FrameWork 3/13:1

Ian Carr-Harris on Simple Present Future Anterior



Ten Sentences on Susan Hobbs: courtesy of Sol Lewitt

Conceptual artists are mystics rather than rationalists. They leap to conclusions that logic cannot reach.

Irrational judgements lead to new experience.

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.

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.

If words are used, and they proceed from ideas about art, then they are art and not literature; numbers are not mathematics.

All ideas are art if they are concerned with art and fall within the conventions of art.

The conventions of art are altered by works of art.

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

There are many elements involved in a work of art. The most important are the most obvious.

Banal ideas cannot be rescued by beautiful execution.

From Sentences on Conceptual Art, by Sol Lewitt, 1969;

Adapted by Ian Carr-Harris, 2013 on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Susan Hobbs Gallery