

**Week 8, Lecture 14: Frank Stella and Minimal Art**

key decade: early 1960s  
terms: Minimal Art, Minimalism

I. Frank Stella, the Corporate Icon, and the birth of Minimalism

- A) Stella, “what you see is what you see...,” 1963
- B) Carl Andre, “the metals of commerce...” ‘60s
- C) Tony Smith and the New Jersey Turnpike, 1966 (remembering 1950s)
- D) “Minimal Art,” name coined by philosopher Richard Wollheim, 1965

II. Minimal Art and Industrial Aesthetics

- A. Donald Judd, “one thing after another...,” 1964
- B. Robert Morris, *Some Notes on Dance* 1965, *Notes on Sculpture* 1968
- C. Dan Flavin “the diagonal of personal ecstasy,” 1963

III. Minimalism’s Instabilities

- A. Robert Morris (again), Sol LeWitt: towards the concept
- B. Walter De Maria, Robert Smithson, Richard Serra: towards the site
- C. Site-specificity:
  - 1) Richard Serra’s Tilted Arc (1981) vs.
  - 2) Maya Lin’s Vietnam Memorial (1982)

SELECTED IMAGES

Stella, Getty Tomb, 1959  
Stella, Die Fahne Hoch, 1958-59 (Black paintings)  
Stella, Jill 1959  
Stella, Luis Miguel Dominguin 1960 (Aluminum series - shaped)  
Stella, Sidney Guberman, 1963 (Purple series - shaped, open center)  
Andre, Cedar Piece 1964  
Andre, 144 pieces of Lead and 144 pieces of Magnesium, 1969  
Smith, Die, 1962  
Judd, Untitled, galvanized steel, 1965 (Judd is always untitled)  
Morris, Untitled (Ring with Light), fiberglass and light fixtures, 1965  
Flavin, Monument to Tatlin, 1964, fluorescent lights  
Morris, Litanies 1963, lead, and subsequent certificate on paper  
LeWitt, Straight Lines in Four Directions, pencil on wall, site and dimensions variable, 1969  
De Maria, Mile Long Drawing and Desert Cross, removal of surface soil, Nevada desert, 1968  
Smithson, Wandering Earth Mounds & Gravel Paths (plan for airport site; unbuilt), 1967  
Serra, Four Pole Prop, 1969, lead  
Serra, Stacked Steel Slabs (Skullcracker Series), at Kaiser Steel Corporation, 1969  
Serra, Untitled (Splashing Lead), 1968, related: Casting 1969; molten lead cast into edge or corner  
Serra, Tilted Arc, 1981, Cor-ten steel  
Lin, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, 1982, black granite, pathway, earth

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