

**A FLY ON THE WALL: RE-ENVISIONING A LIFE IN ART**  
**James L. McElhinney © 2017**

How can we comprehend today's rapidly evolving art-world? Urban centers have been replaced by global networks. Galleries are in decline. Art Fairs and Auction houses dominate the scene. Creative investment and online resources have redefined the market. State support has all but disappeared. Private museums are on the rise. Sea-changes in patterns of patronage, young collectors motivated by different priorities, raise many questions. Has the MFA culture kept pace with these changes? How relevant is higher education? Is it still a haven for creative practice? How will an artist survive? Where can they find success? What will be their legacy? For more than ten years, author, artist and educator James Lancel McElhinney has conducted nearly one hundred interviews with some of America's top artists, collectors, dealers, critics and art-historians. In these conversations, he found simple answers to difficult questions, and reasons why artists should welcome the end of one era, and the dawn of a new age.

**James L. McElhinney** (MFA Yale) is a visual artist, published author and blogger who has conducted fifty interviews for the Smithsonian Archives of American Art and numerous interviews for various other organizations such as the Coleccion Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Voices in Contemporary Art (VoCA) and other foundations.  
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