

Lecture and Reading Notes
Chapter 23: Postwar Modern Movements in the West

Key Images

Jackson Pollock. **Autumn Rhythm.** 1950.
Willem de Kooning. **Woman and Bicycle.** 1952 – 1953.
Robert Rauschenberg. **Monogram.** 1955 – 1959.
Jasper Johns. **Flag.** 1954 – 1955.
Richard Hamilton. **Just What is it ...** 1959.
Andy Warhol. **Marilyn Diptych.** 1962.
Donald Judd. **Untitled.** 1967.
Joseph Kosuth. **One and Three Chairs.** 1965.
Robert Smithson. **Spiral Jetty.** 1970.
James Turrell. **Roden Crater.** Begun 1972.
Judy Chicago. **The Dinner Party.** 1979.

Key Terms

Abstract Expressionism	Earthwork	Neo Dada
Color Field	Feminism	Performance Art
Combine	Installation	Pop Art
Conceptual Art	Minimalism	Site-specific

Questions to Consider

How did the wide-scale emigration of European artists to America influence American art?
How did World War II change the world and influence art?
What major shifts in power occurred after World War II?
Why did artists of this time gravitate towards visual realms other than the representational and the narrative?
Consider Jackson Pollock's statement, "new needs need new techniques...the modern painter cannot express this age...in the old forms of the Renaissance or of any other past culture." How is it particularly telling of the radical changes in art made after 1945?
How did the "dislocations caused by war" influence the Abstract Expressionism movement?
What novel thing did Jackson Pollock do with the canvas? How was Pollock's technique unconventional and radical?
What did "action painting" express?
Why did most artists of the 1940s and 1950s choose not to work figuratively?
What characteristics of Abstract Expressionism did later artists react against?
What is a combine? How does it challenge traditional art?
How do events and happenings extend the boundaries of the visual arts?
What was Pop Art influenced by and reacting against?
Where did Pop artists find influence and inspiration?
Why did Andy Warhol's work spark so much public indignation?
Why did the Minimalists reject painting? What characterizes their work?
In what way did Hard-Edge paintings become objects rather than reflections of objects? What do paintings in this style emphasize?
What is Conceptual art an art of? What were artists like Kosuth angered by?
What is a site-specific artwork? What is an earthwork? How do they differ?
What is installation art? How does it differ from sculpture?
What inequities did early feminists begin to take action against?
What is performance art?
What is the main difference between the paintings of Photorealists and most earlier realist painting? What is the sculptural counterpart to Photorealism?