalcule) (magnified 300 times).

Williamstown, Mass. July 15, 1946

Dear Mr. Reinhardt:

Let me congratulate you on your PM series on modern art, which incredibly manages to be equally informative and amusing. Most advocates of modern art have so ing. Most advocates of madern art nave so unpleasant and high-nosed an attitude toward untutored laymen like myself that they rouse only irritation, but your missionary zeal is so tempered with good nature and humanness that it is a delight. ss that it is u = . Sincerely yours, Sinclair Lewis



A letter from Sinclair Lewis and a non-objective painting by Wassily Kandinsky, 1937.



PAUL CEZANNE TO EMILE ZOLA

Aix, October 19, 1866

My Dear Emile:
. . . I think I'll send you a sausage ... I think I'll send you a sausage one of these days ... I don't know whether you will be of my opinion—and that won't make me change—but I begin to see that art for art's sake is all a balderdash: that's between us. adieu, mon cher. Paul Cezanne

Leonardo is said to have started modern landscape painting and Cezanne is said to have finished it. Cezanne started, in turn, the cubist and abstract art traditions.



Cezanne's "Woodland Scene" from the Bakwin Collection, seen currently at the Museum of Modern Art.



An abstract painting by Carl Holty



Abstract painting by Hans Hofmann

the age."-Wilde

behind

a little

Nature

modern.

artist to be thoroughly

master."-Dante 🔊 'It takes a great

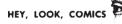
as a pupil imitates his

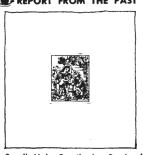
as it can, follows nature,

as far

Above, Artist-Reporter (z) a few minutes before an assignment and, below (z), after one.







Small Holy Family by Raphael

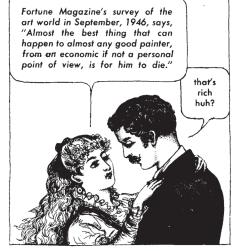


Some magnified-biological-cell-structures



Do you think that when a painter expresses an opinion on political beliefs he makes even more of a fool of himself than when a politician expresses an opinion on art?





John Dewey says, ". . . the idea that the artist does not think as intently and penetratingly as a scientific inquirer is absurd. A painter must consciously undergo the effect of his every brush stroke or he will not be aware of what he is doing and where his work is going. Moreover, he has to see each particular connection of doing and undergoing in relation to the whole that he desires to produce. To apprehend such relations is to think, and is one of the most exacting modes of thought. The difference between the paintings of different painters is due quite as much to differences of capacity to carry on this thought as it is to differences of sensitivity to bare color and to differences in dexterity of execution . . . To think effectively in terms of relations of qualities is as severe a demand upon thought as to think in terms of symbols, verbal and mathematical. Indeed, since words are easily manipulated in mechanical ways, the production of a work of genuine art probably demands more intelligence than does most of the so-called thinking that goes on among those who pride themselves on being 'intellectuals'."



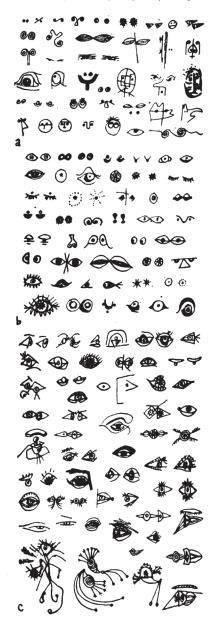
AT MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE



The Artist as Reporter—a page of news-flash-reports from the Art-World by Ad Reinhardt

NAKED-MIND'S-EYE-TO-EYE-WITNESS-REPORT

Our Artist-Reporter (y) reports some eyes from a few modern old masters (a-Klee, b-Miro, c-Picasso) (note how Picasso's eyes begin to look like optic-diagrams). For the benefit of gallery-artists who stick eyes on their paint-shapes and commercial artists who are tired of doing the same damn eyes we offer this piece of reportage for pilferage.



-Emersor

reward?"

oŧ avarice the but

vulgarity,

a

of

the essence

is vulgar, and

maketh horses run."—Florio

gift."—Plautus 🕲 "Money

beautiful

A NOTE ON COMPETITIONS

A competition is a rat-race, a dog-eat-A competition is a rat-race, a dog-eat-dog business and a canceling-out of creative-activity. We haven't had a century of fine-art-divorced-from-a-life-of-money-grubbing without good reason. A genuinely creative-artist doesn't compete with anyone but himself, Holy Cats.



Of all the foul growths current in the world,
The worst is money. Money drives men from hom
Plunders proud cities, and perverts honest minds
To shameful practice, godlessness and crime."
—Sophocles

'As I sat at the cafe, I said to myself,
They may talk as they please about what they call pel
They may sneer as they like about cating and drinking,
But help it I cannot, I cannot help thinking
How pleasant it is to have money,' heigh-hol
How pleasant it is to have money!"—A. Clough





HOW TO LOOK AT ART & INDU

PUSHKIN ON PEPSICOLA PAINTING "Reclining on a sofa though I may be,
I feel as though a driver with a jag on
Were jolting me o'er cornfields in a wagon."

Pushkin



A page of jokes and a plea by Ad Reinhardt **"For the love of money is the root of all evil."-New Testament

DEATH OF SOCRATES.

money go before, all ways do lie open."—Shakespeare 🏵 "A money-mong'ring pitiable brood."—Keats 🙆 "The paltry prize is hardly worth the cost."—Byron 💇 And all your fortune lies

OW TO LOOK AT by AD REINHARDT

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Three parts of a Dakota Chief's list of seventy-one named years.

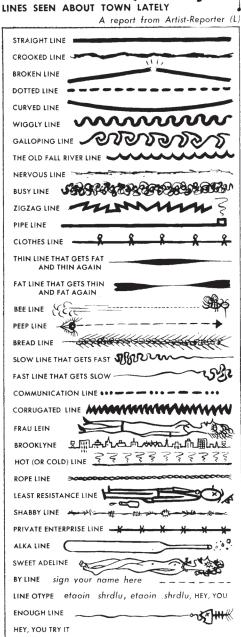
Lone Dog, a Dakota chief, had a buffalo robe with seventy-one named years recorded on it, beginning in 1800, when he was a child of four. A year when whoop ing cough was very bad was called the "Whooping-cough Year"; its sign shows a human head violently coughing! (1) Another year, very plentiful in meteors, was called the Meteor Year, and its was a rude drawing of a falling meteor (2). A third year saw the arrangement of peace between the Dakotas and the Crows: its sign was therefore two Indians, with differing style of hair, indicating the two different tribes, exchanging pipes of peace (3). Thus, instead of saying, as we do, that a thing happened in the year 1813, the Indian said it happened in the Whooping-cough Year, and by examining his table of years he could tell how far back that year was

DAAAAA A M X 1202A= प्रवेद्ववद्यामा मित्रिया द्वा में उ

showing their progression from pictures to abstract cuneiform wedges.

The Maya Alphabet (of Diego de Landa), a Hittite Hieroglyph, and the equivalent of Egyptian picture-writing in papyrus rapid running hand.





∞(7**10**

"In old time of King Artour All was this land fulfilled of facrie I speak of many hundred years ago; But now can no man see no cives mo."



REPORT

FROM 57 ST.

a page by AD REINHARDT

EDITORIAL

The world and our local situation is not much good for painting (or creative activity) (or decent living) and good artists try, in their ways, to change it. The level of art-criticism and artwriting is so low in this country and so removed from artists art-talk that painters themselves must do something about this, too (sometime) (soon). Starting a series on why the shape of art-things is not so good:



Our Artist-Reporter ever-ready in the fight against art-prejudice and aesthetic-injustice.



WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CURRENT

EXHIBITIONS

DO NOT

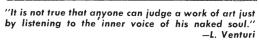
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st. 57

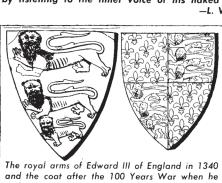
st 57 s West

15 east 57 st. allery 15 east century 30 W

RI HOLTY—Kootz Gallery 15 east REINHARDT—Parsons Gallery 15
NS RICHTER—Art of this century



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took over France and added the French lilies (fleurs-de-lis)



The stamp (The Stamp Act of 1765) that got our early American revolutionaries sore and the device of Benjamin Franklin's "Pennsylvania Gazette."

TIMELESS PICTURE

pictures—not

only what do you represent but what

represents you?

THERE IS NO



A figure with empty hands hanging down helplessly, palms down, as an Indian gesture for unceras an indian gesture for uncertainty, ignorance, emptiness, or nothing, means "no." A figure with one hand on its mouth means "eating" or "food." It points toward the tent, and this means "in the tent." The whole is a message stating, "(There is) no food in the tent

A pictorial message scratched wood by Alaskan Indians. The signs convey ideas without expressing exact words. For example, while one man might read "No food in the tent," another might see "Lack of meat in the wigwam," still another "Without sugar in tepee."

EDITORIAL

Do you think artists, like Greek gods, are only revealed to one another, like Oscar Wilde says?



HOW TO MAKE A SOCIAL PROTEST PAINTING

A social-protest-painting is a political cartoon without labels, and so is more related to visual-education-poster-problems really, than to abstract-color-painting-meaning.



















The human figure in art became silent in the last century. Cezanne found an apple quieter than a face and painted fake flowers because real ones talked too much. (Kandinsky discovered a circle was quieter than an apple.) When Picasso and the cubists had finished with them, wine-glasses did not whisper even. Abstractionists looked through the wine-glass-object (non-objective) (while surrealists made signs with it). Now, ask some, is it time for all good men (and artists) to shout?















REASON IN THIS GREAT DEMOCRATIC AGE WHY EVERYONE SHOULD NOT HAVE A COAT 읶 starting a series of free heraldic suggestions

. . the patriotic archbishop of Canterbury, found it advisable— 'Found what?' said the Duck.

'Found it,' the Mouse replied, rather crossly: 'of course you know what "it" means."

'I know what "it" means well enough, when I find a thing,' said the Duck: 'it's generally a frog, or a worm.' Lewis Carroll

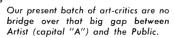
by AD REINHARDT

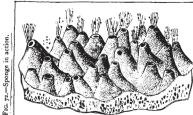
OW TO LOOK AT 🖁



SOME CRITICS SOME WORDS FOOL YOU:

- art means skillfully hand-painted "pictures" of beautiful women, pretty scenes, cute kids . .
- art means "sweat" pictures, accurate detail, (how long did it take you to do) (all that?)
- art means a copy-cat-picture-mirror of what you (think you) see . .
- art means a means of making money, a privateproperty-personal-hobby-commodity-business, a solipsist bag of potatoes . . .

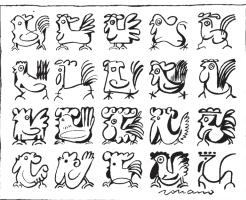




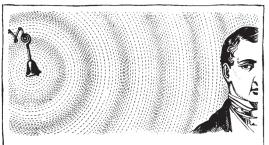
"Do you know who the critics are? The men who have failed in literature and art."-Benjamin Disraeli



MORE CHICKEN-VARIATIONS



by E. Soriano, social painter and ceramicist



No painter is an island, entire of himself. Every artist is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main . . . And therefore never send to know for whom the bell of art-criticism tolls.

- ART means action, philosophy, a way of looking at, ordering, measuring, controlling the world . .
- ART means "the right method of doing things" (Aquinas),"the root of our whole theoretical life" (Croce), "the reason for living" (Gide) . .
- ART means an activity of the nervous system, an organization of thinking and feeling, a process of abstracting, a "living organism in eternity." . . .
- ART means civilization, knowledge, experience, hu-man intelligence, freedom, perfection, virtue, truth, beauty, mastery of life and nature, an international possession and all of humanity's heritage . . .



"I take possession of man's mind and deed. I care not what the sects may brawl. I sit as God holding no form of creed, But contemplating all."—Tennyson



THE ART OR KARTOFFEL QUESTION (THE POTATO PLIGHT)

What the devil-I see some church painted over some guy's mural on its redecoration day.

Yeah, if a bag of spuds is not private property in a free enterprise, then things are in a holy socialistic mess.

> But, hey, if an art critic is not sure, then he shouldn't write, huh?

Art and Potatoes

At the moment of writing I have been unable to find out from any one whether the redecorating was

Details, however, do not greatly affect the ethical issue, as the art world sees it. That the fresco was the "property" of the church is a fact beyond debate. The point to be decided here is whether a work of art is a simple equivalent of a commodity such as potatoes or lumber, to be disposed of as one pleases.



ART-CRITICISM IN AMERICA

s flowers and still lifes in the inner gallery are executed so simply and are so patently lacking in any claim to distinction they proved completely disarming and consequently quite delightful.

SOUND-TASTE-NOTE-DEPT.

. The general flavor rather academic and emphasis is on sound rather than specially interesting work.

(above) typical deathless lines

TIMELESS POLITICAL CARTOON



AN ENGLISH CRITIC . . .

There is little doubt that, in the fog which surrounds contemporary canons of graphic art, mere advertisement can assume high critical authority. To attribute talent to a picture, it would seem, is often to create talent. The chances are, indeed, that any kind of painting whatever, if it were persistently exhibited in the right way and as persistently praised by the right people, would in the end be genuinely admired by many of those who take enough interest in pictures to visit the galleries regularly and to read books and articles on art.

ALL MEAT, NO POTATOES

Fortune magazine in Sept. 1946 says, "The Associated American Artists Galleries is con-cerned with business volume and merchandising techniques, if not with aesthetics."

We say, "More sales, fatter prizes is a lot-of-

we say, more saies, tarier prizes is a disamentar-helps-business-helps-you-baloney."

The creative solution for commercial-artists is higher wages, shorter hours; for fine-artists a government-sponsored-art-project.

WAYS OF SHAKING CRITICS



sticks out two

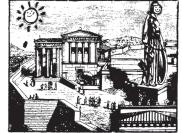




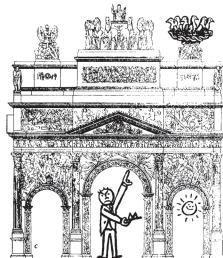
HOW TO LOOK AT A HOUSE

a fortnightly page on Art by Ad Reinhardt





The history of monumental building begins with the triangular form. Egyptian barbarians built colossal polished pyramid-tombs and superhuman sphinxes to scare people. Later Greek barbarians built tremendous temples and statues which were "part of the eternal universe." Roman barbarians built enormous basilicas, baths and triumphal-arch-monuments for their war-veterans.

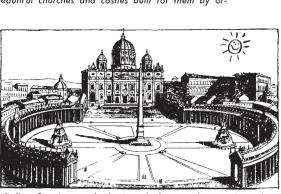


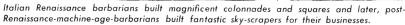


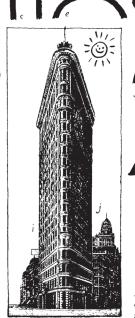




Instead of the army of slaves that built the ancient buildings, Romanesque, Byzantine, and Gothic barbarians had great cities of beautiful churches and castles built for them by organized building-trade-unions.









study the triangular form in our building for our heroic war-veterans.

HOW TO LOOK AT A GALLERY

Starting a series on galleries which are interested in aesthetics before they are interested in "business volume or merchandising techniques."



Strange, foreign near-and-far Eastern

barbarians built miles and mountains

of mosques and monasteries.

by Harry Bowden

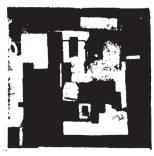


by Joseph Krause

which may be seen there.



by George Cavallon



Like in much modern painting, we see in the work of de Kooning and Bowden what may seem to be a "sketchiness" and "unfinishedness" which not only shows the actual process of creation but asks the onlooker to "complete" and "finish" the painting in the looking-act. These are not (bad) neat, finished buck-eye-pictures to "appreciate" "passively" (and exhaust and dismiss with one glance), or picture-puzzles to "figure-out" (in two glances) but (good) painting-experiences which can stand a lot of looking.

A modern painting is not "planned" (like a "picture") and a painter "finds" his meanings while he "works." The meaning of Krause's paintings lies in the intense broken-color-glow through a surface of piled-up-pigment, which are "real, concrete" qualities of paint and canvas. Cavallon's paintings show the "total-working" of an abstract-painting-structure, where no color-area can be changed without its affecting every other area. Cavallon's work is Egan's current show. *what is YOUR theory of looking?

The only way to get behind that iron-curtain-camouflage of "picture-subject-matter," and become "literate" about the special language of painting, is to go "see" what painters "do." To enjoy or judge a work of art one should be able to trace its train of thought. No blind-alley of non-thinking-pot-boilering is the Egan

gallery, 63 East 57th Street, run by ex-veteran Charles Egan. Below four paintings

Three points of view to think about when you look.

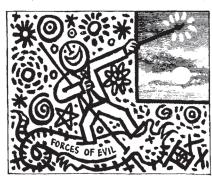
Some artists (like the anonymous medieval artists in the collectivist societies before the 13th century) are content to work (like carrying out God's will) in a PRE-CREATED scheme of things.

Some artists (like the post-renaissance artists before the 19th century), free from a religious pre-conceived picture of the world, are busy RE-CREATING a "nature that God created."

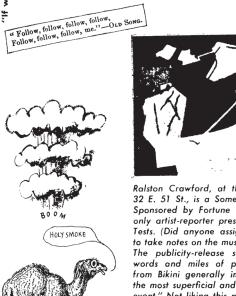
Some artists (like the cubist and abstract artists of the 20th century), free from mere reproduction of nature, concern themselves (like Gods) with pure CREATION (and a NEW world).







HOW TO LOOK AT 3 CURRENT SHOWS Why do artists paint? What do they mean? — We can't do your thinking and looking for you (the way a hearst-paper does) but we'll try to help you know what you're looking at and for and so represent something yourself.

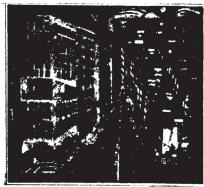




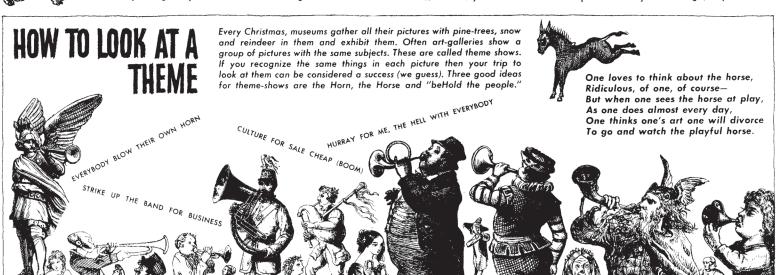
Ralston Crawford, at the Downtown Gallery, 32 E. 51 St., is a Somebody in the art-world. Sponsored by Fortune magazine, he was the only artist-reporter present at the Bikini Bomb Tests. (Did anyone assign a musician-reporter to take notes on the music of the split-spheres?) The publicity-release says, "The millions of words and miles of photographs emanating from Bikini generally imparted no more than the most superficial and external record of the event." Not liking this pseudo-abstract-thinking one bit, we shouted, "Holy smoke, what tricks will the painting-business dream up next?" Do crooked shapes and twisted lines represent painting's adjustment to the atomic age?(NO)



Frederick Taubes, at the AAA gallery, 711 5th Av., is a Somebody in the art-world, too. Author of 5 books, enemy of modern art, he has had more one-man-shows (60) than any other living artist in this country. Pointing to this paintingthinking we exclaimed, "Art for Art's sake stuff, a vulgar display of hopelessly out-dated illustrative skills for skill's sake, an empty show-off activity that even a biblical-legend can't fill." It would be easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a slick, "professional" 'noble craftsman" to enter into the kingdom of creative activity. "Ye must be born again" (to recapture the imagination you lost when you became an adult), Taubes, you old master.



Ralph Fasanella, at the 44th St. gallery, 133 W. 44, is a Nobody in the art-world. A trade-unionnon-commercial, non-"profesorganizer, a sional" artist, he has been painting for only one year. We were impressed with the thinking in this work, which asks the onlooker to think, too. Implicit everywhere here was the (good) democratic idea that creative-painting-activity belongs to everyone potentially and not to the few, special, hack-skilled, "sound craftsmen" who produce dept-store pictures. The best reaction to an exhibition is to go home and paint yourself (perhaps re-examine all our moneygrubbing-values in the process, too). Looking requires a theory of thinking (do you know?)



against "brutality and darkness"—Picasso

war,

an instrument of

apartments. It

painting is not done to decorate

HOW TO LOOK at a mural

Some words about the Picasso "Guernica" mural by Ad Reinhardt *

Almost ten years ago, a small, quiet ancient holy Basque town, full of refugees, became the target for the first "total" air-raid. It was wiped out in three and a half hours. Two days later the most famous living artist, the freest and most prolific painter of all time, started a mural that was to become the greatest anti-fascist work-of-art and the most impressive and monumental painting of the twentieth-century. The mural (12 x 26 feet) represented the Spanish Loyalist Government at the Paris World's Fair (1937), later toured London and America's seven largest cities, was seen by over a million people, raised over \$10,000 here to save many Spanish lives, and may be seen now at the Museum of Modern Art.

The mural is not a picture-copy-imitation of a real scene you might see, or a simple poster or banal political-cartoon which you can easily understand (and forget) in a few minutes, but a design that diagrams our whole present dark age. It is a painting of pain and suffering. It symbolizes human destruction, cruelty and waste, not in a local spot but all over our one-world. It challenges our (yours, too) basic ways of living, thinking and looking.

A story tells how a Nazi official who, looking at a photograph of this mural, remarked to Picasso, "So it was you who did this," received the answer, "No, you did."

you did."

The bull, bristling, brute-stupidity (Franco-Fascism), a moment of pause, retreat, a prepara-

cism), a moment of pause, retreat, a preparation for another attack, a defiant, erect tail, alert, sharp ears, staring eyes that see without looking, a creature without mind or human heart . . . The mural is an allegory. A pointing out of its symbolic-meanings will not explain its art-meanings (a last recombination of cubist and expressionist-surrealist-illustration, the end of a fine-art-picture-tradition). Here are, for what they are worth, some long labels. You see what you know and you don't look for what you don't want to see.

The design (photo-montage-like) is set in a self-limited stage-world, an interior-exterior, an inside-room and an outside-town-square simultaneously. The color is black, white, pale and dark gray. (The dead have no color).

A horse, dying, on one knee, (Spain), disemboweled, a stab in the back from above, a rigid tongue and raging throat, a twisted body, a newspaper-texture (cubist-pasted-paper) (headlines) . . .

A face aghast, a classic profile, a flying-thrust out of a window (like a fusion of fast photographic images), a terrified hold on breasts, an oil lamp (Truth) lights the tragedy.

A building aflame, an open-window, a falling, shrieking woman on fire, a half-opened door . . .



A mother, anguished, a fierce cry to the skies, a pointed, paralyzed tongue, eyes and nostrils that become teardrops, a desperate pull up, a drag down, a lifeless child, limp as a rag-doll, lips sealed in innocence . . .

A sun (source of life), a radiant eye of the

dark night, an electric-artificial-light-bulb (man's

fateful discovery), all-seeing-God's-eye-witness

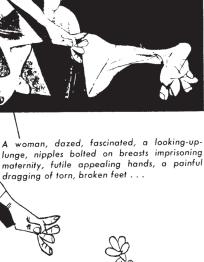
A hand, helpless, clumsy, chopped-off, scattered, divided fingers, stuck out like sore thumbs in all directions, a palm with crossed fatal life-lines . . .

A man, decapitated, the bust of a smashed statue (the young Republic), eyes that cannot see straight, and roll in reflex-action, a look down into a hollow, open mouth with no sound, a look up under a nose (a circulating viewpoint from where you look), a cold, iron horse-shoe (good luck) turned as if seen from below, warns and threatens the onlooker (you)...

An arm, dismembered, mutilated, a clenched fist, a frozen grip of death, a broken sword, a hopeless defense gesture against a surprise attack, a young flower-blossom (renewal of life, hope) "... the last bud of the future"—Eluard.

A man, de statue (the see straight

*The two most recent books on the artist are Alfred H. Barr's "Picasso, Fifty Years of His Art" (Museum of Modern Art) and Harriet and Sidney Janis's "Picasso, the Recent Years, 1939-1946" (Doubleday & Co.)





HOW TO LOOK AT A SPIRAL



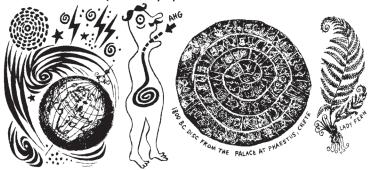


An investigation into fundamentals by Ad Reinhardt.

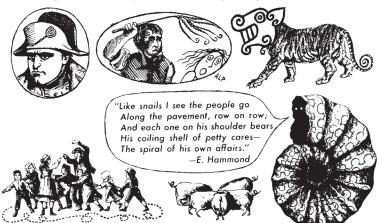
Any attempt to make modern painting more intelligible and communicative must involve a serious consideration of the spiral. The spiral is a democratic thing—anyone can make one—but what exactly does it represent? What has it meant in the past? How can artists use it for the future?



The ancient spiral was a picture of the immortal soul, a palace of the intestines, a dwelling place of a demon. It was a Greek scroll-decoration and a Chinese tiger-dragon, a sign of clouds and thunder and a charm against dark forces of evil. The earth shot off from the sun in a "logarithmic spiral" and a seventeenth century physicist insisted a spiral be engraved on his tomb as the symbol of "perpetual renascence."

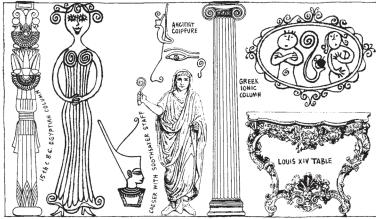


The spiral is "a rolling of a curve on itself infinitely" and a "coning of the cube." Its inward drive sucks and retreats and closes (escapism) and its outward unfolding spews and opens and discovers (hope). A microcosmic sign, a symbol for History and Evolution, a psycho-physical structure.



TS USE IN HAND-DRAWN PICTURES . .







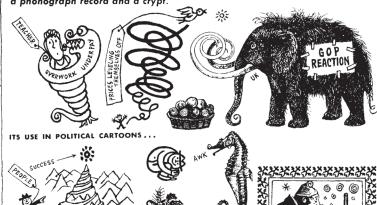
The spiral today is a nebula and a navel, a snake, a scribble, and a staircase, a whirling-planet and a bed-spring, an economic cycle and an elephant, an endless ecstasy and a rope-loop.

The spiral is a sun and a somersault, a sea-snail-shell and a cyclone, a cork-screw and a crazy-castle, a protective-womb and a pin-wheel, a curse in a cartoon-strip and a dentist's drilling.



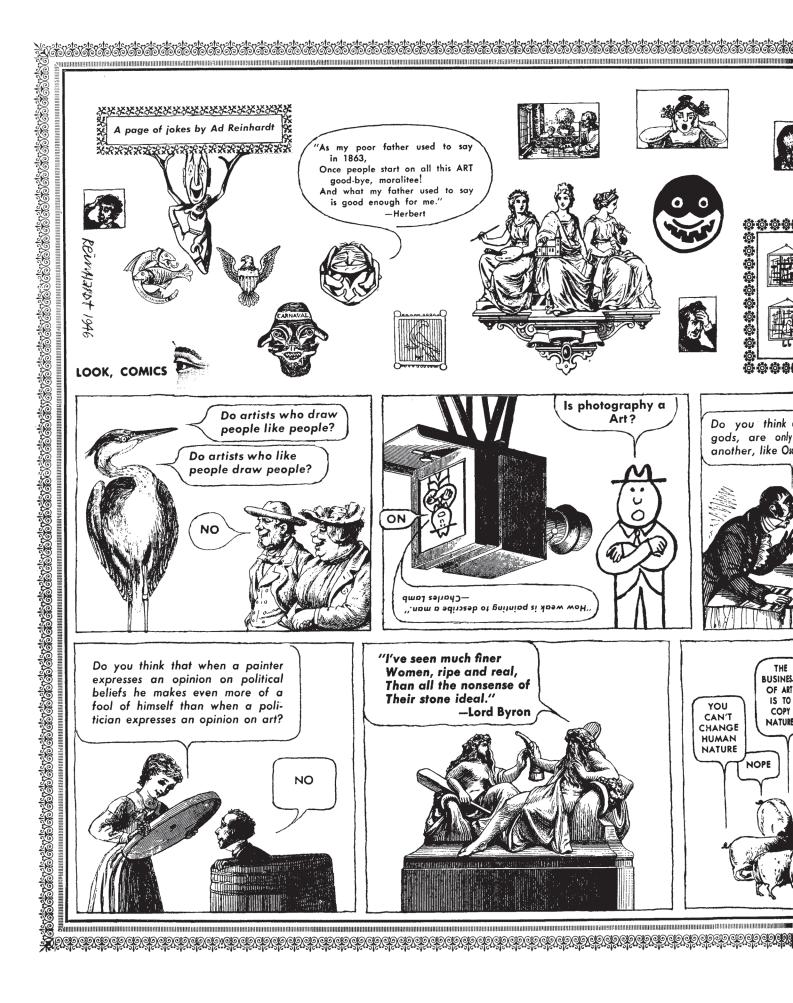
The spiral is a moustache and a mountain and a molehill, a ram's-horn, an octopus-tenacle, a conducting-coil and a swivel-chair, a waltz, a tattoo, and a curlique-cow-lick on a Steig or Steinberg dame.

The spiral is a bacteria and a traffic-ramp, a merry-go-round and a book-binding, a beauty-mark and a restless blind alley, a rhythm, a concept, a phonograph record and a crypt.



...Our Artist-reporter winds up (or unwinds?)





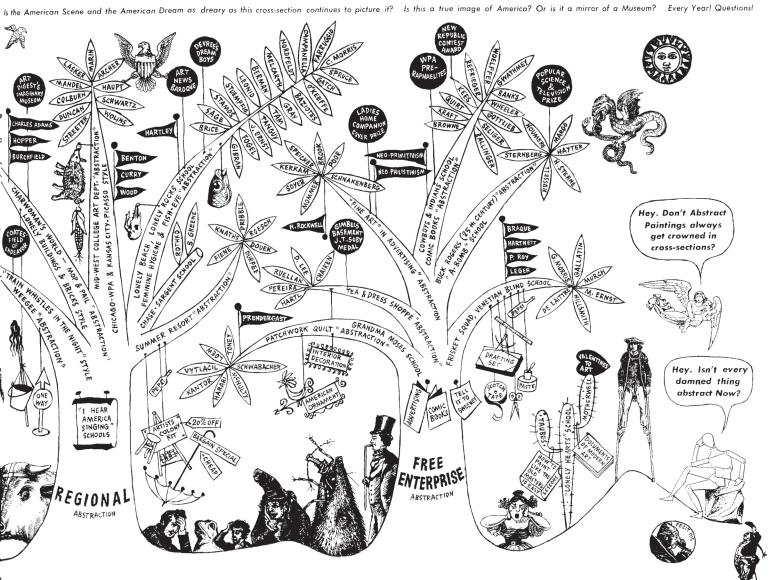




"Political Cartoon"

by A. D. F. REINHARDT

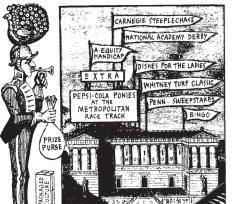
by Ad Reinhardt (with additional constructive criticism by Alfred Russell) Leaves are exhibitors, branches are schools, balloons are sponsors, flags are influences



Hey. Have you ever seen a cross-section show that has made any sense? Everything is treated as if it were the same thing. Is it all the same thing?

MUSEUM RACING FORM The Latest Racing Dope ... pigeonhole the ponies

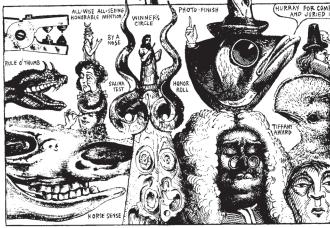
by Ad Reinhardt



Weather: muddy, Track: slow, Competition: cloudy.



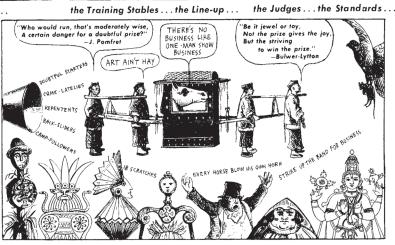
the Training Stables . . . the Line-up . .



...Who'll win, place, show



the Hopes . . .



the Bandwagon . . .



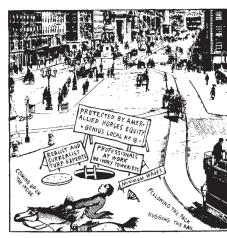
"What is vulgar, and the essence of all vulgarity, but the avarice of reward?"—Emerson But the jingling of the guinea helps the hurt that honour feels."—Tennyson

"The savour of lucre is good, howsoever a man come by it.—T. Becon









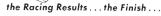
the Bookies . . . the Bets . . .

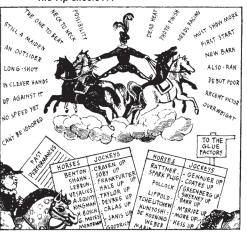
the Tip-sheets . . .

the Professional Racing Association . . .

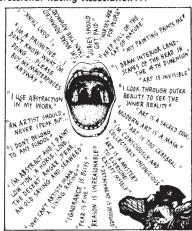




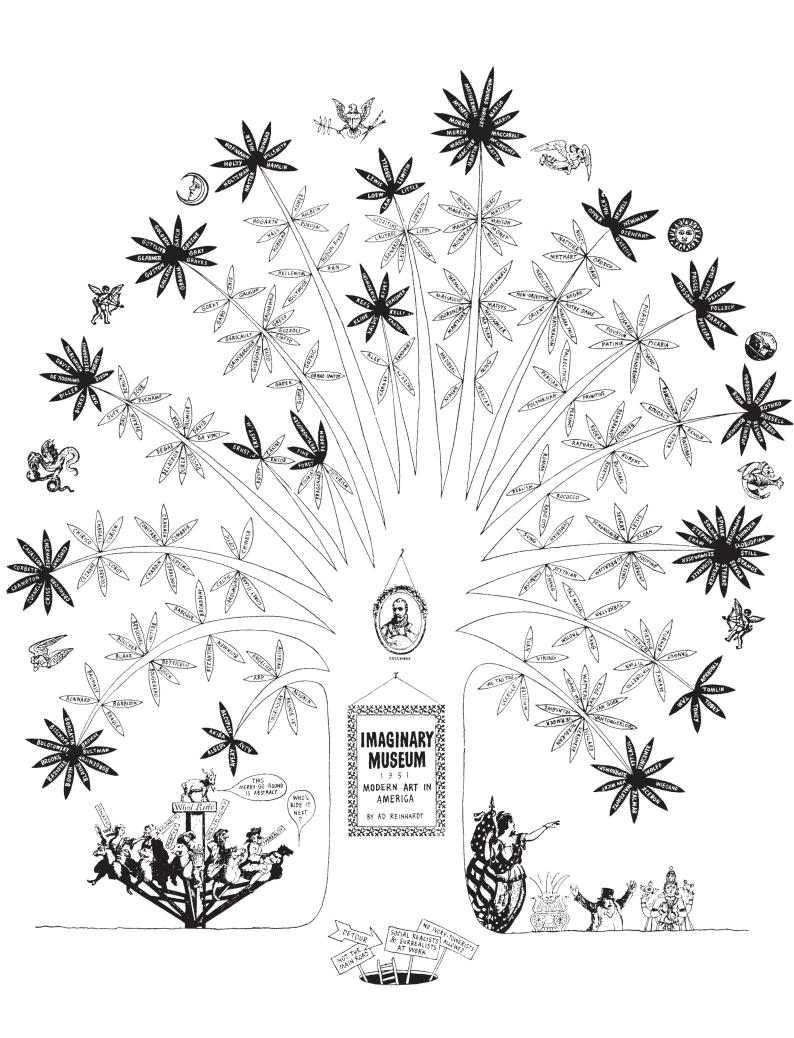


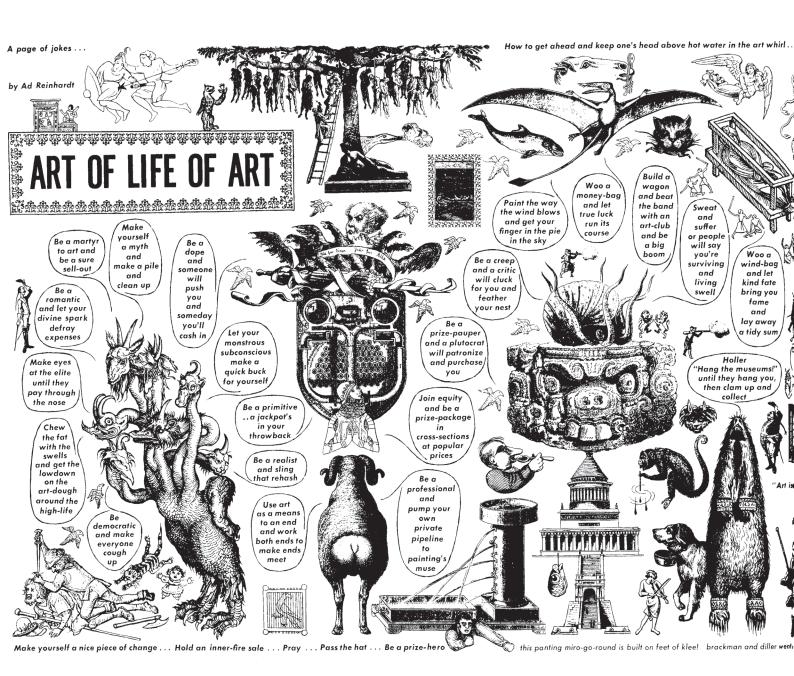


the Leading Jockeys . . . the season's Averages . . .



Out of the Horses' Mouth . . .

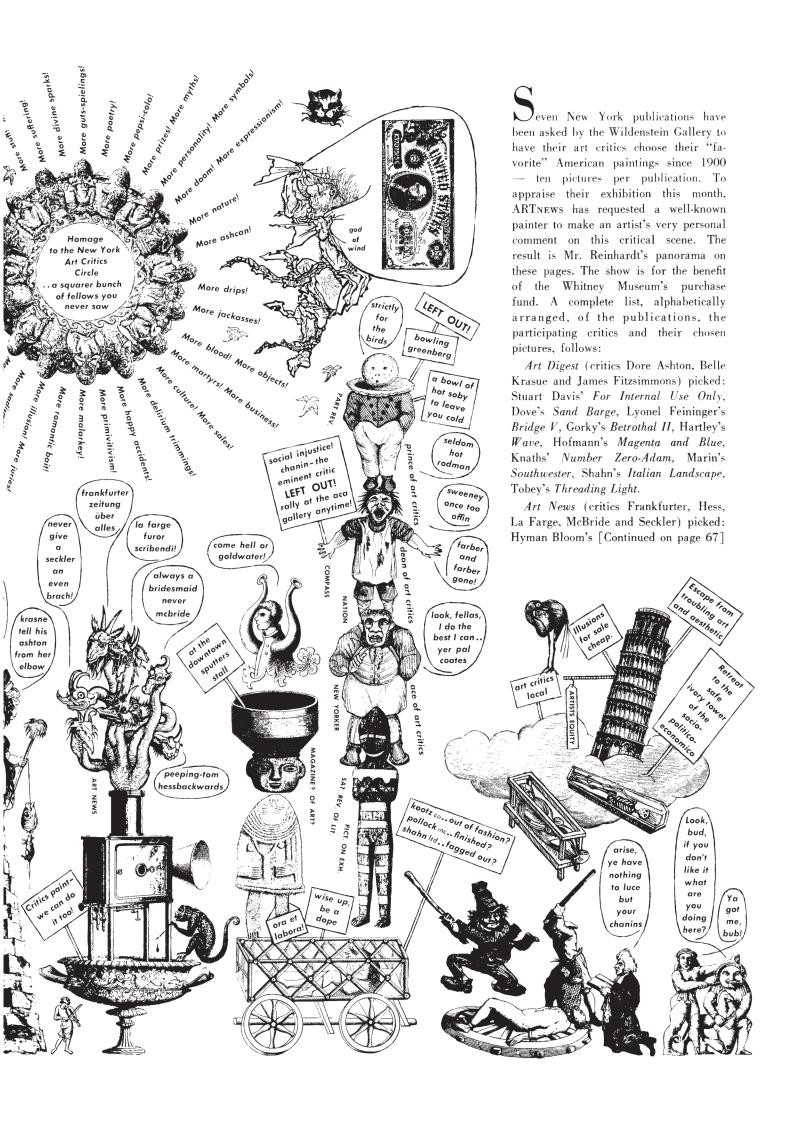




yesterday's weber still rehning knaths and dodds tamayo probable schniewind and calder-kamrowski outa yer coggeshall guston you've n ichi to luce but your chanins! schnitzler banks pach du lebrun ozenfant! arp a wolff in sheeler's kooning albers kickin' de congdon aroun! shoot off your mouth o'keefe moneil like a refregier from a buffet-gatch! Be arrogani be elegant until you see the spondulics be smart art-appreciation give 'em the fist in their eyes give 'em the wrist ABSTRACT -pot-boilering well I'll be a shahn of a bouche! give 'em the gottlieb im himm hamlin reinhardt boyle egas hit! bagels and louchheim with a piece of salemmei finge CAREERISM COMMERCIALISM demuth to heliker its no ferber a larkin matta! reth you tooker glarner and get a holty in the world to weep for anymore?" and be a howling success clean thing on earth, except holiness COMPETITIONS

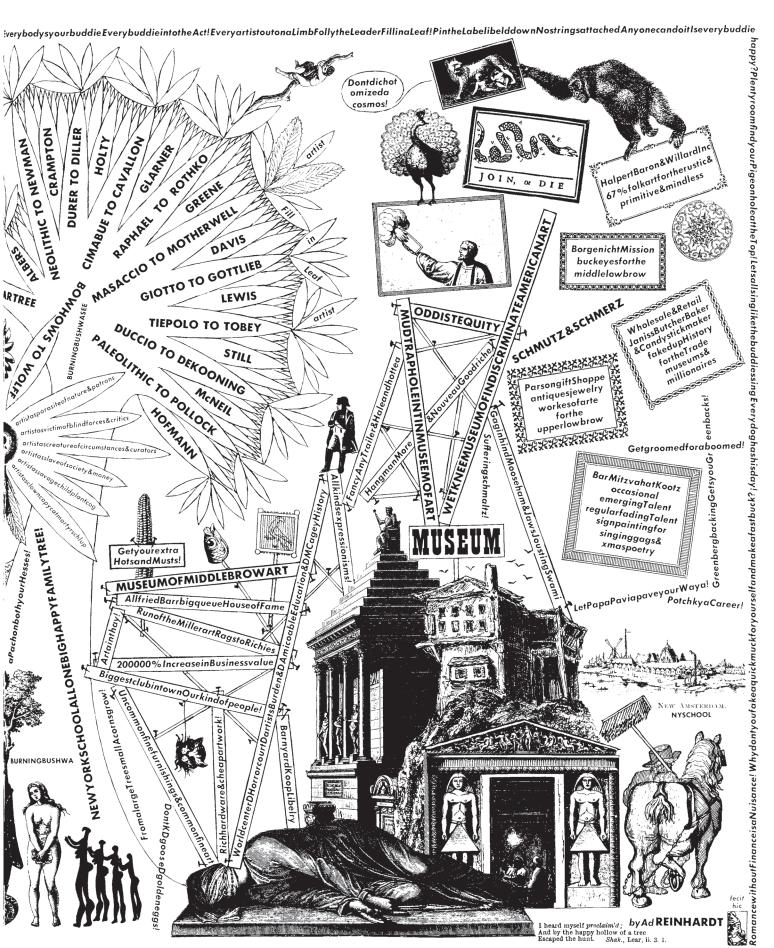
othe millman to fletcher a quirt or gallatin paalen of walkowitz, jackson fell thon and brook his koerner and benton his becker and still kane tomlin avery, and ault tam kingmen cadmus put stuempfig to weber egan





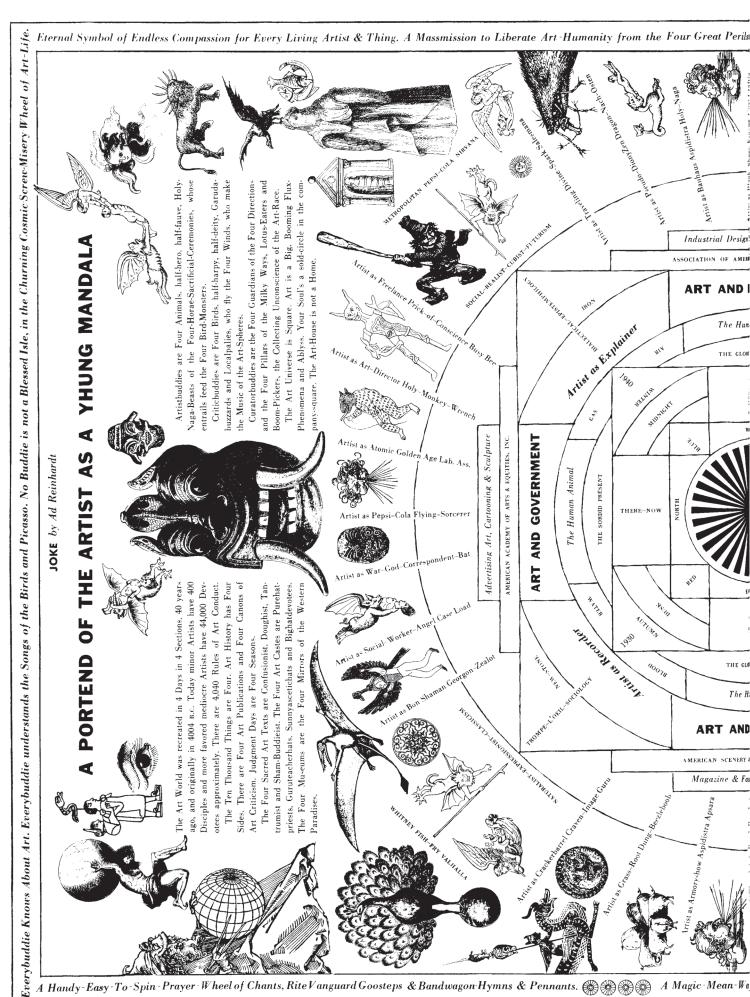


 $How you gon nake epemdown on the far monce they seen the Stable Salon? \textit{Reality schmear ality gott ge sund! You may call it (divine)} \\ \textit{Madness Abbut I call it (criticis mof) Love!}$

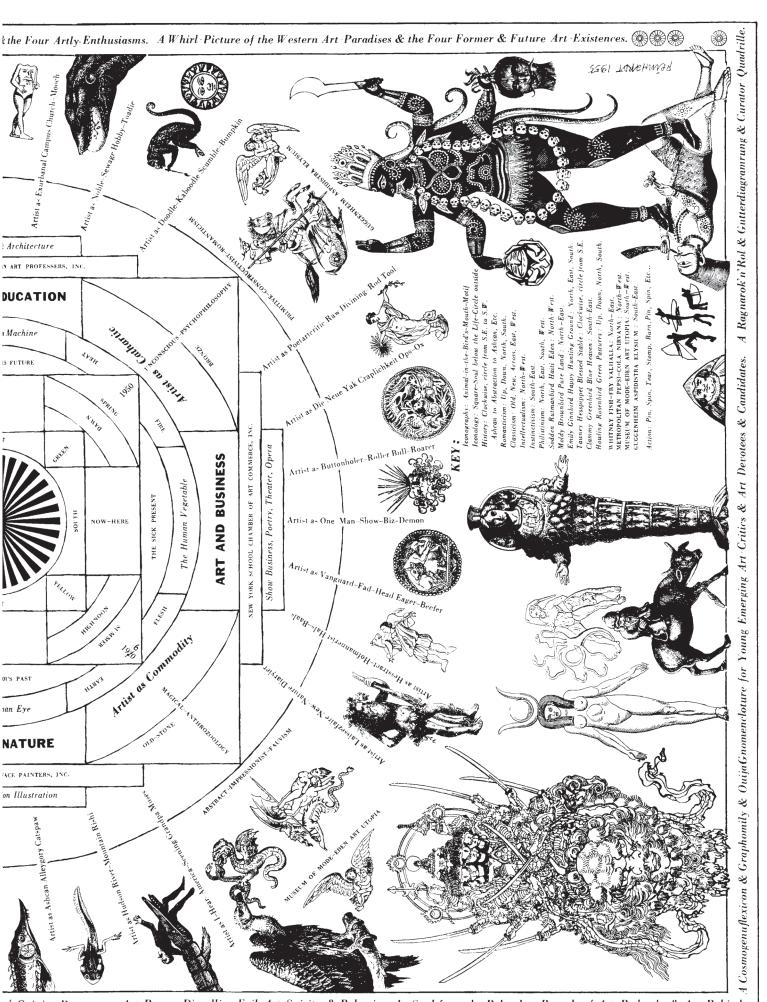


NEWYORKSCHOOLISALLOVER! AVANTGARDEARTISREALGONE! HAMORICANOBSTRUCKAXEPRESSUREISMISEVERWEAR! GREATDAY!

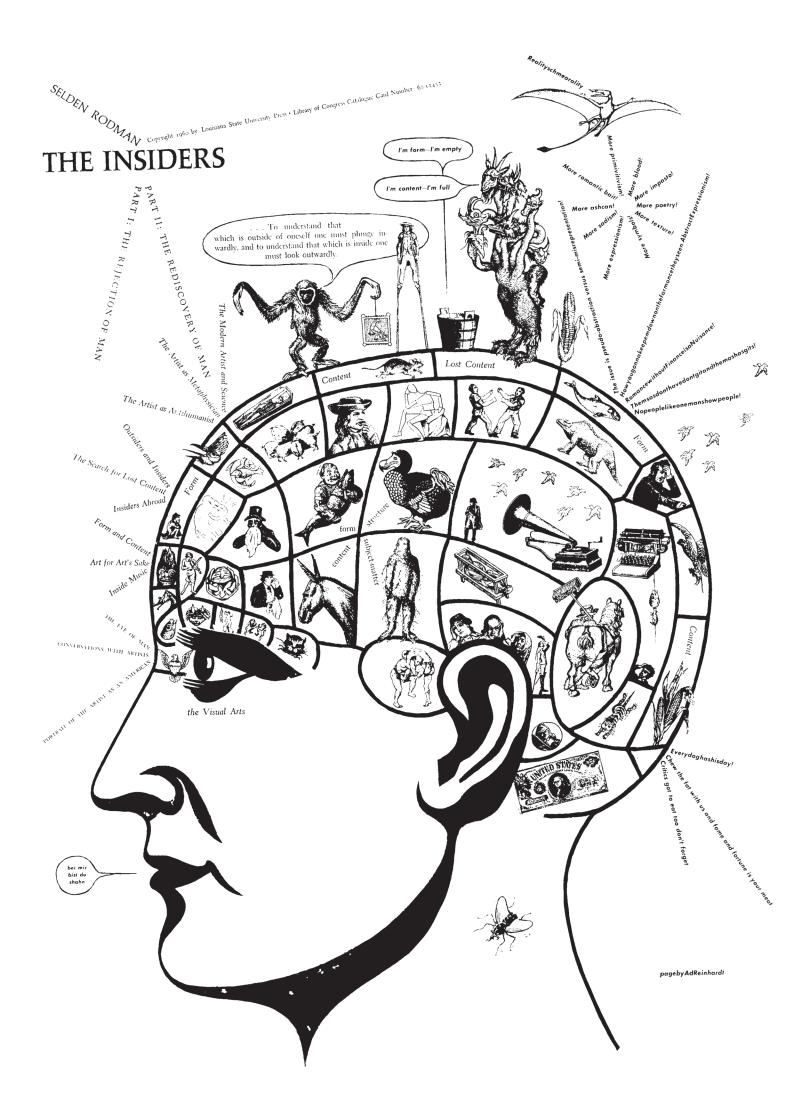
REW HARDT 1954

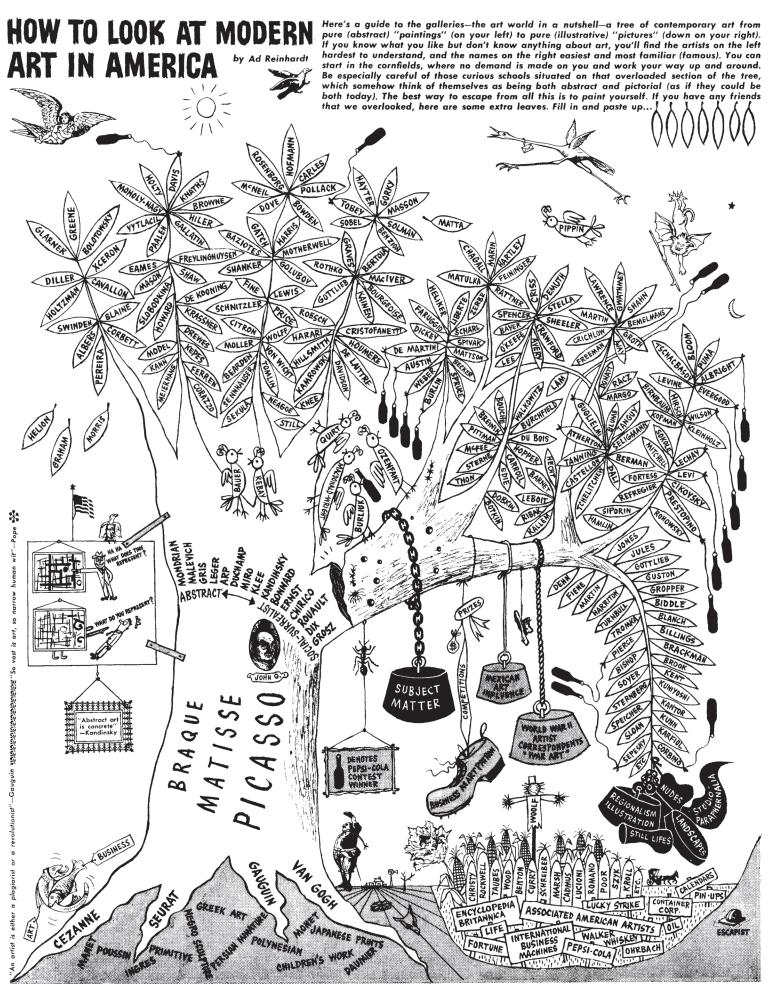


A Handy-Easy-To-Spin-Prayer-Wheel of Chants, Rite Vanguard Goosteps & Bandwagon Hymns & Pennants. A Magic - Mean-Wa



of Gaining Power over Art Power, Dispelling Evil Art-Spirits, & Releasing the Soul from the Relentless Rounds of Art-Redeaths & Art-Rebirths.





"The time is out of joint"—Hamlet (Shakespeare) : "Folks are better than angels"—Taylor 00000000" Art is lang, and (space)-time is fleeting"—Longfellow 100000000 "Movies are the Best pictures"—Reinhardt

