

ARTH 2198: ART & ACTIVISM

Tues/Thursday 3:30-4:45pm Spring 2019



Political activists have consistently turned to art as a means of articulating new forms of citizenship, new models of the democratic public sphere, and grassroots organizing. Equally, artists have long used aesthetic activism to make change thinkable through tactics of iconoclasm, performance, agitprop, collaboration, defamiliarization and counter-media strategies.

This course examines transformations in artistic production and political activism by investigating the relationship between art and activism. We will probe contexts as diverse as Occupy Wall Street, the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, climate change protests, human rights campaigns, queer activism, and today's global democracy movements. We will look at case studies ranging from the Art Workers Coalition, the Situationist International, Tiananmen Square and Gran Fury, to current uses of social media, aesthetics and performance in activism from the Arab Spring to #BlackLivesMatter to #AyotzinapaSomosTodos.

Contact Prof. Robin Greeley for more information
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