

John Massey - Clip 2

The importance of Modernism

A good part of my upbringing and education was in the context of Modernism as a totality. For me Modernism was a kind of catechism and like any artist I had to examine my inherited belief structures in order to sort out my own position. Modernism gave me a strong desire to engage with my own subjectivity, but in the course of working out my relation to an instinctual practice, it was important for me to make work that really examined on a structural level how the "I" as my own first person looked, saw and made. This is the idea of "vision" which many of my works attempt to elucidate.