

The Idealist Theory of Art



Collingwood (1889-1943)

According to Collingwood, art is the idea or emotion in the artist's mind. This idea or emotion is then expressed through a medium e.g. painting.

Collingwood also claimed that genuine art is never produced as a means to an end. It is always the expression of emotion. Advertising should not therefore be considered as art.

Problem?

It does seem a little strange to think that the art lies in the mind and not in the piece itself. What we see in art galleries is not really art!