

Artistic research (M. Schwab)

Michael Schwab

Dear list,

I am currently engaged in a studio-based PhD in fine art at the Royal College of Art, London. For the methodology section of my thesis, I am looking for literature/examples from the history of art that show how artists were engaged in research - in an artistic sense, though, not as currently en vogue in new media labs etc.

- Are there artworks/practices you would consider as 'research'?
- Are there artist's writings that focus on that notion?
- Is there literature that has analysed the history of art along the line of research?
- What is your opinion on using knowledge as art's end (and not beauty)?

I am particularly interested in artistic practices AFTER science has established its own regime, i.e. where artists did not contribute to the development of science, but rather conducted 'research apart from science'.

Please send any ideas, even short comments. I am happy to enter a discussion to explain further what I am looking for and to understand what your eventual interests might be.

Thank you very much!

Regards,

Michael Schwab

<mailto:michael@seriate.net>

Reference:

Q: Artistic research (M. Schwab). In: ArtHist.net, Dec 20, 2005 (accessed Jan 9, 2026),
<<https://arthist.net/archive/27760>>.