

Sol LeWitt
The Modern Institute
Aird's Lane Bricks Space
20 April – 26 May 2018
Preview Friday 20 April, 7-9pm

The most interesting characteristic of the cube is that it is relatively uninteresting. It is best used as a basic unit for any more elaborate function, the grammatical device from which the work may proceed.

- Sol LeWitt, 1982

As part of Glasgow International 2018, The Modern Institute presents 'Black Cubes (4)', a 2000 work by Sol LeWitt installed within the Aird's Lane Bricks Space.

Sol LeWitt is a leading figure of Minimalism and a pioneer of Conceptual art. Redefining art production by exploring ideas rather than conventional aesthetics, he distilled art to its essentials. Using the cube as a 'grammatical device', LeWitt's work is characterised by serialisation, repetition, and progression, exemplified by his iconic open-grid structures. Studying systems of line and colour, his prolific output of wall drawings represents a breakthrough in his career and solidifies his engagement with two-dimensional practices spanning painting, drawing, photography, and printmaking.

Born in 1928 in Hartford Connecticut, USA, LeWitt continued to work up until his death in early 2007. He studied BA in Fine Art at Syracuse University (1945-1949) and then studied at the School of Visual Arts, New York until 1953. LeWitt worked as a graphic designer for I.M Pei's architecture office in New York. In 1960 LeWitt took a job at the Museum of Modern Art in New York at the book counter where his co-workers included Robert Ryman, Dan Flavin and Robert Mangold, situating him in the midst of young artists searching for a new direction in art.

LeWitt has been the subject of hundreds of solo exhibitions in museums and galleries and his work is held in public collections worldwide. A major retrospective of LeWitt's work was organised by the San Francisco Museum of Art in 2000, which then travelled to the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL, USA and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, USA.

LeWitt participated in seminal group exhibitions including 'Primary Structures', Jewish Museum, New York, NY, USA and '10', Dwan Gallery, New York, NY, USA both in 1966, dOCUMENTA IV in 1968 and Harald Szeeman's exhibition 'When Attitude Becomes Form', Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland and Institute of Contemporary Art, London, UK (1969).