

i.e. LAWRENCE WEINER

OPENING SATURDAY, 16 MAY 2026, 17–19 HRS
SPEECH BY ALICE ZIMMERMAN WEINER 17.30 HRS
THE EXHIBITION WILL RUN FROM 16 MAY – 1 AUG 2026

EENWERK is pleased to present *i.e. Lawrence Weiner*, curated by the Lawrence Weiner Estate in collaboration with EENWERK. On view are a range of sculptures, drawings, editions, printed ephemera and other elements relevant in Weiner's daily working life here in Amsterdam.

Weiner, a pioneering figure of 1960s Conceptual art, became a resident of Amsterdam with his family in 1970. He developed much of his graphic style here, which coincidentally Amsterdam is famous for. Many of the works chosen for this exhibition reference Amsterdam's social and physical geography. Weiner's works, as they rise and fall in relation to life and work function in relation to the other. It is the whole space and its parts that suggest the whole of Weiner's installation.

The founder of EENWERK, Julius Vermeulen, had worked for 28 years as an advisor at PTT. He had an enduring connection to Weiner's work. In 1982, PTT commissioned Walter Nikkels and Lawrence Weiner to create an annual report that became an important reference to Julius. It was so unique in its connection between numbers, graphs and art and culture, that it set a new standard.

In that annual report Rudi Fuchs wrote on the work of Lawrence Weiner:

"Weiner's method, and his decision to use language as a means, arises from a conviction concerning the way artworks can be used in our culture – or how the artwork (and, via the artwork, the artist) relates to people. To Weiner it is clear that this relationship must be democratic: and this has determined the unusual form, that relative indeterminacy of his work. His work could be compared to a construction kit which, having a limited number of standardized elements, can be used to erect a multitude of different buildings. Of essential importance here is the free, individual imagination of the user. The use, by the user, of a notation by Lawrence Weiner brings about the work, and gives it its meaning, within the context of that use. Other users can find other meanings."

Irma Boom: "The work of Lawrence Weiner is, for me as a book designer, a crucial reference because of the fundamental trust in language as a carrier of meaning. Weiner's principle that art should be accessible, democratic, and not dependent on a unique, physical form resonates with the same practice of the publication of books as a reproducible medium that has the capacity to reach a wide audience without losing their autonomy. Both our practices work with a limited set of means—language, typography, structure—and in doing so can achieve a greater richness of meaning. Weiner's work functions as both a confirmation and a deepening of my own design practice: that limitation is not a loss, but rather a catalyst for intensity and freedom."

i.e. Lawrence Weiner, is a title that behaves initially like an instruction, but then immediately morphs into an opening. It says: this is about Lawrence Weiner—and with that act, it is said. In that clarity, space emerges. The sentence does not close anything off; it sets something in motion. The works presented at EENWERK acquire a sense of self-evidence, something that is not explained but reveals itself through their own logic, and through the viewer, like thoughts that were already there and only need to be spoken.

Irma Boom



ABOUT THE ARTIST

LAWRENCE WEINER (b. 1942, New York; d. 2021, New York) graduated from Stuyvesant High School at age 16 and briefly attended Hunter College where he studied philosophy, religion and theater before setting out on his own. Hitchhiking around the United States as a teenager, Weiner left behind small sculptures on the roads he traveled.

It was during this period of his life, in 1960, when he created what he would later consider his first official artwork: Cratering Piece, in which he set off explosives in a state park in Mill Valley, California, forging new, sculptural crevices within the landscape. A major figure in the development of the Conceptual Art movement, Weiner was deeply interested in communication and reception. His art, which has been installed in public and institutional spaces around the world, is notable for its inherent generosity and fluidity. In addition to his sculptures, Weiner produced music, films, and videos, as well as artist books and editions.

ABOUT EENWERK

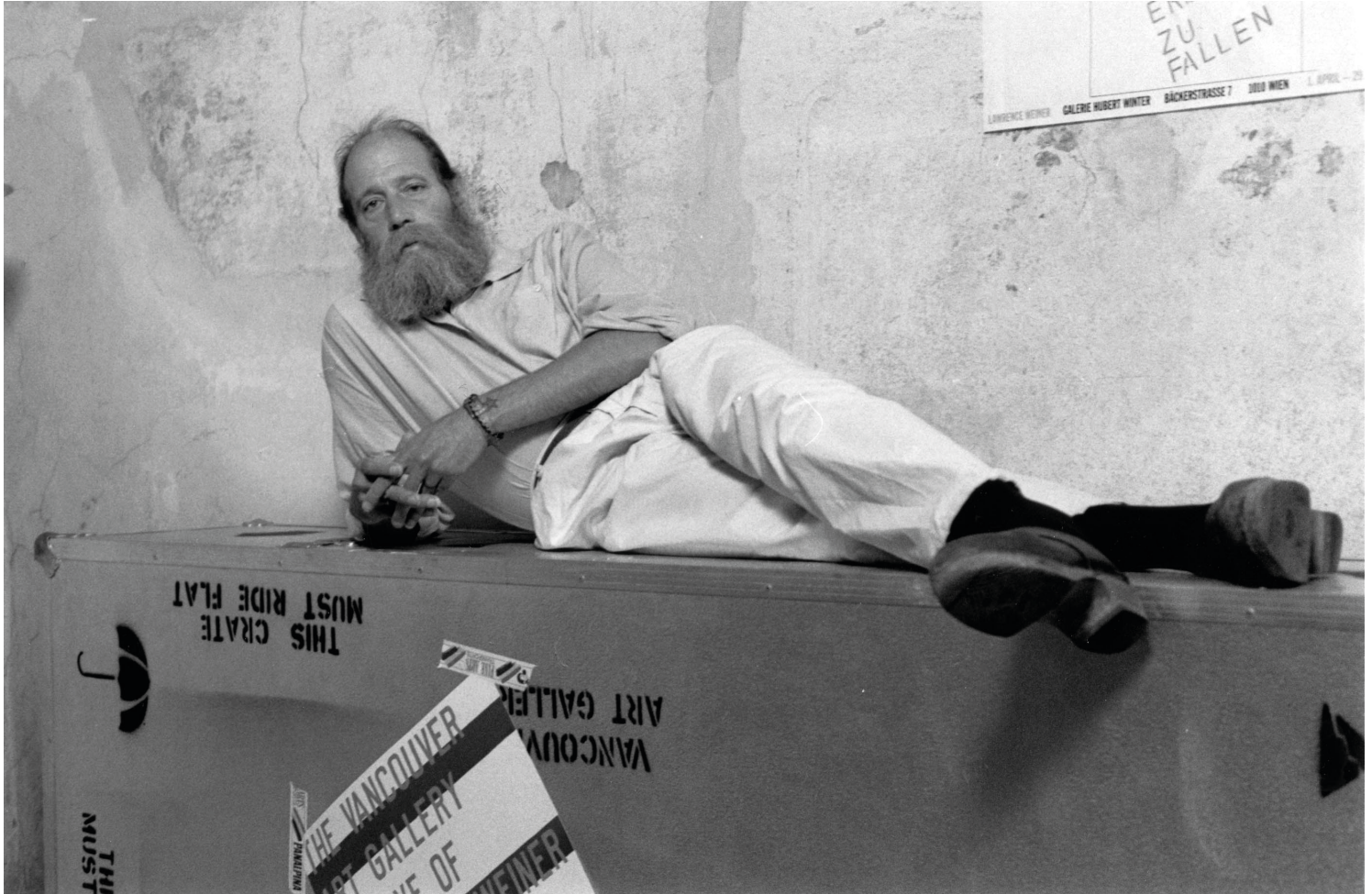
EENWERK is a contemporary art gallery in Amsterdam, founded in 2017 by Julius Vermeulen (1953–2024). It specialises in presenting one artwork at a time, offering a contemplative experience that encourages deep engagement with both the artist and the work. EENWERK is open to all disciplines and serves as a space for inclusivity, connection, and coexistence. Its exhibitions encompass a wide range of artistic practices, from visual art and installation to performance, design, poetry, and more.

Housed in a three-storey glass-and-basalt building designed by architect Barend Koolhaas, it features dynamic spatial qualities, natural light, and transparency that place the artwork in dialogue with its surroundings. A blend of public and private, its transparent façade creates an open presence towards the street, while the interior remains a focused and intimate environment.

Previous exhibiting artists include: David Hammons, Steve McQueen, Sheila Hicks, Berend Strik, Catharina van Eetvelde, Martin Margiela, Klaas Gubbels, K. Schippers, Maud van der Beuken, Karel Appel, Alisa Yoffe, Guido van der Werve.

EENKAS, located on the top floor, has established itself as a performative space. Here, botanical experimentation intersects with cyclical observations of nature, and a shared fascination with collections and natural specimens converges.

EENWERK.NL



PORTRAIT OF LAWRENCE WEINER DURING AN INSTALLATION AT ANGEWANDTE KUNST, VIENNA, 1993.
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