The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - The meaning of art lies in the artist’s intention, not in the actual artwork
  - Art can be made out of anything and by anybody
  - The real essence of art is language and ideas
  - The visual experience is secondary
  - The artist can even not know what the artwork will look like (“what will happen will happen” philosophy)
  - Gutai Bijutsu Kyokai (1954) and Allan Kaprov’s happenings (1958)
  - Very international
  - Peak: 1968-74
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Robert Barry
  – Douglas Huebler
  – Joseph Kosuth
  – Sol LeWitt (1928)
  – Lawrence Weiner
  – Mel Bochner
  – Edward Ruscha (1937)
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Hans Haacke (1936)
• Politically aware art

“Shapolsky et al. Manhattan Real Estate Holdings, A Real Time Social System” (1971)
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Judy Chicago (1939)

• Feminist art

Each place setting is dedicated to one of 39 famous women. The tile floor is inscribed with the names of 999 notable women.

“The Dinner Party” (1979, Brooklyn Museum)
The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - Christo Javacheff (1935)
    - 1958: Wrapping objects
    - 1962: Oil drums block traffic in Paris
    - 1964: First proposal to wrap New York skyscrapers
    - 1968: Wrapping of the Kunsthalle in Bern
    - 1969: Wrapping of a mile of coastline in Australia
    - 1976: Running Fence (40 km fence in California)
    - 1983: Wrapping of Florida islands
    - 1995: Wrapping of the Reichstag in Berlin
The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - Christo
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Ilya Kabakov (1933, Russia)
    • Albums of everyday life
    • Fictitious biographies

“The Man Who Flew Into Space From His Apartment” (1984): the room from which an astronaut took off
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Krzysztof Wodiczko (1943, Poland)
  • Public projections

"Homeless Projections" (1987)
The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - Cildo Meireles (1948, Brazil)

"Mission/Missions - How to Build Cathedrals" (1987) for communion wafers, 600000 coins and large illuminated hanging animal bones.
The Computer Age

- **Conceptual Art**
  - Cildo Meireles (1948, Brazil)

“Fontes” (1992) for 6000 measuring rulers, 1000 clocks, and 500000 vinyl numbers
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Jenny Holzer (1950)
    • Large-scale public installations
    • Visible media such as street posters and LED signs

“Truism” (1979)
The Computer Age

- Conceptual Art
  - Ann Hamilton (1956)

“Indigo Blue” (1991): thousands of neatly folded work clothes and a live female attendant who erases text from history books (a tribute to both the men who worked in those clothes and to the women who washed them and folded them)
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Damien Hirst (1965, Britain)

• Death
  “A Thousand Years” (1990), with cow’s head, blood, flies, maggots
  “Mother and Child Divided” (1993), a cow and body parts of a calf
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Damien Hirst
  • Birth

“The Miraculous Journey” (Qatar, 2013) - 14 colossal bronzes
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Huang Yong Ping (1954, China)
  • Dadaism + Buddhism + Taoism

“Four Paintings Created according to Random Instructions” (1985): a set of roulette wheels marked with I Ching diagrams and other instructions generate direct the actions of the artist.

“Reptiles” (1989): washing machines and shredded communist newspapers
The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Huang Yong Ping (1954, China)

The Computer Age

• Conceptual Art
  – Xiao Lu (1962, China)

The artist fires two shots into her large sculpture "Dialogue" (1989)
This is a chapter in piero scaruffi’s “A Visual History of the Visual Arts”: http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history