

On the timelessness of art

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Sam Gilliam, *This Time* (2008)

21 de outubro 2014 (terça-feira)

15h00 | Sala de Reuniões

Entrada livre

Art critics and philosophers have long spoken of the test of time with respect to artworks. Plausibly, this requires that an artwork be capable of attracting new audiences by being found valuable and significant in ever new ways. Masterpieces provide examples of art that we find timelessly interesting but, plausibly, even lesser works aspire to this status. Call this the timelessness of art. Then the question I aim to explore in this paper is how the timelessness of art is compatible with the plausible view that an artwork means what its creator meant it to mean.

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