

De-Colonizing Art Institutions

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“No museum exist, none has ever existed”

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**ONCURATING
PROJECT SPACE**



FIRE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL. 1978



ALMOST A THOUSAND ARTWORKS DESTROYED

MUSEUM WITHOUT WALLS

IA Romanesque crucifix was not regarded by its contemporaries as a work of sculpture; nor Cimabue's *Madonna* as a picture. Even Pheidias' *Pallas Athene* was not, primarily, a statue.

So vital is the part played by the art museum in our approach to works of art to-day that we find it difficult to realize that no museums exist, none has ever existed, in lands where the civilization of modern Europe is, or was, unknown; and that, even amongst us, they have existed for barely two hundred years. They bulked so large in the nineteenth century and are so much part of our lives to-day that we forget they