

The *Lotus Live* Guide to *Art*

(Updated January 2, 2008)

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Introduction

- We at Lotus Live know that sometimes science isn't enough to get the message across - even with the best logical explanations, things remain ineffable. Art is an attempt to make that ineffable effable.¹ In this guide, we hope to guide you toward inspiration in the literature, drama, poetry, painting, and other art forms that have been used to reveal the beauty of nature and ecology throughout the ages.
- As Lotus Live's knowledge base increases, this guide will be updated. The most recent version of this guide can be found [here](#).

Literature

Nature

- [Walden](#) by Henry David Thoreau (1854) is a classic of nature literature, chronicling his years living simply in the woods of Massachusetts, by Walden Pond.

Eco-Utopias and Eco-Dystopias

- [Ecotopia](#) by Ernest Callenbach (1975) is a visionary eco-utopia in which everyone lives in accord with nature.
- [Ecotopia Emerging](#) by Ernest Callenbach (1981) reveals the history of Ecotopia - how such a society was created.
- [Three Californias: Pacific Edge](#) by Kim Stanley Robinson (1995) is another striking vision of Ecotopia, in California in the year 2065.
- [Three Californias: The Wild Shore](#) by Kim Stanley Robinson (1995) is an eco-dystopia, chronicling the life of Californians in 2047, after a catastrophic nuclear attack.
- [Three Californias: The Gold Coast](#) by Kim Stanley Robinson (1988) is a not so pleasant look at life in 2067 if there are no changes in the current trends.
- [YV88: An Eco-Fiction of Tomorrow](#) by Christopher Swan (1977) imagined the restoration of Yosemite Valley with the help of a solar powered railroad on a landscaped track.
- [The Mysterious Island](#) by Jules Verne (1874) imagined a source of power from the combination of hydrogen and oxygen.

¹ Thanks to Paige Price for this elegant phrasing.

- [*A Cityless and Countryless World*](#) by Henry Olerich (1893) imagines a civilization on Mars in which time is so valued that it is the primary currency.

Drama

One Against Many

- [*An Enemy of the People*](#) by Henrik Ibsen (1882) is the best environmental play we've seen, exploring a small town's reaction when the doctor tells them that their beloved spring water is contaminated. American playwright Arthur Miller wrote a great [adaptation](#) of it in 1977.

Poetry

Coming Soon

Dance

Coming Soon

Visual Art

Coming Soon

About this Guide

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References:

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If you have any ideas, suggestions, or corrections you would like to contribute to this guide on Art, please send us an email at [fun@lotuslive.org](mailto:fun@lotuslive.org).

Feel free to make use of any of the information in this guide for any purpose--we simply ask that you credit us and our predecessors, and link to us.

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