

This is a chapter in piero scaruffi's "A Visual History of the Visual Arts": <http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history>

The Space Age

- Happenings/ Performance Art
 - Gutai Bijutsu Kyokai (1954. Japan)
 - Outdoor installations, theatrical events and art-making events
 - Allan Kaprow (1927, USA): "Eighteen Happenings in Six Parts" (1959), the first major "happening"
 - The visual arts must move towards theater
 - Influenced by John Cage
 - George Maciunas (1931, Europe and USA): Fluxus movement to bridge art and life (1962)

The Space Age

- Happenings/ Performance Art
 - Allan Kaprow (1927, USA)



"Eighteen Happenings in Six Parts" (1959)



"Eat" (1964)



"Fluids" (1967) that leaves absolutely nothing behind (the community builds huge ice structures that melt)

The Space Age

- Happenings/ Performance Art
 - George Brecht (1926, USA): Fluxus

"Water Yam" (1963), 70 event-scores together, created over a four-year period from 1959 to 1963



The Space Age

- Happenings/ Performance Art
 - Gustav Metzger (1926, Britain)
 - published the manifesto "Auto-Destructive Art" (1959)
 - lectured at the London Architectural Association (1964), followed by a "happening" of destruction of artworks



Metzger creating a piece that self-destroyed after a few minutes (1961)

The Space Age

- Happenings/ Performance Art
 - Claes Oldenburg's Ray Gun Spex, a series of happenings (1960) with Jim Dine, Al Hansen, Kaprow, Whitman, etc
 - Judith Malina's and Julian Beck's Living Theatre: "Paradise Now" (1968)



"Paradise Now" (1968): the actors provoke arguments until the audience leaves

The Space Age

“Evening of Happenings” @ Reuben Gallery (Jan 1960)

REUBEN GALLERY

61 Fourth Avenue bet. 9th & 10th Street
New York City 3, N. Y.

4 EVENINGS JANUARY 8,9,10,11 AT 8:30 P.M.

Fireman's Dream by Red Grooms

January Happening by Allan Kaprow

Small Cannon by Robert Whitman

ADVANCE RESERVATION ONLY CALL OR41136 MIN. CONTRIB. \$1.50

RED GROOMS JANUARY 9 thru JANUARY 21

OPEN Tues. thru Sun. 1P.M.-6P.M. Every Fri. 1P.M.-10P.M.

Jim Dine: “Car Crash 1” (Nov 1960)



Robert Whitman: "American Moon"
(Nov 1961)

The Space Age

Claes Oldenburg & Jim Dine organize the "Ray Gun Spex" happening at the Judson Church (Feb 1960)



Robert Morris and Yvonne Rainer perform "See Saw"



Simone Forti and Patty Oldenburg perform "Rollers"



The Space Age

Happenings @ Reuben Gallery
(1961)



Claes Oldenburg: "Circus
Ironworks/Fotodeath" (Feb
1961)

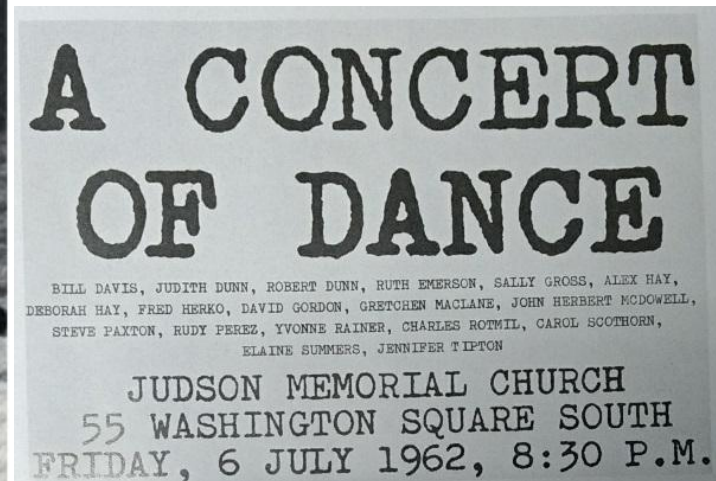
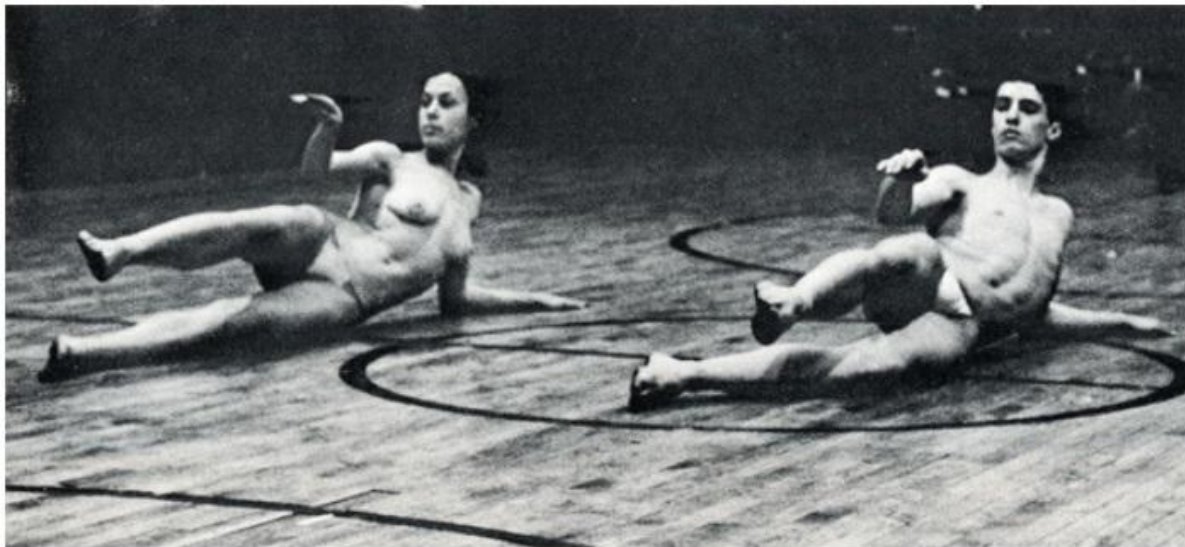


Robert Whitman: "American Moon"
(Nov 1961)

The Space Age

Judson Dance Theater

July 1962: 17 students of Robert Ellis Dunn's dance class perform at the Judson Memorial Church in Greenwich Village including Yvonne Rainer, Deborah Hay, David Gordon, Lucinda Childs, Steve Paxton, Trisha Brown



Yvonne Rainer and Steve Paxton, *Word Words*, 1963. Performance view, Judson Church, New York, January 29, 1963.

The Space Age

May 1963: Yam Festival month-long series of happenings organized by George Brecht and Robert Watts at George Segal's farm

including Allan Kaprow, John Cage, Al Hansen, Dick Higgins, La Monte Young, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Ray Johnson...

SMOLIN GALLERY PRESENTS

as part of the Yam Festival

An afternoon of Happenings,
Dance and Music at George Siegel's
farm, Davidson's Mills Road,
Box 323, South Brunswick, New
Jersey on Sunday, May 19, 1963
at 2 p. m.

PRESENTATIONS

Chuck Ginnever A Sculpture Dance
Dick Higgins Lots of Trouble
Allan Kaprow May, A Happening
Yvonne Rainer A Dance
Wolf Vostell Television Decollage
La Monte Young Music

DIRECTIONS AND TRANSPORTATION TO SIEGEL'S FARM

By Car: New Jersey Turnpike South to Exit 9. Follow signs saying Route 130 South (not to New Brunswick) to traffic circle for Route 130 for approximately 4 to 5 miles. Watch for Liquor Store Bar Esso station on left. This is Davidson's Mills Road. Turn left, go 1-1/4 miles. Farm on right is marked.

By Bus: Chartered buses (Suburban Lines) leave from 42nd Street Port Authority Bus Terminal (check at Information Desk for platform) at 12 noon sharp. Round trip ticket \$2 -- pay to driver. Bus returns to N. Y. C. about 6 p. m.

Food: New Jersey state law prohibits outdoor cooking because of recent severe drought. Bring your own picnic lunch.

PLEASE DETACH THIS FORM AND RETURN WITH STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO SMOLIN GALLERY, 19 EAST 71st St., N.Y.C. 21.

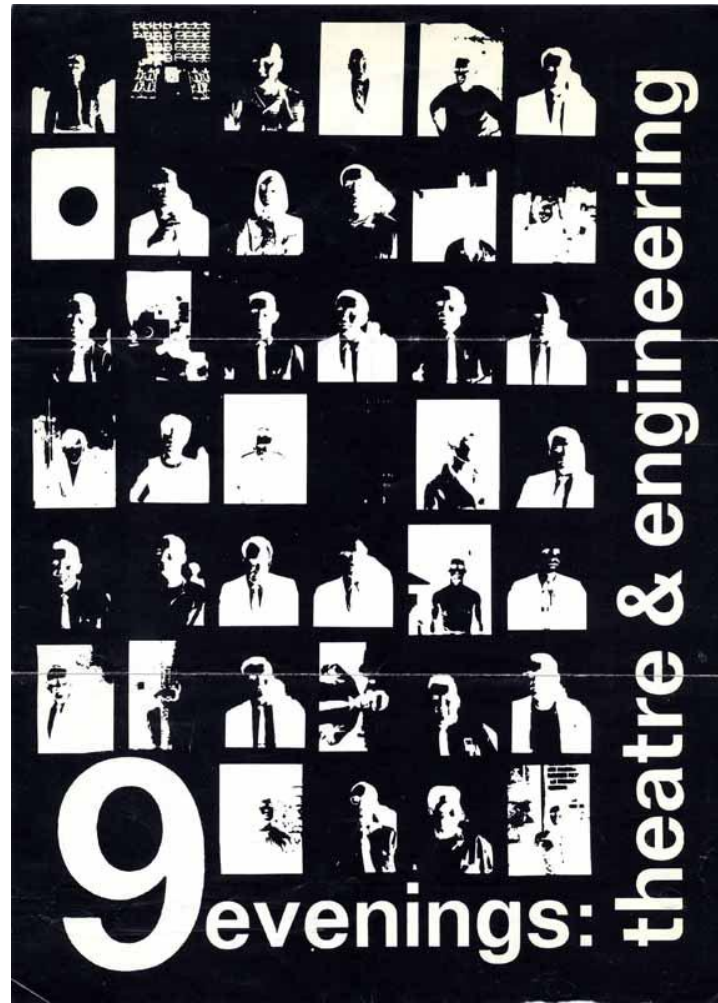
ENCLOSE \$2.00 for each reservation. Make checks payable to: Ira Smolin.

The Space Age

“9 Evenings of Theatre and Engineering” (1966)
with 10 artists and 30+ engineers



Billy Kluver



The Space Age

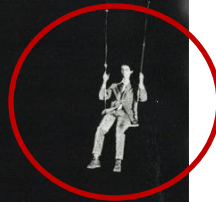
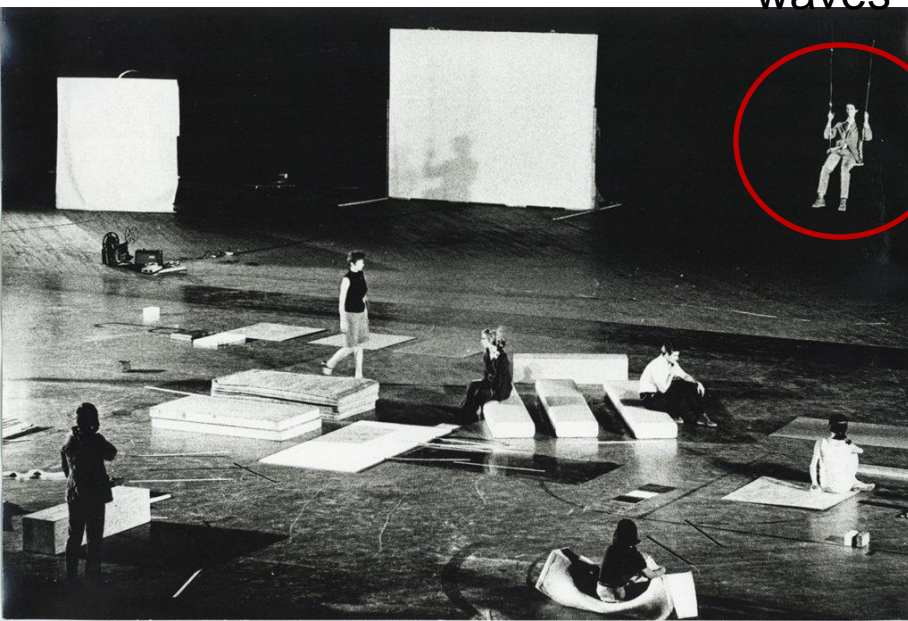
“9 Evenings of Theatre and Engineering”



Robert Rauschenberg's "Open Score"



John Cage's "Variations VII" for 10 telephones and intercepted radio waves



Yvonne Rainer: "Carriage Discreteness" for remote-controlled dancers

Alex Hay: "Grass Field", music generated by brainwaves and body



The Space Age

- Dadaism
 - Marcel Duchamp (1887, France)
 - The readymade: "In 1913 I had the happy idea to fasten a bicycle wheel to a kitchen stool and watch it turn."
 - Interactive and kinetic



The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Marcel Duchamp (1887, France)
 - “Fountain” (1917)
 - “Tu m” (1918) with safety pins and nut and bolt
 - “LHOOQ” (1919) a readymade Mona Lisa with moustaches

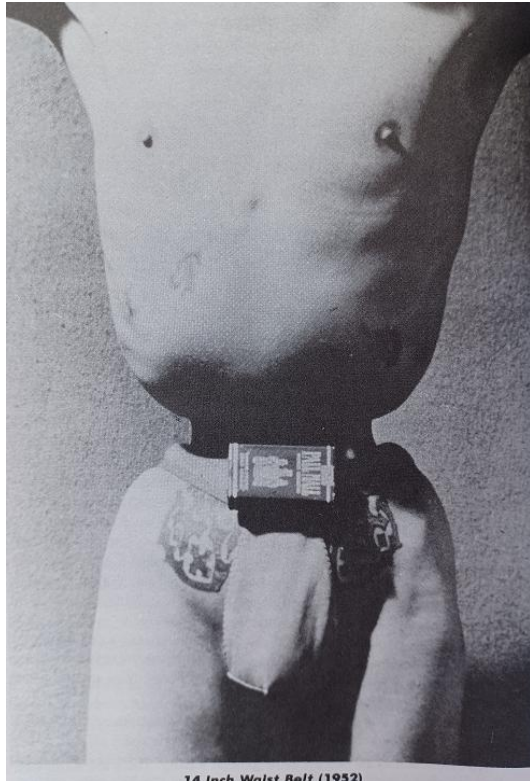


The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Piero Manzoni (1933, Italy): “Merda d'Artista” (1961) - cans containing shit
 - Robert Morris: “Box with the Sound of its Own Making” (1961)
 - Fluxus (George Maciunas et al): “Piano Activities” (1962) - a piano performance that results in the destruction of the piano
 - Nam June Paik (1932, Korea): “Random Access” (1963) - chance (the audience decides which tapes to play)

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Fakir Musafar/ Roland Loomis (1930, USA):
masochist art/ ordeal art



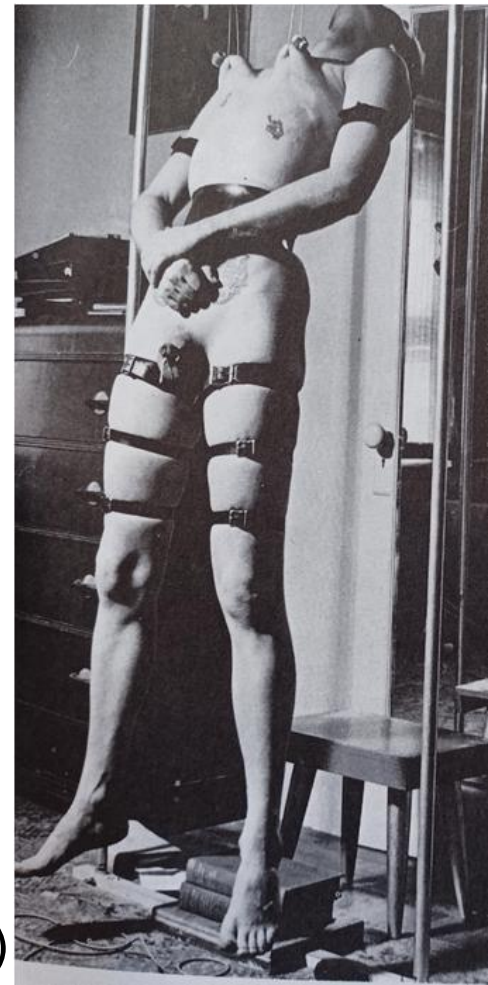
14 Inch Waist Belt (1952)

14-Inch Waist
Belt (1952)



Clothes Pin Fans (1950)

Suspension (1964)

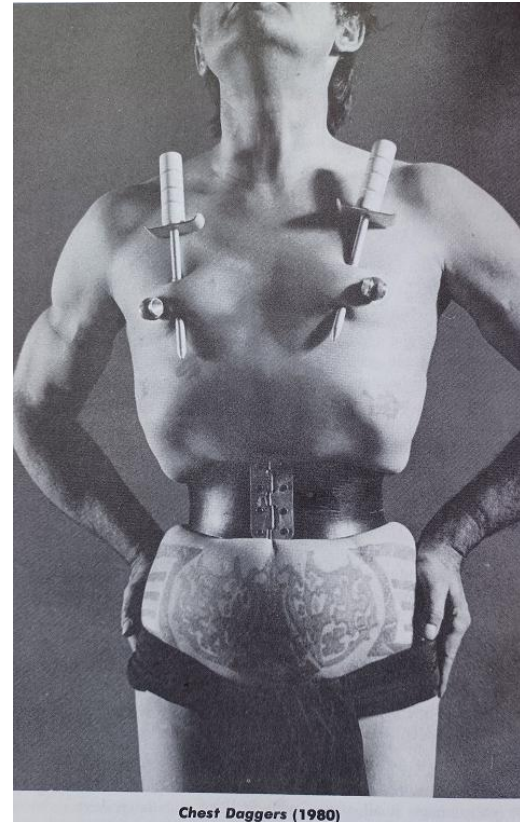


The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Fakir Musafar/ Roland Loomis (1930, USA):
masochist art/ ordeal art



Clamps (1964)

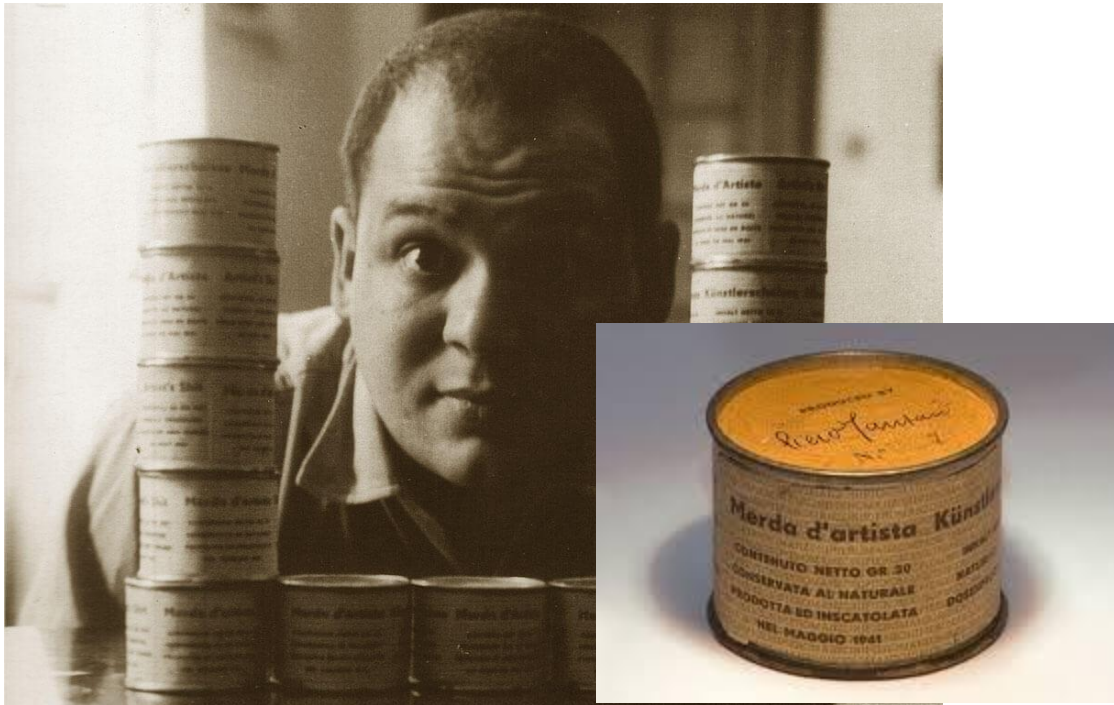


Chest Daggers (1980)

Chest Daggers 1980

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Piero Manzoni (1933, Italy):



“Merda d'Artista” (1961) - cans containing shit, on sale for the same price as gold



Living Sculpture (1961), the artist signs the body of a model who then becomes his artwork (forever belonging to him)

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Robert Rauschenberg (1925)



“Oracle” (1965), interactive installation (with Billy Kluver) made of scrap metal and wireless microphone systems



“Open Score” (1966), tennis match in the dark

The Space Age

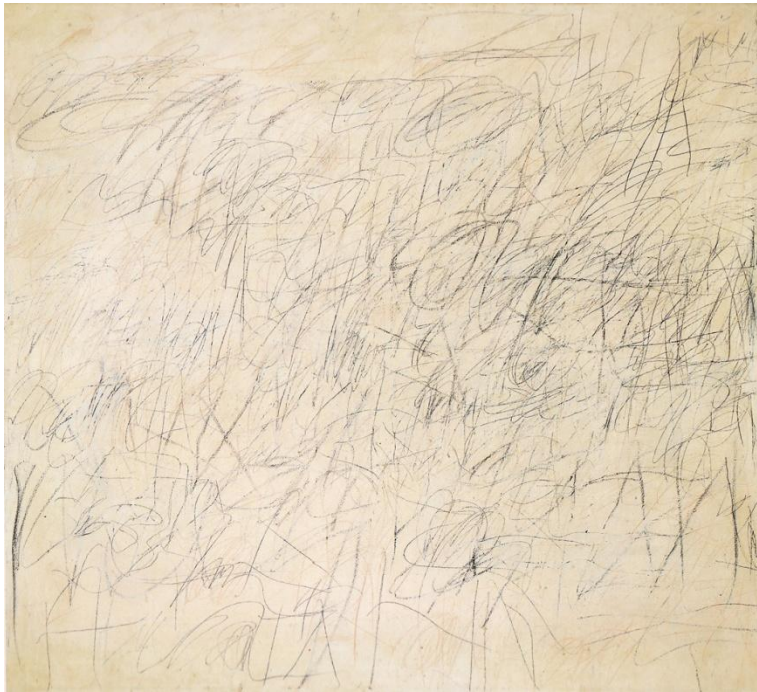
- Conceptual Art
 - John Baldessari (1931)



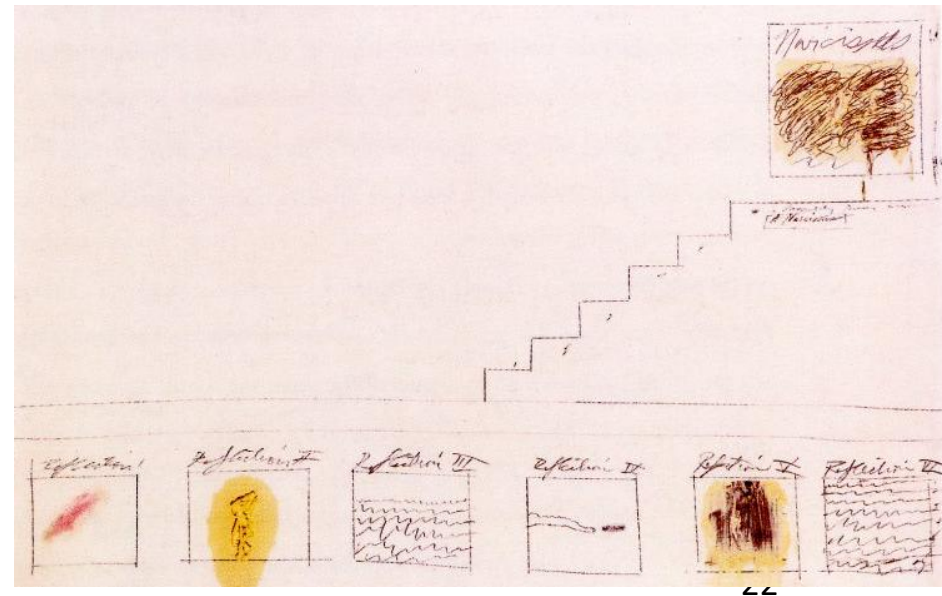
The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Cy Twombly (1928)
 - Chinese scrolls, graffiti and comic strips
 - Dedicated to Graecoroman themes

“Free Wheeler” (1955)



“Narcissus” (1960)



The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Cy Twombly

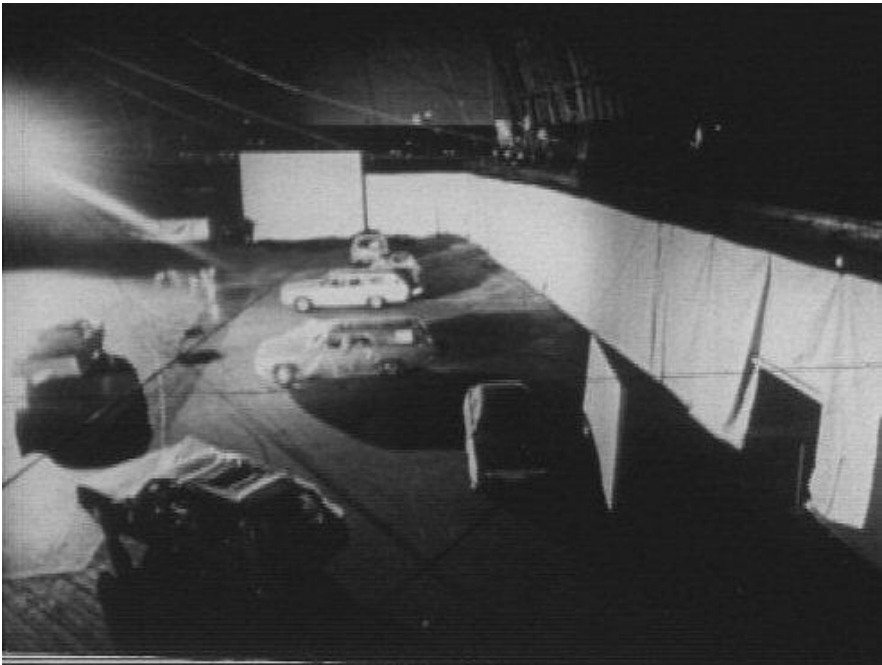


“Discourses on Commodus” (1963)

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Robert Whitman (1935, USA)

"Two Holes of Water- 3" (1966), videos and closed-circuit television projections of live performances projected from seven cars



The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Robert Whitman (1935, USA)



“Shower” (1965), projection of a showering woman inside a shower curtain



“Prune Flat (1964), theater piece that combines video and live actors

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art/ Fluxus
 - Niki de Saint Phalle (1930, France)



“Tir” (1961), artwork created shooting at them

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Dick Higgins (1938, Britain): Fluxus



"The Thousand Symphonies" (1968): an orchestra plays the score created by the bullet holes that have been shot by a machine gun into compositional

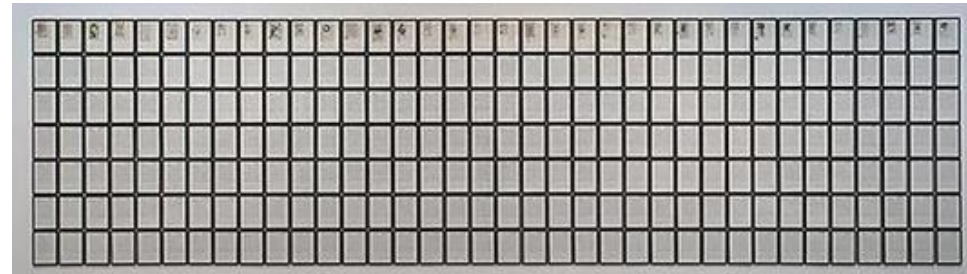
"Symphony No 357"

The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Hanne Darboven (Germany, 1941)



" Cultural History 1880–1983" (1983):
1,589 individually framed works on
paper of uniform format and 19
sculptural elements



"Wunschkonzert"
(1984): 1008 pages
of mathematically-
organized poems



The Space Age

- Conceptual Art
 - Joseph Kosuth (1945), USA)



“Five Words in Green Neon” (1965)



“One and Three Chairs” (1965)



“A Conditioning of Consciousness” (1986)

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