



# UNART MANIFEST



art is meant for pleasure.

it doesn't represent anything. although you may see things, I certainly didn't mean for them to be there. this doesn't mean that what you see isn't there, as the viewer, I welcome you to see whatever you want. too often art carries a pretense that the viewer needs assistance to 'understand' abstract works. I reject that notion--aesthetics are universal and personal.

I take great pride in my work, but there's no genius to it. the cult of artist as genius is absurd. I have had a lot of practice, so that the technical aspects of the work are generally of a high caliber, but the theme isn't any higher or nobler than what is around me everyday.

the subject of theme is difficult to 'pin-down.' I do feel a connexion to whatever environment I may find myself at a particular moment, and the work will often reflect that; either in choice of colour, or rhythmic values. having been always on the move, certain environments become 'collectivised' in my experience, so that a city of boxy buildings will produce a similar response regardless of whether it is ottawa or frankfurt. this is not a defining characteristic however, as weather, the 'mood' of the populace, and myriad other impressions have effects, which also, when combined, lead to even further changes in the motifs in a work. so was that convoluted enough?

my greatest pleasure in art is the response I get from people. you don't have to buy it--that is secondary. I want to hear from you, what you think of the work, even if you don't like it. attention is what I crave. if I have brought you pleasure, I am pleased. there is no other message. I have nothing to say with it, except that maybe in having nothing to say, I am saying something, but I am not sure.

if you have something to say, I'd love to hear from you, please send me an e-mail

thank you for reading, Matt O'Neill