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The Silences of Mies
Sven-Olov Wallenstein

Drawing on a series of readings of earlier interpretations of Mies but also on discussions of other instances of the topos of "silence" in artists like Beuys, Beckett, and Cage, and in philosophers like Adorno, Heidegger, and Lyotard, the present essay attempts to understand the unavoidable plurality of this silence, to unearth its philosophical genealogy, and to connect the silence to the present moment, when the possibilities and very sense of "criticality" as a strategy of negativity seem more questionable than ever.

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