TRANSITIONAL, EPHEMERAL, EARTHWORKS, SITE-SPECIFIC ART
Ephemeral means short-lived or fleeting. Consequently, ephemeral art is not permanent and suggests that its existence is dependent on the effects of time. Typically, ephemeral art works are constructed for the hours, days or weeks of a particular art show. Longer-lived ephemeral sculptures may include documenting the degradation over time from the effects of weather and other physical impacts. In all ephemeral circumstances, the degenerative processes witnessed over time are acknowledged.

- Evolved from Minimalism and Conceptualism during the late 1960s and 1970s – art about idea, rather than physical object
- Circumscribed by permanent sites - gallery setting or natural landscape
- Immobile object or experience specific to location
- Not easily replicated
- Not able to be seen by large numbers of viewers due to chosen remote locales
- Paradox: Documenting Impermanent Art
ENTROPY: This monumental earthwork was inspired in part when Smithson saw the Great Serpent Mound, a Pre-Columbian Indian monument in southwestern Ohio. The earthworks were a radical departure from making formal objects situated in a gallery setting.
ENTROPY: “On the whole I would say entropy contradicts the usual notion of a mechanistic world view. In other words it's a condition that's irreversible, it's condition that's moving towards a gradual equilibrium and it's suggested in many ways.” –Smithson
ENTROPY: Crystalline structures and the concept of entropy became of particular interest to him. Smithson's large earthworks are ceremonial in nature and were not meant to be bought, sold, or transported from museum to museum.
EPHEMERAL ART: Rirkrit Tiravanija

Creates ephemeral art when he builds a replica of his apartment in a gallery and invites gallery viewers to eat meals and talk with him in his "house." Performance artists, or artists who combine visuals, words, and music, are ephemeral artists because their works are over in a short time.
EPHEMERAL ART: Kinetic Art
TRANSITIONAL ART: At the Macalester College Art Department Members of Stan Sears' 3-D Design and Sculpture classes joined in the creation and burning of a Viking Ship on the shores of the Mississippi River, Fall 2007.
TRANSITIONAL ART: Eleanor Antin
TRANSITIONAL ART: Sam Taylor Wood
TRANSITIONAL ART: Felix Gonzales-Torres
SITE-SPECIFIC: Christo and Jean-Claude
SITE-SPECIFIC: Christo and Jean-Claude
SITE-SPECIFIC & EPHEMERAL: Andy Goldsworthy
EXTRAS: Negation: Robert Rauschenberg, “Erased Dekooning”

“I realised that one of the things it is about is minimising the subject, indicating that the removal of one subject can allow for the appearance of another. The things that go undiscussed in conversation are in some way equivalent to those that are talked about; what we did manage to discuss was just as important as what was left out.” –Vincent Katz
EXTRAS: Negation
EXTRAS: Kinetic Art
EXTRAS: Sand Painting
ADDITIONAL CONCEPTS:

- Permanence/Durability vs. Impermanence/Transience
- Growth, Decay, Erosion, Accumulation, Cell Division
- Condensed Time vs. Expanded Time
- Entropy (disorder) vs. Mechanical construction or structural order
- Cultural, Historical, Paradigm, Political, Social
- Ecology, Weather Patterns, Consumption, Loss & Desire, Memory, & Systems.