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Celebrating 175: Jackson Pollock Interview by William Wright, 1949

Extracted on Mar-15-2025 11:02:03

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WW Well I think you have to give anything that sort of chance. A person isn't born to like good music, they have to listen to it and gradually develop and understanding of it or liking for it. If modern painting works the same way a person would have to subject themselves to it over a period of time in order to be able to appreciate it.

JP I think that might help certainly.

WW Mr. Pollock, the classical artist had a world to express and they did so by representing the objects in that world. Why doesn't the modern artist do the same thing?

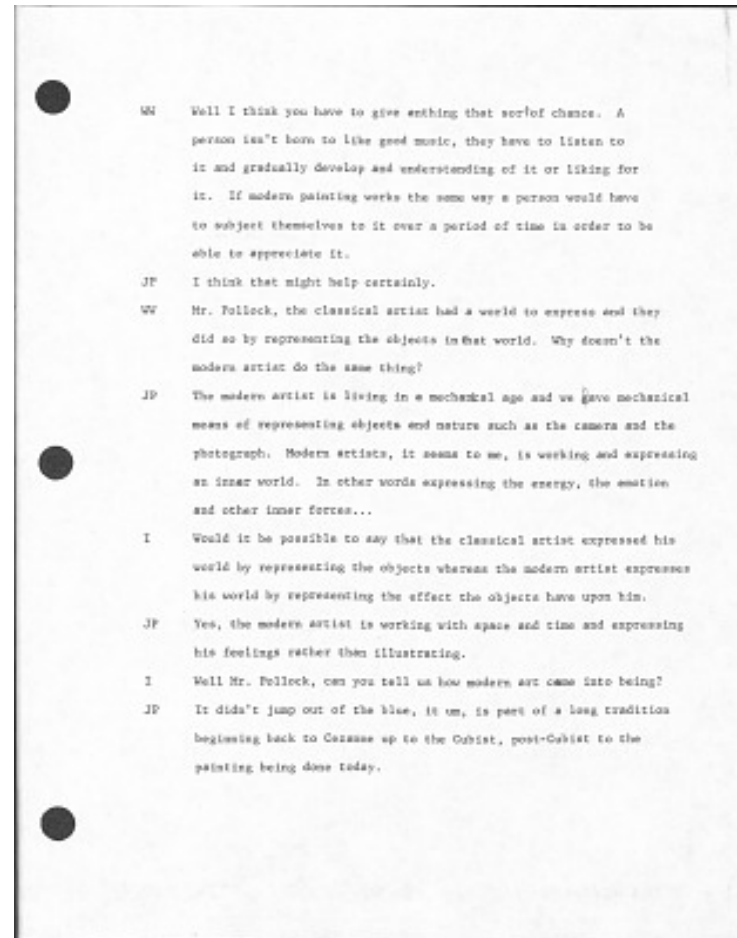
JP The modern artist is living in a mechanical age and we have mechanical means of representing objects and nature such as the camera and the photograph. Modern artists, it seems to me, is working and expressing an inner world. In other words expressing the energy, the emotion and other inner forces...

I Would it be possible to say that the classical artist expressed his world by representing the objects whereas the modern artist expresses his world by representing the effect the objects have upon him.

JP Yes, the modern artist is working with space and time and expressing his feelings rather than illustrating.

I Well Mr. Pollock, can you tell us how modern art came into being?

JP It didn't jump out of the blue, it um, is part of a long tradition beginning back to Cezanne up to the Cubist, post-Cubist to the painting being done today.



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