

*The Function of the Studio*- Daniel Buren  
First written in 1971, published in 1979 in *October* #10

### Questions

1. What is the overall tone Buren takes in his essay?
2. Why does Buren say that the studio is the first “frame, the first limit, upon which all subsequent frames/limits will depend?
3. Buren talks about two types of studios? Which do you think best describes the Sculpture studio in the VES building? Why?
4. Why does Buren say that the studio is a “boutique”?
5. Buren states that if the artwork remains in the studio, it will result in “death...from starvation,” for the artist. Why?
6. Buren talks about an experience he had at the age of 17. Why does he experience “deception” when he views the work of artists in an exhibition?
7. Which artist does Buren cite as resisting the Museum’s desire to “classify, to embellish, and to select”? What does he say this artist manages to do?
8. Assuming Buren is opposed to an artist’s studio, what do you think Buren would cite as an alternative?