



Speaker: A group of artists and intellectuals began hanging out at the Cafe Voltaire in Zurich, Switzerland as early as 1916 in order to escape the horrors of the war. From this group sprung a new art movement, Dada. The meaning of which it's a little cloudy and there are several interpretations. Generally, it's meant to sound like a child. Some would say it's "yes, yes" in German, "Da, da." As if, saying yes to life. Others interpret it with a more nihilistic view but we'll go with "yes, yes," Dada.

The Dada artists felt the tradition had created the war and traditions should be rejected. As artists, they intended to break every mold that tradition had created. Some of their art relied on chance as sculptor Hans Arp made release sculptures that were based on a series of puddles. That he poured a liquid and then he'd outline it, he'd cut it out, and then he'd create wood replicas of these puddles and then stack them together and would create interesting, unique structures that way. It was an art that was not predetermined and it relied heavily upon chance.

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