

3rd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ART CRITICS

Amsterdam - the Hague . July 2 - 10, 1951

-

6

"THE SOURCES OF ABSTRACT ART AND OF MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN HOLLAND"

Report of Charles Estienne :

Introduction : Architecture, major temptation of plastic abstraction .

I - From the start : the very fact of being non-figurative.
Two ways possible : a) pure expression, Kandinsky's way,
b) pure construction, Mondrian's way.

II - Mondrian and Cubism.

III - Doesburg, starting from (among others) Kandinsky, meets Mondrian at
"De Stijl" in 1917 .

Edification of Neo - plasticism .

Architecture : OUD .

IV - Logical development of neo - plasticism :
1°) A school of architecture (Holland).
2°) An art (neo - plasticism today) ill-defined, between architecture and
pure form .
3°) Mondrian's "right-about-turn" at the end of his life towards expression :
the "Boogie - Woogies".

Conclusion : Expression in Art .