

text of Annette Messager

AS TIME goes, the less I feel like talking about my work and they ask me for just one more little text...

"My work", words that evoke research and effort, when actually I would like so much to have a "light", mobile, and flexible activity (and also to go back to see all of Hitchcock's films; yes, I would like to be the "Hitchcock of painting"!)

I am an artist who would like to reconcile painting and photography—these two opposed media that hate each other, are jealous of one another, or ignore each other...a rocky marriage!

So, for this union, the two media must "explode". Photography must come out of its usual form, out of its small format anecdotal aspect. It must meet painting in the most unexpected forms and places. They must separate again to rejoin each other later, more freely, somewhere in space...

Photography, it is said, is cold, temporal, always linked to the present or the past (never to the future). United with painting which is ~~is~~ physical, timeless, what disturbing disorder!

I don't have too much respect for the history of art and culture. Perhaps the weight of culture is less strong for women, and that is our ~~chance~~ {luck} today! Let's go!

We live in history; the street, the stores, advertisements, ~~at home~~, television, the newspapers, <sup>and</sup> the movies are a large part of our culture. This culture, which is a mixture of diverse elements, a big "do-it-yourself" arrangement of strange reminiscences, a "patchwork" of juxtaposed events, is what constitutes our identity. This is why the notion of "do-it-yourself" interests me so: "do-it-yourself" media, "do-it-yourself" assemblies of different cultures... These are our myths and our legends today.

A.M. 1979