On Radical Practice: Representing Politics, Resistance, and Transmission

History of Art Graduate Symposium, The Ohio State University
Saturday, April 16, 2022

Keynote Speakers
Astria Suparak (artist, curator, and writer)
Lily Woodruff (Associate Professor of Art History & Visual Culture, Michigan State University)

Call for Papers due by February 20, 2022

Considering the onset and continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing state of political turmoil and cultural protest worldwide, The Ohio State University’s History of Art Graduate Student Association is hosting a symposium that questions the role of art in moments of resistance, rupture, and revolution. How do art and visual imagery mediate the transmission of abstract concepts including conflict, revolt, and connection? How do ideas of revolution and representation connect or diverge? Does art have the power to transform established social orders and structures of power, authority, or hierarchy? This symposium aims to question the social and political meanings of resistance and its visual representation in different cultural contexts and theoretical discourses.

Suggested topics should discuss artistic or art historical responses, actions, and interventions in revolutionary and political moments. This can include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Images and objects as politically charged sites of protest across the ideological spectrum
- The role of art in decolonial and anti-racist movements
- Revolutionary iconography and materializations of resistance
- Visualizing the politics of environmentalism
- Institutional critique and critical exhibitions
- Art workers, unionization, and creative labor
- The creation and transmission of viral images, videos, and memes
- Hacktivism and other modes of activism through new media

This event will be held virtually. Graduate students at any stage of study, working in the field of art history and other related disciplines, are invited to submit an abstract (300 words maximum) for a 20-minute paper, along with a current CV. Selected participants will be notified by March 4, 2022, with the final presentation paper due no later than April 4, 2022. Please send all materials to histart.grad.osu@gmail.com along with any questions you may have.