

# We Are All Artists

The first sentence of an essay should be the most important one. Too late. It seems that I have already infringed this classical literary convention. "Convention". This word refers to a rather strict term, thus it requires to be understood. Then to be applied, eventually. Eventually above all in this essay, because I am going to talk to you about the concept of "Art" and more specifically, about the notion of "artists".

Originating from the latin word "ars" whose proper meaning designates a "way of being" or a "way of acting", this essay will therefore discusses about you, about your friends, neighbors and even about doctors, plumbers, letter carriers, teachers and so many others, myself included.



This essay is addressed to every and all human beings so far living, on this sole planet Earth.

## • The Process of Feeling and Thinking or the Foundation of Art

Who am I ? Then, who are we ? Let's think about it, deeply.

"I think therefore I am" once said Descartes. You also think and so do I, daily. Consciously and unconsciously. Rightly for some and wrongly for others. But the process of thinking is a common human trait, as also well represented by "Le Penseur", the famous sculpture created by the French sculptor A. Rodin in 1902.

Once born ; we all feel and believe or not, we also all think. Then, we became able to develop and materially fix most of our ideas. Speaking, for example. According to the well known French film director Jean-Luc Godard ; "one word is what is silent". Indeed, it is necessary for some professional athletes to emit sounds while they are performing, as it enables them to eternalize their current emotions in the moment, so as to reinforce the strength of their accomplishments. Then, our inner wishes can be quenched through a speech, whose oral expressions render them more concrete, as much as chosen omitted paroles would do. In this instance, purposely deciding to refrain from acting is a direct result from a previous thought commanding it. As such, one can think about the mysterious regard of "The Girl with a Pearl Earring", the famous oil painting on canvas produced by the Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer in the 17th century as shown below.



But wait a second, how do we make up our thoughts ?

Well, as also briefly mentioned above through the example of professional athletes' externalized feelings into sounds, the contemporary French philosophical writer Marc Levy would undoubtedly reply that "Art is born of feeling, this is what makes it timeless".

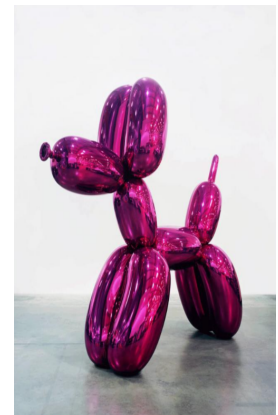
Then for sure, professional athletes feel the need to exteriorize such profound feeling they have before performing a precise action. So is Art and the feelings which emanate from us towards it, which arises or leans,

languishes or thrives. It's only up to you to acknowledge those to then eventually do something from it. In fact, the canvas that you are contemplating may nicely inspire you because it invites you to remember, to reflect or even to dream departing from it, so you surely might enjoy it as you would feel relaxed or energized by contemplating it, harmonious or happily decisive, and so forth. But the contrary also works. Indeed, you might dislike the photograph exhibited in front of you because the colors and the shapes it purports makes you feel uncomfortable. However, while a piece of art may appear distasteful for some, others would appreciate it because Art also reflects the diversity of infinite intermingled subjectivities, which without even you and me, would hence change.

Furthermore, along the emergence and development of several phenomenas throughout this century, as emanating from the Internet of Things such as eco-friendly technologies, new artistic categories also distinguished themselves accordingly.

The “urban” or “street art” concepts which invite us all, in accordance with the legal concept of “ordre public and morality” to respect, to express ourselves also through graffitis and giant glued photographs in the street, firstly appeared in the 70’s in the U.S. and about a decade later in Europe. Take for example the contemporary anonymous street art artist Banksy and the French urban photographer Jr.

Also do you remember those multifaceted balloons that a clown or some other fantastic character would have transformed to you into a rabbit, a flower or a even a giraffe ? Well, we owe their famous representation to the well-known American plastic sculptor artist Jef Koons in this field, whose neo-pop kitsch style rendered the "Balloon Dogs" sculpture, one of the most famous artistic sculpture in the world.



Plus, we can also consider other artistic works like theatre plays and films, such as those written by the remarkable English dramaturge W. Shakespeare for the former, which continue to be played and adapted worldwide so as to further its transmission and related aspirations it can purport to beneficially empower anyone’s bulk of feelings and thus, substantial freedom of thinking.

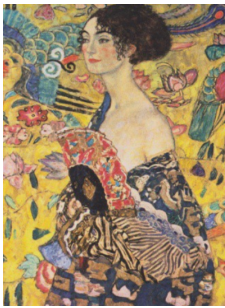
## • The Benefits of Constructive Criticism

"What I know is that I don't know anything" once said Socrates, "and I'm not even sure about that" replied Montaigne to amuse themselves. As you might have guessed, insightful knowledge represents a powerful personal tool to accordingly express your desires and thoughts. But first, it is essential to be tolerant because to entertain a decent level of curiosity, it requires to be or to become humble. Otherwise, the process is screwed up. Otherwise, you can easily take stupid or even mean decisions, such as enabling discriminatory beliefs and actions to badly fills up History, as it already happened. However, criticism can sometimes be useful to improve and build things, for example. However, not to destroy someone’s else ideas, nor creations.

"Being the king of your mood refers to the privilege only enjoyed by big animals" once wrote the French novelist A.Camus but as far as I am concerned, even though I know that tho ensure equality between all citizens of the world reflects a very challenging universal task, at least the legal concept of equity should be duly ensured so as to enable any one to fulfill its very own potential. Only to permit so, it would require a decent level of respect to be ensured by anyone towards the expression made of any ideas because as long as there is respect, there is a room to effectively listen to one another, to then discuss further the related issues that such idea(s) would purport.

Let's conveniently confront our ideas. Let us share our critical and criticizable opinions on the matter at issue. Indeed, interactions can be perceived as potential bridges to constructively create something better than previously thought. As such, while students would go to university to study as fine gourmets would go to a nice restaurant to taste a meal ; museums and art galleries welcome any curious individuals fascinated about discoveries.

Then along talent, work and dedication, a feeling of gratitude also has to remain because it truly enables the scope of our respective state of minds to interpret anything through an optimistic way of thinking. Indeed, if you consider all existing cultures on this planet, how would you define a sole person representing them all ? Perhaps with contradictory adjectives but according to the French novelist and Academician J. D'Ormesson ; "there is always an advantage in being a little implausible" and I believe so too, because diversity empowers comprehension, originality and growth through the learning and teaching experiences that such interactions can bring on their own.



As such, it also appears relevant to think about the sentence that the Italian Professor of Law Tullio Ascarelli once said : "Furi dell'interpretazione non c'è norma" meaning "without any interpretation, there is no existing norms". Then, the personal interpretation we confer on anything has to be relativized also through various other existing norms with which we might be more or less familiar with, so as to ensure universal constructive observations. Then, I believe that any thoughts which can be artistically expressed should therefore be respectively and openly thus constructively, debated as much as possible to further the quality of its scope.

In this regard, I invite you to contemplate the work entitled "Woman with a fan" performed by the Austrian painter G. Klimt (above), as well as to look at the sculpture "Crocodile" created by the French sculptor Richard Orlinski, while eventually waiting for the next film of the successful Canadian filmmaker Xavier Dolan, to then share your respective emotions and thoughts about those artworks to the world.

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