

[miscellaneous manuscripts]

[1) Holtzman Deposit, Box 5, passim; 2) Mondriaanarchief – RKD; archiefnr. 0740 - 1 en 40]

[The notes are chronological arranged.]

[X6] [voorzijde]

Time is progress and /
progress is time. //
Without time (<+ in darkness: we feel) no /
progress, no evolution, /
but perfectness. //
Grow in time to perfec- /
ness is progress. //

Difference between /
man and animal (nature) /
[verwijzingstekens: ✕ //

Is the difference only in /
brain and nerves ? //

Anyhow, in time is /
Difference. /
Beyond time is in dark /
We are in time. //

[ondersteboven:]
Special body white. /
Priming panels, canvasses, etc. /
J. Bryce Smith. LTD. /
117 Hampstead Road N.W.1. ///

[X6] [achterzijde]

[verwijzingsteken: ✕ We see in Men /
Progress. /
In Nature not //

Art has to Show the /
difference between Men /
and Nature. //

This is the good right /
of Abstract Art. //

The Separation of /
Men and Nature //

In the Past they were one //

<Religion (True) → (True) Religion> Separated //

But men falsed Religion //

Mod time followed the Past.//

[rechtermarge, verticaal]

Art followed (in other (Realistic) way True Religion. ///

[X10] [voorzijde]

When Nature seems to /
take account only of the /
espace, ⟨+ nevertheless⟩ the Individual /
is ⟨− all the same⟩ something in it. ///

[X10] [*achterzijde*]

Amid all the per[xxx] /
about dest[xxx] /
it can be rejoyi[xxx] /
⟨- Art is optimi[xxx]⟩ /
culture of art /
⟨to see that → appears a [xxx] /
Art ⟨h → H⟩as /
⟨- in this cult[xxx]⟩ /
of Freedom Nev[xxx] /
Just this freedom /

[*ondersteboven:*]
Scientific [xxx]

[N7] [voorzijde]

It was necessary and will remain /
necessary until ⟨+ there is more Balance in⟩ Human Life. ⟨- is /
more equilibrate than is more⟩ //

[ondersteboven:]

But ⟨- bomen, str in⟩ gene- /
rally men does still like tragic. ----- /
“thrill” films are wanted. /
There is a Fear for Equilem /
⟨Because One does → It is⟩ not see ⟨- [xx]⟩ /
as Dynamic movement [verwijzingssteken:] ✕ //

[niet meer ondersteboven:]

[verwijzingssteken:] ✕ ⟨+ because ⟨- ⟨+ now m⟩ ⟨+ equilibrium now⟩ ⟨- is⟩ Appears Static ¬
[verwijzingssteken:] Z //

[verwijzingssteken:] Z in Human life and in Art /
it is to much still veiled. //

Art shows that [verwijzingssteken:] T oppositions /
must Remain. Therefore /
Nazis are Wrong Willing Unify /
Europe to an Static Unity. [verwijzingssteken:] X //

[verwijzingssteken:] T to establish a Dyn. Equi ///

[N7] [achterzijde]

⟨- If there is Progress ⟨+ Continual Development⟩, then there /
is Only One Direction to take. /
Then there is only a marche /
Forward. //

But ⟨people → men⟩ like to Dwell /
Around. Nevertheless they /
Come at Least out on /
Progress way.) //

Progress has made ⟨+ the⟩ Metrop. C. /
Evil has chased men out off /
⟨- metropolitans citys⟩ ⟨+ some of them.⟩ /
This fact proves sufficiently /
its Value. //

It shows the Oppressers. //

[verwijzingssteken:] X Art Shows that only ⟨- [xx]⟩ /
Equivalent Oppositions /
Can create true Unity. ///

[59] [voorzijde]

All these are progressions /
of life thus needs /
of life. But when /
<- oppress> they are oppressing /
us, no place for living is left. //

Separation in work and leisure, time /
is a <- surroga> substitute to li<fe → ving> and ///

[Y7] [*voorzijde*]

movement (action) in space /
movement esthetical action on /
space (plane, canvas) ///

[Y7] [*achterzijde*]

Subjective and Objective /

Art. //

⟨- Many⟩ Abstr. painters can be /

more subjective than ⟨- [xxx] /

⟨- Some⟩ naturalistic painters, /

in spite of ⟨- absence⟩ lack of /

subject. ///

[0740-1] [voorzijde]

it is grown out of plasti- /
cal experience and so a ⟨- need⟩ “necessity”. ///

[N1] [*achterzijde*]

In spite of all misery, at present /
it can be our great joy to see /
art and life detaching them self /
from oppression. //
Is this fact in life not clearly to /
see through its confusing elements, /
in Art it is incontestably manifested. //
<+ Following> The culture of Art during the century, /
we see <- [xxx] an increasing freeing ///

[N1] [voorzijde]

from the [verwijzingsteken:] ↑ ⟨- predomination of⟩ particular /
forms ⟨+ and colors⟩ which through their ⟨- limitation⟩ [verwijzingsteken :] Z ⟨- [verwijzingsteken:] 1⟩ //
obscure the full expression /

[verwijzingsteken:] ↑ of the subjective /
representation of //

of arts reel contents.] ⟨, → .⟩ ⟨- [xx]⟩ /
In life it must be the same. //

⟨- [verwijzingsteken:] 1 selfish caracter⟩ //
[verwijzingsteken :] Z predomination ///

[N11] [voorzijde]

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ In both efforts we are /
not free but bound by /
external and internal /
forces. //

⟨+ Pl.⟩ Art shows /
that /
Life as continuity ⟨+ d.i.culture⟩ only can /
make us free. /
(this by /
freedom). //

[N11] [achterzijde]

objective and subjective /

Oppression --- /

⟨by → in⟩ reality around us /

and ⟨by → in⟩ ⟨- subj.⟩ our personal /

vision -- [verwijzingssteken:] ⊙ //

To vainc the first ⟨- ⟨+ actualy⟩, the /

caracter of forms is ⟨- important⟩ ⟨+to chose or⟩ /

to ⟨chose → transform⟩. //

to vainc the second /

mentality is to transform.

⟨+ For both⟩ human development is /

need.) [verwijzingssteken:] × ///

[F3] [*achterzijde*]

New things press forward – /
to take their place – beside /
the old – in our sector of the /
home front – as in yours – /
Man due continue to find /
interest in New Things – and /
meet the challenge in our /
common front. //
Brigdens of Winnipeg limited. ///

[27] [*achterzijde*]

A "Style" requires a more or less /
collective expression in art. /
What (tegenwerkt) collectivity (tegen- /
werkt) the appearance of ⟨- a⟩ Style. /
What (tegenwerkt) collectivity ? /
What makes it impossible ? /
Individual feelings and conception. /
Egoïsme. /
material difficultys /
struggle for life and ⟨+ for⟩ high /
life. ///

[Y1 - 1a] [voorzijde]

Expression of ⟨+ ⟨L → l⟩ife ⟨- is what is important⟩⟩ ⟨- [xxx]⟩ and not expression of space /
is important. //

Space is empty, life is full. //

Space-expression ⟨+ is or⟩ creates subject- /
tive feelings. //

Expression of life, ⟨- in⟩ ⟨+ vitality⟩, dynamic movement, /
is universal. //

Form is space as well as empty space. /

Thus form ⟨- pla⟩, volume, ⟨- [xx]⟩ plane, a⟨+ nd⟩ ⟨form → line⟩, must /
be destroyed and not expressed. [verwijzingssteken:] ✕ /

⟨- The⟩ the⟨- [x]⟩ constructive elements can /
create a continual opposition that /

forms the ⟨rythme dynamic → dynamic rythme⟩ of life. //

This is required for the work as a whole /
and for its composing elements. /

Only then //

[verwijzingssteken:] ○ Purity beyond our capacity is untrue. ///

[Y1 - 1a] [achterzijde]

Tired by the conflicts of this world, people /
like to be ⟨+ in thought⟩ transferred in an other world. /
This explique the resourch for distractions ⟨+ and for Art⟩. /
Art can (is able) to create an more equilibrated, /
an purer world. But ⟨- ⟨+ the man of the city requires⟩ ⟨+ ⟨- here it is important /
to remark⟩ that this other world has to be /
a world where ⟨he → we⟩ can live in, thus directly /
related with the palpable reality around ⟨- [xxx][xxx]⟩ ⟨+ us.⟩ [verwijzingsteken:] ○ //

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ Abstract understood as ⟨accentuation of → expression of ⟨+ mouvement⟩⟩ ¬
⟨- form towards → which is the⟩ /
⟨- it⟩ content⟨- s⟩ ⟨- dynamic⟩ of form. //

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ we can conclude that //

More than a quarter of a centurie Art theories /
have emphasized the importance of space-ex- /
pression in ⟨- Art⟩ Abstract Art. [verwijzingsteken:] ⊥ Seeing time as an /
other expression of space, and space being /
an naturalistic reality of 3 dimensions, [verwijzingsteken:] ✕ there /
is no question of this. Space-expression is /
naturalistic and has thus to be destroyed in //

[verwijzingsteken:] ⊥ There is spoken of space - time. There is believed /
even that the accentuation of space ⟨- would⟩ /
thus time - would ⟨- bring⟩ make us enter a new /
dimension. But //

order to create an abstract expression. [verwijzingsteken:] ✕ //

In painting, the ⟨canvas empty → empty canvas⟩ is an expression of /
⟨- [xxx]⟩ ⟨+ naturalistic ⟨- [xxx]⟩⟩ space, determined by circonfereces of it. //

In sculpture, the statue as a ⟨- n⟩ whole is ⟨- ,⟩ an /
filled up (?) ⟨+ naturalistic⟩ space ⟨- ⟨+ naturalistic⟩ expression. Both expressions /
have to be destroyed in order to reach abstract /
expression. Naturalistic space is filled up with /
imaginarie (subjective) ⟨- or⟩ naturalistic ⟨- forms⟩ or /
geometrical forms. All these forms have to be /
destroyed, because they ⟨are all → all are⟩ expressions of natu- /
ralistic space. Consequently, not the construction /
of space (form), but the destruction of it is what /
abstract art requiers. ///

[26] [*achterzijde*]

Painting has no /
direct (living) /
value when /
it is not in /
direct relationship /
with the actual /
surrounding rea- /
lity. For /
Men of the City /
the City /
must be subli- /
mated in the /
painting - the /
who City life /
must reflect in /
it. //

<- So> [*verwijzingssteken:*] ✕ Metaphysic /
painting has not /
this direct rela- /
tionship. Being ///

[26] [voorzijde]

too far off from /
our surrounding, /
<- [xx]> leads to /
Misinterpret- /
tation or /
misunderstanding. //

[verwijzingssteken:] ✕ Even taken universal, ///

[54] [voorzijde]

Opposition of two forces /
creates dynamic movement. ///

[54] [*achterzijde*]

Pure abstract vision contains the per- /
ception of reality in ⟨+ its⟩ universal aspect. /
This aspect is not an accumulation of /
forms, but of the dynamic movement /
which makes living the⟨- se⟩ forms. /
Plastically this movement s'établir /
by relationships of shapes or lines /
Consequently lines and shapes ⟨- rema⟩ are /
only means of expression. /
The character of these /
means deter- /
mine this expression. ///

[58] [*achterzijde*]

Reality changes with time. //

Primitive nature. //

City - culture is ⟨+ Freeing from the grasp of nature.⟩ ///

[60] [*achterzijde*]

In the art of the past the /
artist came ⟨+ out⟩ above the animal /
collectivity, every one creating /
a different transformation of the /
naturalistic means. //

The individuals (men) being mutual /
different, the plastic means must /
be different. While in the past the /
⟨plastic means → naturalistic⟩ were ⟨- generally⟩ commonly /
⟨- were⟩ used as plastic means (with ex- /
ceptions (Byz.), ⟨- we can see⟩ and in /
modern time more or less transfor- /
med natural of abstract forms /

[*ondersteboven*]

appear, we can see this as ⟨- an⟩ /
detachment ⟨- of the⟩ from ⟨- the⟩ natural /
(animal ⟨+ -like⟩) collectivity, an develop- /
ment of the individual. ⟨- Then⟩ /
In this way the individual can /
create a more human collectivity. ///

[70] [*achterzijde*]

⟨− Establishing the structure of reality /
is making abstract art.⟩ //

⟨− Abstract art establish the structure /
of reality.⟩ //

The ⟨constitution → establishment⟩ in concrete way ⟨+ of⟩ the /
structure ⟨of → in⟩ [*verwijzingssteken:*] ✕ reality ⟨+ confused⟩ is the content of /
abstract art. //

 [*verwijzingssteken:*] ✕ the natural appearance of //
Matter --- Laundry //

[*ondersteboven*]

Space-expression sounds /
primitive and naturalistic, /
space-determination is the /
content of human-culture. ///

[65] [*achterzijde*]

Through ⟨the → its⟩ expression of intrin- /
sic equilibrium Pl. Art shows /
that reality is equilibrium. /
But in time, through its /
complicated ⟨– expressi⟩ manifesta- /
tions, it is tragical. //
Pl. Art is the establishment of /
constant reality which is above /
the complicated natural /
manifestations ⟨– and⟩ thus above /
⟨+ the⟩ tragic of life. //

[*ondersteboven*]

Plastic art in general, but particularly /
Abstract Art, reveals that ---- ///

[61] [achterzijde]

Abstract Art reveals that it ⟨- is⟩ not /
is a simple abstraction. [verwijzingsteken:]] It is /
a real transformation of it. /

Abstract ⟨a → A⟩rt follows in this the /
way of the art of the past. [verwijzingsteken:] × /
⟨- which⟩ showed ⟨- always a more /
or less⟩ transformation of reality. //

[verwijzingsteken:]] of the natural
Aspect. ///

[61] [voorzijde]

[verwijzingssteken:] ✕ In the cours of its culture /

Plastic Art showed ⟨- progressively⟩ /

an /

increasing //

[ondersteboven:]

Benzadirne ///

[62] [achterzijde]

The acceptance of the necessity of /
change annihilate the tragic of /
life. //

Surrealism. //

<- Now> <m → M>en are mostly instruments of /
their own (propre) <+ individual> feelings. //
<+ During creation> Art<+ists are> instruments of universal feelings. ///

[63] [voorzijde]

Plastic Art ⟨- ,⟩ reflection of Reality. /

So we can (could) entitle /

Abstract Art with /

the name New /

Realisme. ///

[63] [*achterzijde*]

Art always is in direct relation to /
reality. Reality changes in time. Art /
has to change its expression. The /
essential content of Art remains, is un- /
changeable, as ⟨+ is⟩ the essential content of /
reality. ///

[72] [achterzijde]

[ondersteboven:]

radiant / flower

[normaal:]

All plast. Art shows that space-deter- /
mination is the pure technical way to /
express reality. //

Every ⟨technic → tendency⟩ shows ⟨+a particular way of⟩ space-determination: /
Visible then, in placing of line or color, /
even only in the ⟨- pen⟩ brush touch, ⟨+Impress. division.⟩ //

[ondersteboven:]

Abstr.a. tends to a concrete space-determin /

In Ab. Art structure and means [verwijzingsteken:] ✕ /

⟨- cle⟩ concreet [verwijzingsteken:] ⊥ /

Probleme: unified, equilibrium. //

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ in ⟨old → naturalistic⟩ art confounded, //

[ondersteboven:]

hair is animal //

[normaal:]

[verwijzingsteken:] ⊥ as to be separated ///

[20] [achterzijde]

[verwijzingssteken:] ✕ Plurality of forms. ///

The existence as /

entity is in reality /

annihilated by <- [verwijzingssteken:] ✕ > --- /

<- [xx] Forms a) variety /

or similar [verwijzingssteken:] ✕ ///

[20] [voorzijde]

[ondersteboven:]

Similar forms annihilate /
more than varies. They do /

⟨- have⟩ not ⟨+ show⟩ contrast /
but ⟨+ are in⟩ equivalent opposition ///

[16] [voorzijde]

<- In All great <art plastic → plastic art>> <+New Realism> /
<- has to> exclude lyricism. [verwijzingssteken:] ✕ //

<+ So realism> <- R> is the most to name for /
pure plastic art. /
Abstr. art can /
be called New /
realism. ///

[16] [achterzijde]

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ Lyricism [verwijzingsteken:] ¶ is ⟨[xxx] → reveals an⟩ individual /
perception, ⟨− of reality. It is⟩ /
not the ⟨+ pure⟩ reflection of rea- /
lity. //

[verwijzingsteken:] ¶ can appear /
in natur. as well as in /
abstract art. It ///

[12] [*achterzijde*]

Color can vivifying an /
great ⟨− empty⟩ plain plane /
but not entirely annihilate /
its appearance as entity. /
It has to be divided. ///

[0740-40] [voorzijde]

[verwijzingssteken:] Γ particular //

The annihilation /
of the [verwijzingssteken:] Γ form in Art. /
by /
Piet Mondrian. ///

[23a] [voorzijde]

[verticaal in twee marges:]

that evidence ⟨+ (shows)⟩ constant
growth. //

Art is the expression of the /

⟨artist with unification of the → unification of the artist with⟩ the univers. ///

[tekst op de achterzijde, zie [102]]

[15] [*achterzijde*]

Some remain always young, ex- /
pressing themselves in an old way. /
Others grown aged and express /
themselves young. ///

[21] [voorzijde]

The individual expression of the /
planes as well as the $\langle + \text{ir} \rangle \langle + \text{mutual} \rangle \text{stati} \langle q \rightarrow c \rangle \text{ba-} /$
lance must be destroyed. ///

[21] [*achterzijde*]

⟨Plastic → Abstract⟩ Art shows ⟨+ clearly⟩ that the expression /
of ⟨- life⟩ ⟨- ⟨+ vitality⟩ ⟨+ intrinsic life⟩ is not Confusion but /
Opposition. //
Opposition requires Separation. /
True unity is by separation and /
not by Confusion. //
Confusion creates a fals unity /
that, evidently, destroys it self. //
In love, physical /
and emotional life has /
not to be joined with the life /
of the mind but has to be /
in opposition with them. ///

[25] [voorzijde]

[ondersteboven:]

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ But there is a /
human force in man. This force [verwijzingsteken:] ○ //
<- [verwijzingsteken:] ✕ > //
[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ ✕ of himself not only but of others. ///

[25] [achterzijde]

[verwijzingsteken:] ✕ natural [verwijzingsteken:] A ⟨– Preface⟩ Introduction. //
It is an undeniable fact that nature /
towards men is oppressing in spite of its /
constructive force. The [verwijzingsteken:] ✕ constructive force, /
destructive at the same time, drives men /
to maintain his existence. ⟨– and this⟩
Taking all means to this purpose, he /
oppresses other men. This is his animal /
nature. //

[verwijzingsteken:] A Life and Art towards /
liberalism ⟨of the dominating → of oppression⟩. ///