

In the film "Rikyu", the tea master Sen no Rikyu builds a tea room made out of solid gold for Toyotomi Hideyoshi. His apprentice, Soji, argues that this totally violates the principles of wabi/sabi. Rikyu, however, disagrees.

Based on your readings, what is wabi/sabi? Do you think that the gold tea room is consistent with the principles of wabi/sabi? Why or why not? (don't just repeat Rikyu's bare explanation...develop it further or disagree with it). Give other examples of wabi/sabi from the film or from your McCullough readings, explaining why they are examples of wabi/sabi.