

PHIL 4403: Philosophy of Art  
Prof. Funkhouser  
2/14/05  
Paper Assignment #1

Write an approximately 3 or 4 page paper on the topic below. (Those page numbers are just a rough guide. Definitely do not write more than, say, 6 pages though.) Your paper is to be typed, double-spaced, stapled, with numbered pages. Do not use a cover page or bother with a lengthy introduction. Get directly to the questions below. Make sure it is written in proper English! Points will be taken off if there are too many basic writing errors.

**Topic:**

Part 1. Here are 3 (candidate) necessary conditions for art:

- a)  $x$  is an artwork only if  $x$  represents something.
- b)  $x$  is an artwork only if  $x$  itself (in contrast with the artist) expresses some emotion.
- c)  $x$  is an artwork only if  $x$  has significant form.

Provide me with works of visual art that serve as counter-examples to each of these 3 conditions. I want 3 different counter-examples, a new one for each condition. Such a counter-example will be a work of visual art that fails the given condition. Provide me with the title of each work and the artist's name (if known). *Explain* why/how each work fails to meet the condition for which it serves as a counter-example.

Part 2. Does the Institutional Theory of Art handle the 3 examples you provided? If so, can you think of any other cases of visual art that serve as counter-examples to the Institutional Theory of Art? If not, which of your examples serve as counter-examples to it as well, and why? Either way, spend 1 to 3 pages evaluating the merits of the Institutional Theory of Art, and defend a stance either in support of or in opposition to it.

**ASSIGNMENT DUE: Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**