

Try Everything

In "Try Everything," the chapter explores the unpredictable nature of creativity and the importance of experimentation in art. It highlights the fundamental difference between predictable outcomes in everyday logic, such as mixing colors or simple arithmetic, and the often surprising results of combining elements in artistic endeavors. The text stresses that theory and practice might not always align and that solutions which worked in the past may not be effective in the present, underlining the gap between imagination and reality. An idea might appear brilliant in the mind but fail upon execution, or vice versa, emphasizing the value of testing every concept.

The chapter advises against dismissing ideas without practical testing and encourages asking "what if" questions to explore various possibilities and perspectives, even considering the seemingly underwhelming ideas. This approach is deemed particularly beneficial in collaborative efforts, where different ideas may compete, and it's challenging to predict how another's vision may materialize. The text argues for moving discussions from verbal to physical demonstrations, showcasing ideas through action or models to escape the limitations of verbal persuasion and misunderstandings, aiming for a clearer evaluation based on direct experience.

Further, the chapter advocates for an open-minded approach to experimentation, allowing oneself to be wrong and embracing the surprises that come from witnessing an idea's full expression. It suggests that what seems like failures are steps towards a successful solution, advising not to get too attached to specific outcomes but to follow the project's evolving direction. The work is to grow naturally, reflecting its unique life and form. The message is one of joy in discovery, urging artists to enjoy the journey of creative exploration and to remain open to the myriad possibilities that experimentation can unveil.