

THE  
BROKEN SYMMETRY SOCIETY  
OF THE SANTA FE INSTITUTE

Being a Comprehensive Account of the Proceedings of  
The Broken Symmetry Society, a Mysterious Sect  
Heretofore Unbeknownst to the Civilized World  
and All Its Divers Denizens

Vol. I, No. I

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## PROPOSITION RENDERED BY MEMBER DRAKE:

All contemporary art is dead and, indeed, culture is dead.

*Obsession with fashion, fads, and celebrity causes one to make stupid work based on hype, money, and theoretical nonsense.*

## EXCURSUS:

The narrative of complex systems is broken symmetries.

Many people think there's a need to be a craftsperson in order to be an artist. The important thing is the idea—someone else can do the actual work.

There is a rich tradition of scientists gaining expertise and recognition to make unrigorous pronouncements in other areas. Murray Gell-Mann is doing the same thing, breaking down boundaries, rejecting boundaries.

The art world today is in a mire of *stupidness*.

Shia Leboeuf is a horrible ACTOR as well.

If we're going to blame anybody, we have to blame the mathematicians.

We are in the transition from Newtonian ethics and culture to Einsteinian ethics and culture, where there is a profusion of things to be evaluated—from where you happen to be standing.

There is still a difference between good and bad art.

Metaphor is the origin of most creative insights.

Rigorousness should be grounded in authenticity. . . but authenticity is hard to gauge.

When you have someone from outside the form coming in, it enriches culture—even if it's bad.

In pop culture, but also in science, it seems that people don't *take the time* to be students.

The arbiters of science are fellow scientists; the arbiters of art are the general public.

I'm interested in discovery, trying to break open the universe. At the same time I despise the idea of science because I don't want people to look at my work and try to quantify it.

How would you quantify rigor?

To quantify rigor: the stopwatch. How long are you working on something?

Where does obsessive focus play in the world of science?

Think of rigor as an internal selection process, how many times you produce something, look at it. The number of times you have iterated your own process. Rigor is guaranteeing that your art is adapting to your mind, how deep your fingerprint is on your work. . . You can put it out to the external world.

If you look more closely you'll see symmetry broken everywhere you look. Criticism of the physical sciences, you can never predict the details, only the pattern

I asked *Anybody out there who is completely enduring and immortal in the way we think of artists in the old days?* She said *No, it's about the fad of the moment, you're big for two years and then it all crashes.*

Culture died in 1913.

Both science and art are attempts to describe the universe. Through the democratization of technology, there is now a profusion of voices where there used to be a process through which one had to move in order to be recognized. By now that process has been shattered. Consequently, nobody knows anymore what is true and what is good because there is a miasma of noise that we are completely consumed with. Consequently, museums and art magazines are struggling for survival and relevance in a world that is covered in noise.

I don't think the audience for Justin Bieber reads *ArtForum*.

They do now.

THE VOTE:



[YEA]

9



[NAY]

14

SEALED AND ATTESTED TO *this 11th day of Feb. 2016*

*The Members of The Broken Symmetry Society*

