

4 Statements

1. Art is essential.
2. There must be no government censorship of art in any way.
- * 3. The United States must take immediate and significant steps to greatly increase its financial and institutional support of all the arts.
4. We call on all artists, in all countries, to support in every way possible to them, the freedom and well-being of all other artists.

(* only item specific to United States)

Explanatory note: In July, 1990, the 15 or so composers participating in the Telluride Composer-to-Composer Festival worked together on a “manifesto,” particularly in response to various censorship issues involving the NEA, Two Live Crew, and other segments of the United States arts community. Each composer wrote their own “manifesto,” and these were eventually merged into one group statement which was supported by the whole group, myself included. The text here is my own original statement, which, although not at odds with the group statement in any way, more succinctly, obviously, and axiomatically (and in my own style) presents what I think is a clear statement on the relationships of art, censorship and society.

Larry Polansky, July/November, 1990; Telluride/Hanover.

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