

Contents

Preface	<i>page</i> xiii
Introduction: The Twentieth Century: The Era of Nonart	1
PART ONE: DISILLUSIONMENT	
1 Art in Paradigmatic Crisis	17
The King Must Die	
Art and Cultural Transformation	
Figurative Art Is Past the Point of No Return	
Symptoms of Paradigmatic Crisis	
A Problem of Demarcation	
Modernism: Hot and Cold	
In Sum	
2 Modern Art and the Logic of Pretense	70
Pretense: A Universal Principle of Survival	
Duchamp's Syndrome: Modernism as Reductionism	
Reduction of Art to Affect and Effect	
A Horde of Reductions	
Reduction Versus Idealization	
In Sum	
3 Is There Abstraction in Abstract Art?	167
Abstract Art Can Be Anything	
Abstraction: A Double-Faced Process	
Conceptual Abstraction Versus Pictorial Abstraction	
Abstraction in Figurative Art Versus Abstraction in Abstract Art	
Abstraction Versus Simplification	
Has Lichtenstein's Cow Gone Abstract?	
Abstraction Versus Materiality and Objectification	

Abstraction as Ambiguity	
Is Abstraction a Feeling?	
Is Abstract Art a Form of Mysticism?	
The End of Abstraction in Art?	
4 Aesthetics in the Service of the New Barbarism	229
The Poverty of Aesthetics	
On Defining Art by Not Defining It	
Danto: The Institutional Theory of the Definition of Art	
Dickie: Behavioral Aesthetics	
Definition Versus Characterization of Art	
PART TWO: MIND AND ART	
5 Mindprints: The Structural Shadows of Mind–Reality?	265
Mind, Mindprints, and the Origins of Art and Culture	
The Mindprints and Art	
Figurative Art Versus Abstract Art: Levels of Connectivity	
6 The Breakdown of Hierarchy in Twentieth-Century Art and Its Implications for Present and Future Art	303
Art and the Complementarity of Order–Disorder	
Modernism: The Breakdown of the Ordering Principle in Art	
Figurative Art Versus Abstract Art: Levels of Stratification	
Randomization of Paintings: Grinding Stones Versus Grinding Dust	
Hierarchy–Randomness as Recursive Connectivity–Disconnectivity	
Hierarchy–Randomness: The Most Complex and Indispensable Mindprint	
7 Is Figurative Representation Arbitrary? A Reexamination of the Conventionalist View of Art and Its Implications for Nonfigurative Art	342
Conventionalism as Justification for the License of Any Thing as a Work of Art	
Conventionalism in Prehistoric Perspective	
Seven Counterarguments to the Conventionalist View of Art	
Back to Square One?	
8 Symmetry: The Connectivity Principle of Art	370
The Annulment of Symmetry from Art	
Symmetry and the Origins of Culture	
Connectivity through Relative Symmetry	
A Figurative Painting Is a Metapattern	
Modernism: A By-product of Broken Symmetries	
The Restoration of Symmetry to Art Is Indispensable	

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-82465-1 - Art Versus Nonart: Art Out of Mind
Tzion Avital Translated by John G. Harries
Table of Contents
[More information](#)

Contents	xi
Epilog: Ashes to Ashes and Beyond	395
A Revolutionary Change	
First Steps	
A Path to the New Art	
Art Out of Mind	
Appendix: Figurative Art Versus Abstract Art: Summary Table	407
Notes	415
References	420
Index	427
Colour plates are available for download from www.cambridge.org/9780521154802	