

ANTI-MANIFESTO MANIFESTO

The Stuckists (est. 1999)
anti-anti-art
The first Remodernist art group

The Stuckists' critique of manifestos

- 1. Manifestos are pretentious and showing off.**
- 2. If they're sincere, they're boring.** If they're not sincere, they're not worth reading.
- 3. We decry manifestos.**
- 4. Three year olds are very good at manifestos.**
- 5. If you see an artist with a manifesto,** they can't help it.
- 6. Manifestos litter history like cannonballs on a battlefield.**
- 7. You have to be horribly arrogant,** astonishingly self-effacing, sadly deluded, amazingly prophetic, extraordinarily clever or exceedingly stupid to write a manifesto.
- 8. The best manifestos have the worst ideas.**
- 9. The purpose of a manifesto is to annoy people who need to be annoyed.**
- 10. Long live the traction engine of fortitudinal contemplation.**
- 11. Let us rejoice that elephants exist.** You can't make omelettes without riding a bicycle.
- 12. If you don't study history, you should.**
- 13. Sir Nicholas Serota, one of the worst directors of the Tate gallery, is remembered nowadays for rejecting a donation of 160 Stuckist paintings.** He said, "We do not feel that the work is of sufficient quality in terms of accomplishment, innovation or originality of thought to warrant preservation in perpetuity in the national collection."
- 14. Of course it's possible to study history and still get it wrong.**
- 15. People say, "Why do you spend all your time writing manifestos?"** They don't seem to realise that manifestos only take five minutes.
- 16. People say, "Why do you spend all your time doing protests and not doing art?"** - then spend all their time looking at our protests and not looking at our art.
- 17. We are all dependent on an unprecedentedly evolved, vast and complex social and economic structure** simply in order to be able to buy a carrot.
- 18. We take most things for granted.** There are other things to do in life.
- 19. Manifestos speak to tomorrow** (which never comes).
- 20. A manifesto is something. Sometimes nothing is better than something,** but mostly something is better than nothing.

Charles Thomson and The Stuckist Bureau of Enquiry
26.7.15

Proposed as Honorary Stuckists in addition to previous Honorary Stuckists:
George Wallace Jardine
Natalia Goncharova
Mikhail Larionov
John Craxton
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