RICHARD NONAS

SOME ART

Some art is illustrative : discursive , literary in its thrust ; and that doesn't interest me much.

BUT SOME ART IS TERSE, STUBBORN, WORDLESS; ALMOST STOLID IN ITS INTENSITY. IT SITS THERE AND GLARES. IT TELLS NO STORY. IT IS. - IT TAKES UP TWICE THE SPACE IT SHOULD. SOME ART PULLS DOWN WITH TWICE ITS WEIGHT. IT PUSHES OUT WITH TWICE ITS POWER. IT STEALS THE PLACE IT'S PUT IN. IT FILLS IT AND CHANGES IT; FILLS IT WITH ITSELF EXACTLY, WITH ITS OWN IMMEDIATE EXISTENCE, WITH ITS OWN GENERALIZED HISTORY, WITH ITS OWN WEIGHT AND WAITING. SOME ART CHANGES MY PAST MORE THAN IT CHANGES MY FUTURE.

Some art cancels the world it's put in - -cancels it as a stamp is canceled, drawing as much interest and attention to what is covered as to the covering object itself. Some art changes the place I move in. It prowls that space, sniffs the air, and hunts out toward the edges.

Some art makes me jump. - -It's the perverse, almost geographical object. It's the indigestible object. It's the contentless object. It's the barely anthropogical object. It's the continental drag. - -It's almost enough for me.