

What is ART?

I would like to ask some questions with a central theme – the theme is art.

I will provide some answers from my perspective.

What is art?

How long has it been with us?

Who makes art?

Is art important?

Art has been with us from our very beginnings. Cave paintings, fertility goddesses, decorated bowls are all examples of art at the beginning of human civilization.

Art is made by all humans, in all cultures and at all times in our history.

Anything can be art – if – the intention is such.

Art is usually a metaphor for something else – an expression of ideas, or emotion, aspirations and or desires.

Art can speak about the unspeakable and express the unknowable.

Art has no boundaries or dimension – save what it is given; and the meaning of art can go far beyond what the original creator intended.

Art can be the voice and mirror of our soul.

Art is architecture because it sculpts our environment.

Whether it is music or buildings or bridges or paintings or clothes – Art adorns our spaces and defines who we are.

It has been said that the true leaders of civilization are artists because they have the courage and vision to conceive a new tomorrow.

I was recently in Redding, California and saw the Sun Dial Bridge. One of the greatest pieces of public art ever produced. It is a foot bridge over a beautiful stretch of the Sacramento River.

This piece of art contains many powerful metaphors - moving water, the clocking of time, transporting people – connecting the dimensions of the participants in a graceful and dynamic way, but yet – the bridge - does not moving at all.

My wife and I were looking at real estate and the agent we were with described the Sun Dial as – “a bridge to nowhere”. For many people – art does not hold much meaning. What eludes people of this ilk – is that they have limited vision – which is an apt metaphor for their lives.

Everyone is an artist in my thinking. But most people do not realize it or embrace it.

I say everyone is a philosopher – but most people don't realize or accept that we live in a world of ideas

In the same logic everyone is a carpenter because all of life is mechanical manipulation.

This is a piece of art I made for my dining room:



A chair is a functional piece of art like the Sun Dial Bridge because it can be used as well as viewed.

If you realize you are something – be good at it – focus determines your reality.

My admonition is to give art a whirl – try your hand at something.

It is a mistake to go through life without producing artistic “things” of excellence.

When ideas flow through your mind – like a river – and come out your hands – it is a bridge between the physical and meta physical worlds.

Making art increases the possibility of connecting to oneself.

In addition art can transcend time or transform time or transport you to another time.

This is WoodArt or at least one form of WouldArt:



Take a stand in relation to art, or in my case a... seat.

It has been said that being a true artist is not a profession but priesthood.

This is a very cogent idea, but Art is also a type of prison – a prison of ones own design and desire.

All art is a vehicle for our volition. Dance is a type of art. One can dance alone or with a partner.

It is a function of volition to choose to dance in the first place. Then, if we so desire, to choose the type of dance and, if required, a partner.

The motivation to dance goes to the heart of consciousness. Our motivation is an amalgamation of a billion factors.

“To know” the prime factors which propel us down a path is the beginning of wisdom.

Sometimes we don't know – we just move in our dance out of compulsion, convenience or constraint.

The true artist tries to express and know his heart's desire.

To understand one's own volition and then express that desire is the quest of art. Art is an action that takes courage.

Everyone is an artist – and – every moment of our existence can be unfolded artistically. We choose if we will act artistically.

Each of us has a responsibility to divine our volition and architect our next moment.....

I will share one last artistic metaphor with you as I end this discourse – I will take my seat and leave.

