

Value in Art

The pressure in art, to me, means aesthetic pressure, not market pressure.

As artists, in learning about art, we incorporate what we learn – a life-long process – and what we learn are the principles of art, not the principles of money.

The two are not the same thing.

The rules we learn to incorporate and the judgements we learn to form - and the judgements of peers - lead to the consequent aesthetic pressure, which lead to initiatives and developments in the work, and, in the end, to the issue of freedom.

In art, as in society, freedom only comes from necessity.

Forced to invent - not just operate - within the given structure - to be open to discovery, to delight in discovery, to raise awareness within oneself as well as within the viewer, to expect, and demand - to confound oneself, and others, and make visible – that is real freedom.

This only happens within a given structure. Real freedom can only arise within the structure of recognized laws, and in art those laws are first, and foremost, aesthetic.

It is within the aesthetic structure that true Value lies in art.

It goes without saying that this is often challenging.