

## John Cale "Pastoral Angst"

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Welcome to the gold rush, ladies and gentlemen  
Where California begins and maybe ends  
California is the last stop on the great hitchhike  
West and now it's getting a little full  
Too many thumbs, well, when you get  
Too many people in one place

You get intolerance and contempt and rigidity  
And tension and sarcasm, distrust, anxiety, envy, hate,  
cynicism  
Discontent, self-pity, malice, suspicion, jealousy and  
snobbishness  
And this leads right into poetry, painting, sculpture  
Dance, music and literature, photography

These are known as the arts and art will break your  
heart  
So what? So will a good meal  
Art is not the spiritual side of business-as-usual

And art is not for everyone never has been and it never  
will be  
Now me, I don't know much about art, but I do like what  
I know  
You know in these days when everybody is mistaking  
Celebrity for talent, ambition for genius, self-pity for  
humility

Style for content and loathing for love  
They spend a lot of time getting in touch with them self  
And then they find self-justification, self-righteousness  
Self-obsession, self-pity, self-loathing, self-concern  
Self-centredness, self-reliance, and self-serving  
gratification

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