

Reading 2

1. What are the similarities and differences regarding the work of Walter De Maria and Banksy?
 - a. Both Walter De Maria's and Banksy's works focus on the aspect of being site-specific and create pieces that are better experienced directly.
 - i. For Walter De Maria, he is influenced by nature and its landscape. For example, his piece, *The Lightning Field* (1977), is located in a secluded area in New Mexico. There are several lightning rods surrounding the area and cabins for visitors to stay in. He encourages the viewers to stay as long as they want, as it is meant to be enjoyed over an extended period of time, not only during severe weather. His other work, *Earth Room* (1997), creates a deep connection to Earth's natural materials. It features a room filled with black dirt about 2 feet high. Curators often tend to the work, emphasizing the practice of nurturing and awareness. He could also be making a statement that if people do not care for these natural resources, we could end up losing a lot of it.
 - ii. As for Banksy, he uses urban locations to place his works. Many of his pieces create social commentary and are satirical. For example, his work, *Dismaland* (2015), is a dystopian version of the family-friendly theme park, Disneyland. There, he creates discussion about anti-consumerism, celebrity culture, and how the world can be if we were to go into an apocalypse. It is important to note that site-specific art allows visitors to inspect the space that it is in, and discuss the topics surrounding a particular time or place.
2. What are some of the common creative tactics that all the 'sign art' shares? What must signs have to remain relevant?
 - a. All sign art is site-specific and/or location-based. Some common creative tactics that all sign art share are visuals and symbols, play on words, and are legible/illegible with intention.
3. What Kind of art, not shown here, that have you seen that was made in response to its location, its environment, a specific event or situation. Please elaborate, provide images if possible.
 - a. *Wall of Oil Barrels - The Iron Curtain* by Christo and Jeanne Claude, 1961-62

- i. This piece was created to protest against the Berlin Wall being built.

