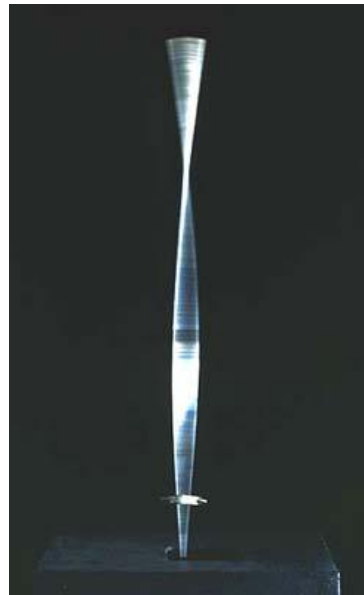


This is a chapter in piero scaruffi's "A Visual History of the Visual Arts": <http://www.scaruffi.com/art/history>

The Modernist Age

- Kinetic Sculpture
 - Marcel Duchamp: "Bicycle Wheel" (1913)
 - Naum Gabo (1890): "Kinetic Construction" (1920)
 - Man Ray (1890): "Object to Be Destroyed/ Indestructible Object " (1923)



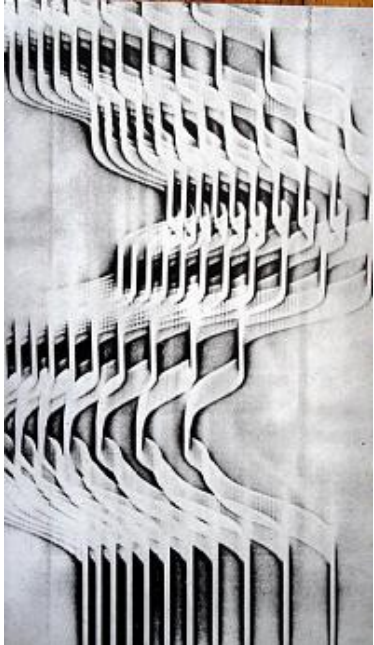
The Modernist Age

- Kinetic Sculpture
 - László Moholy-Nagy: "Light Space Modulator" (1930)
 - Alexander Calder (1898): "Mobile" (1932)



The Modernist Age

- Kinetic Sculpture
 - Bruno Munari (1907, Italy)
 - Useless machines (1933)
 - “Manifesto del Macchinismo” (1938)
 - Unreadable books (1949)



Xerograph



“Unreadable Book” (1949)

“Useless Machine” (1948)



Bruno Munari



The Machines Hospital 1929



Portrait of the Futurist Luigi Russolo 1927



For the Fifth of a Second



Filia, Femminilità 1927



an aeroplane woman 1936

The Modernist Age

Bruno Munari

“Macchinismo”
(1938)

“Machines reproduce themselves faster than mankind, almost as fast as the most prolific of insects; they already force us to busy ourselves with them...

In a few years' time we will become their little slaves.

Artists are the only ones who can save mankind from this danger. Artists have to be interested in machines, have to abandon their romantic paint-brushes, their dusty palettes, their canvases and easels. They have to start understanding the anatomy of machines, the language of machines, their nature, and to re-route them into functioning in irregular ways to create works of art with the machines themselves, using their own means.

“No more oil paints but blowtorches, chemical reagents, chroming, rust, coloring by anodes, thermal alterations.

“No more canvases and stretchers, but metals, plastics, synthetic rubbers and resins...

“Machines today are monsters!

“Machines must become works of art!

“We shall discover the art of machines!”

The Modernist Age

- **Sculpture/ Junk assemblage**
 - **Joseph Cornell (1903, USA)**
 - **Autobiographical obsessions**



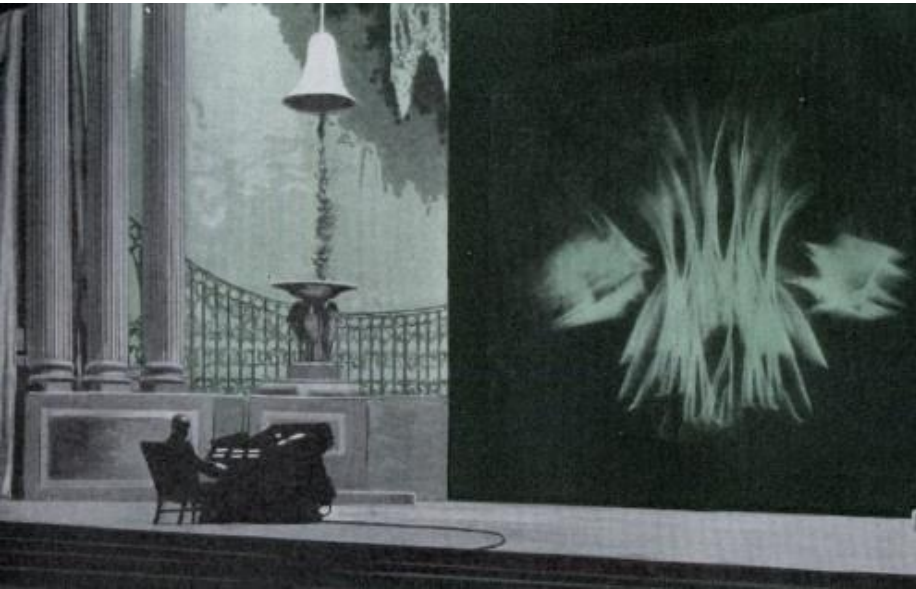
"Medici Slot Machine" (1942)



"Pharmacy" (1943)

The Modernist Age

- Light Art
 - Thomas Wilfred (1889, Denmark): "lumia"



color organ (1919)



" Lumia Suite, Opus 158" (1964)

The Modernist Age

- Multimedia Theater

- Tommaso Marinetti's "variety theater" (1913, Italy)
- FEKS (Factory of the Eccentric Actor): "electrified" production of Gogol's "The Wedding" (1922, Soviet Union)
- Eisenstein's "A Wise Man" includes his film "Glumov's Diary", circus acts and songs (1923, Soviet Union)
- Frederick Kiesler's production of Capek's "RUR" (1922, Germany)
- Erwin Piscator's production of Ernst Toller's "Hoppla" (1927, Germany)
- Paul Claudel's "Book of Christopher Columbus" (1927, France)
- Emil Burian's production of Wedekind's "Spring's Awakening" (1936, Czechoslovakia)

The Modernist Age

- New York
 - Museum of Modern Art (1929)
 - Whitney Museum (1931)
 - Guggenheim Museum (1937)

The Modernist Age

- New York
 - New forms of presentation
 - Frederick Kiesler designs "Art of the Century" at Peggy Guggenheim's gallery (1942)
 - curved walls, unframed paintings hanging from the ceiling, paintings on a conveyor belt, paintings viewed from peepholes, projections, light shows, biomorphic chairs
 - Marcel Duchamp designs the exhibition "First Papers of Surrealism" in New York's MOMA (1942)
 - a jungle of strings to obstruct the view and the movement inside the space



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