

Educator Notes

The Revolution Will Not Be Gray

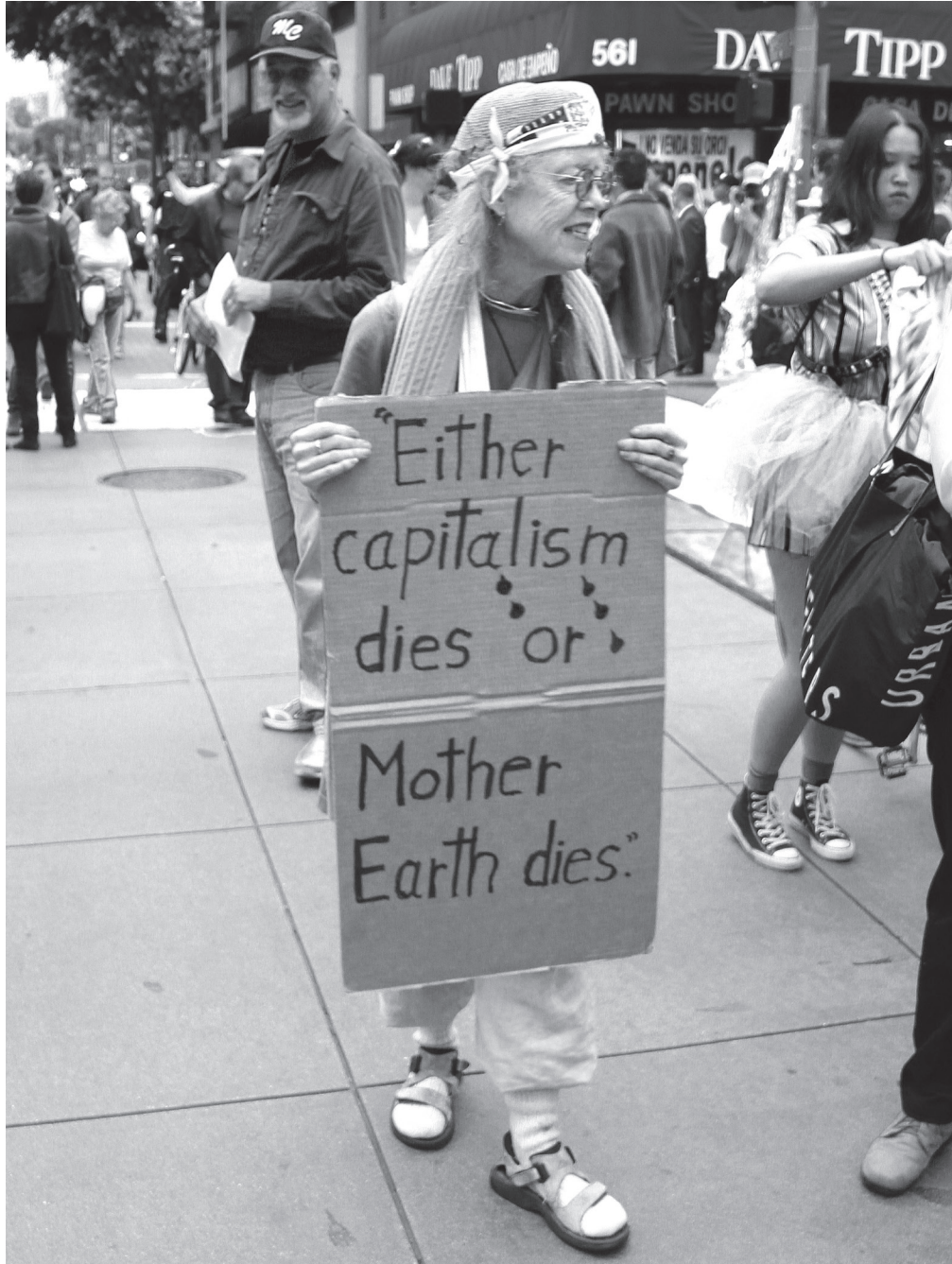
July 1–October 16, 2016



Installation view: *The Revolution Will Not Be Gray*, 2016. Photo: Tony Prikryl

About the exhibition

The Revolution Will Not Be Gray is a group exhibition that looks at experiences of protest and gestures of refusal. Playing with language and the subtleties of perspectives beyond black-and-white terms, this exhibition reminds us of the power in the human voice.



Andrea Bowers, *Either Capitalism dies or Mother Earth dies* (May Day March, 2012, Los Angeles, California), 2016. Courtesy the artist and Susanne Vielmetter Los Angeles Projects

About the artists

Andrea Bowers was born in 1965, in Wilmington, Ohio, and lives and works in Los Angeles. Her work explores individual expression, current social and political issues, and fair treatment.

Abraham Cruzvillegas was born in 1968, in Mexico City, where he continues to live and work. His work with found materials and archives builds on his interest in “autoconstrucción/autodestrucción” [self-construction/self-destruction].

Claire Fontaine is a Paris-based artist collective founded in 2004. Taking their name from a popular brand of school notebooks, the collective works in neon, video, text, sculpture, and painting.

Sharon Hayes was born in 1970, in Baltimore, and lives and works in New York. Her work examines the intersection of history, politics, and speech with a particular focus on the language of twentieth-century protest groups.

Iman Issa was born in 1979, in Cairo, and lives and works between Cairo and New York. Her sculptures and installations often examine the power of display in academic and cultural institutions.

Tony Lewis was born in 1986, in Los Angeles, and lives and works in Chicago. His expansive drawing practice engages language, authority, and action.

Glenn Ligon was born in 1960, in New York, where he continues to live and work. Throughout his career, he has pursued critical perspectives of American history and its social, cultural, and political relations.

Carlos Motta was born in 1978, in Bogotá, Colombia, and lives and works in New York. His multidisciplinary work attempts to recognize suppressed histories, communities, and identities.

Adam Pendleton was born in 1984, in Richmond, Virginia. He is a conceptual artist who often uses language as a material to reframe history.

Pedro Reyes was born in 1972, in Mexico City, where he continues to live and work. He creates scalable projects that propose playful solutions to social issues.

Carey Young was born in 1970, in Lusaka, Zambia, and lives and works in London. She uses a variety of media to explore relationships between the body, language, law, and systems of power.

Questions for discussion

- 1 Have you ever protested against something that you felt was unfair? What was your reason for making a stand?
- 1 Reflect on a time when you chose to compromise with a friend or family member. What was the outcome?
- 1 Think of a person who has made a difference. Choose one word to describe this person's greatest attribute.

Suggested activities

Change Web

Gather a large piece of poster board or butcher paper and an array of colorful markers or pencils. Place the paper on the floor of your classroom.

Ask students to discuss in pairs something that they would like to change at home, in school, or in the world.

Invite students to share their thoughts and record what you hear, taking care to note when ideas are said more than once. Read your list back to the students and ask them for their reflections on this sharing process.

Ask student pairs to pick a word that interests them, and then find a place on the butcher paper to write this word with big letters.

Discuss which words, if any, are related. Draw colorful lines between the word bubbles to show connections. Ask students to explain their reasons for connecting the bubbles. Watch as a web forms.

If time permits, ask your students to enhance the web further by drawing images to complement the words. Take a moment to choose one word that you can work on together as a class and discuss how you can make this change together.

Hang your Change Web on the wall as a visual reminder of what your class community cares about and what you can do together to make a change.

For more information, please contact the Education Department at 970.925.8050 ext. 133 or email education@aspenartmuseum.org

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