



Considering Art Is... | Lorraine O'Grady

Collaborative Document

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 7-8:30 PM ET

Your facilitator : mark

Zoom Group / Open Access



Image: *Art Is... (Girlfriends Times Two)*, 1983/2009. C-print. 16h x 20w in (40.64h x 50.80w cm) Edition of 8. (detail)

👏 Thank you for attending *Considering Art Is...* We are so grateful for your participation and welcome you to our online community. This document is a community document to be shared with all who attended our interactive conversation. Think of it as a place where you are invited to add any additional resources, thoughts. Or perhaps, this is a space to find additional tour content and contact/social information? It's really up to you - you have editorial control. Cool right?

Collaborative thoughts and shared material. Let's go!

We are excited to see what you share.

Word cloud:

document portrait institution
carefree pose empower nostalgia
inclusion instant archive decision past
strength kiss collection immediate
forever gilded faces event valuable border
happiness fair community self participate
shine pride represent smiles ornate gold
boundary quick joy love record
admire parade outside
collective inside acknowledge play body
public moment candid
presence temporal

About the artist:

Lorraine O'Grady is a conceptual artist and cultural critic whose work over four decades has employed the diptych, or at least the diptych idea, as its primary form. While she has consistently addressed issues of diaspora, hybridity and black female subjectivity and has emphasized the formative roles these have played in the history of modernism, O'Grady also uses the diptych's "both/and thinking" to frame her themes as symptoms of a larger problematic, that of the divisive and hierarchical either/or categories underpinning Western philosophy. In O'Grady's works across various genres including text, photo-installation, video and performance, multiple emotions and ideas coexist. Personal and aesthetic attitudes often considered contradictory, such as anger and joy or classicism and surrealism, are not distinguished. Even technical means seem governed by both chance and obsessive control so as to express political argument and unapologetic beauty simultaneously. And across the whole, essays and images interpenetrate. While O'Grady's diptychs are sometimes explicit, with two images side by side, at other times they are implicit, as when two types of hair—silk and tumbleweed, videotaped on the same scalp at different hours of the same day—alternate and interact to create permeating worlds. The goal of her diptychs is not to bring about a mythic "reconciliation of opposites," but rather to enable or even force a conversation between dissimilars long enough to induce familiarity. For O'Grady, the diptych helps to image the kind of "both/and" or "miscegenated" thinking that may be needed to counter and destabilize the West's either/or binary of "winners or losers," one that is continuously birthing supremacies, from the intimate to the political, of which white supremacy may be only the most all-inclusive.

An early adopter of digital technology, O'Grady has also created a website, lorraineogrady.com, which is considered a model of the online abbreviated-archive, and her paper archive is in the collection of the Wellesley College Library. Among O'Grady's writings, the 1992/94 long-form essay "Olympia's Maid: Reclaiming Black Female Subjectivity" has proved an enduring contribution to the fields of art history and intersectional feminism and is now considered canonical. O'Grady's art works have been acquired by, among other institutions, the Art Institute of Chicago, IL; Museum of Modern Art, NY; Tate Modern, London, UK; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, NY.

Some URLs to explore:

Mariane Ibrahim Gallery

<https://marianeibrahim.com/artists/87-lorraine-ogrady/>

Alexander Gray Associates

<https://www.alexandergray.com/artists/lorraine-o-grady>

Artist's website:

<https://lorraineogrady.com/>

Current group exhibition: *In Common, New Approaches with Romare Bearden*

<https://blogs.newschool.edu/news/2023/11/in-common-romare-bearden-and-new-approaches-to-art-race-and-economy-explores-the-artist-as-activist/>

Lorraine O'Grady: Both/And - Weatherspoon Art Museum

<https://weatherspoonart.org/exhibition-lorraine-ogrady/>

Lorraine O'Grady - The Strange Taxi, Stretched

<https://www.gardnermuseum.org/calendar/exhibition/lorraine-ogrady>

Works in the MoMA permanent collection

<https://www.moma.org/artists/37299>

The Art of Juxtapositions

<https://www.harvardmagazine.com/2015/10/the-art-of-juxtapositions>

1000 WORDS: LORRAINE O'GRADY

<https://www.artforum.com/features/lorraine-ogrady-talks-about-announcement-of-a-new-persona-performances-t-o-come-249369/>

LORRAINE O'GRADY with Jarrett Earnest

<https://brooklynrail.org/2016/02/art/lorraine-ogrady-with-jarrett-earnest>

Meeting Lorraine O'Grady | A Film by Zawe Ashton | Tate

<https://youtu.be/60U8FXYS69A?si=YtBFsKfozw1Cfngy>

Bliss and Anger in Balance: The Art of Lorraine O'Grady

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/11/arts/design/lorraine-ogrady-brooklyn-artist.html>

Artists Lorraine O'Grady and Andrea Fraser Talk Art World Activism and the Limits of Institutional Critique

<https://www.artnews.com/art-news/artists/lorraine-ogrady-andrea-fraser-artists-institutional-critique-conversation-1234596040/>

Lorraine O'Grady, Still Cutting Into the Culture

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/19/arts/design/lorraine-ogrady-brooklyn-museum-retrospective.html>

Lorraine O'Grady, Emily Jacir Among American Academy of Arts's 2023 Awardees

<https://hyperallergic.com/808876/lorraine-ogrady-emily-jacir-among-american-academy-of-artss-2023-awardees/>

Lorraine O'Grady Has Always Been a Rebel

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/the-new-yorker-interview/lorraine-ogrady-has-always-been-a-rebel>

Lorraine O'Grady's First Retrospective Is Both Invigorating and Overdue

<https://hyperallergic.com/630958/lorraine-ogrady-retrospective-brooklyn-museum/>

Lorraine O'Grady: Both/And

https://www.brooklynmuseum.org/exhibitions/lorraine_ogrady

Lorraine O'Grady: Where Margins Become Centers

<https://carpenter.center/program/lorraine-o-grady-where-margins-become-centers>

Lorraine O'Grady: Family Gained

<https://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/lorraine-ogrady-family-gained>

Lorraine O'Grady - NYC Exhibitions and Interviews

<https://westbeth.org/event/lorraine-o-grady-2/>

Lorraine O'Grady - 'From Me to Them to Me Again'

<https://www.scadmoa.org/exhibitions/2018/from-me-to-them-to-me-again>

Just Watch Me More than four decades into her trailblazing career, Lorraine O'Grady finally has the world's attention.

<https://www.vulture.com/article/lorraine-ogrady-profile.html>

Lorraine O'Grady is Making Deep Cuts

<https://www.frieze.com/article/lorraine-ogrady-interview-2021>

Four joyous girls in Harlem: how Lorraine O'Grady showed that art is for everyone

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/aug/01/four-joyous-girls-in-harlem-how-lorraine-ogrady-showed-that-art-is-for-everyone>

Lorraine O'Grady's First-Ever Retrospective Honors Her 40-Year Fight for Inclusion

<https://www.vogue.com/article/lorraine-ogrady-retrospective-brooklyn-museum-interview>

Lorraine O'Grady at the Studio Museum in Harlem

<https://www.studiomuseum.org/exhibitions/lorraine-ogrady>

Recommended books:

Lorraine O'Grady: Both/And

Aruna D'Souza and Catherine Morris (Editors)

<https://bookshop.org/a/15158/9780872731868>

Writing in Space, 1973-2019

Lorraine O'Grady (Author), Aruna D'Souza (Editor)

<https://bookshop.org/a/15158/9781478010074>

Speaking Out of Turn: Lorraine O'Grady and the Art of Language

Stephanie Sparling Williams (Author)

<https://bookshop.org/a/15158/9780520380752>

Shared resources (please feel free to add/edit) :

Arlene

"It's 10PM, do you know where your children are?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBy9VDEWKOE>

Carol

Cambodia tracking down thousands of priceless looted antiquities | 60 Minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1DFOGHHcm4>

History of photo booths

<https://photoboothrocks.com/photo-booth-history/>

Disposable camera

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disposable_camera

Dina

Polaroid / Instant photography

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/how-polaroid-pioneered-the-instant-photography-revolution>

This Is Why We Need to Return to Physical Media

<https://nofilmschool.com/the-importance-of-physical-media>

A Donald Trump-Led Trip Back to the Gold-Plated '80s

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/26/business/a-donald-trump-led-trip-back-to-the-gold-plated-80s.html>

Jahannah

JVKE - "golden hour"

https://youtu.be/PEM0Vs8jf1w?si=v8ZKWOCXZ_t2GGHw

Lessie

Readymade art

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/r/readymade>

Mark

Theories of the Archive from Across the Disciplines

<https://dspace.mit.edu/bitstream/handle/1721.1/35687/4.1manoff.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

Archive (Tate UK)

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/a/archive>

Decolonizing Archives, Rethinking Historical Methods

<https://shc.stanford.edu/stanford-humanities-center/workshops/decolonizing-archives-rethinking-historical-methods>

Socially engaged practice

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/socially-engaged-practice>

Relational Aesthetics

<https://hyperallergic.com/18426/wtf-is-relational-aesthetics/>

Histories of performance art

<https://www.artnews.com/list/art-news/artists/what-is-performance-art-1700s-1920s-1234631770/proto-performance/>

Conceptual art

<https://magazine.artland.com/conceptual-art/>

Robert Cornelius and the First Selfie

<https://blogs.loc.gov/loc/2022/07/robert-cornelius-and-the-first-selfie/>

Rooftop Photo from the 1920s May be the First Group Selfie in History

<https://petapixel.com/2014/07/03/rooftop-photo-1920s-first-group-selfie-history/>

How Thatcher, Reagan clicked

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2013/04/08/pkg-thatcher-reagan-relationship.cnn>

What is Thatcherism?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-22079683>

British Museum's BP sponsorship deal 'astonishingly out of touch'

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2023/dec/19/british-museum-bp-sponsorship-deal-astonishingly-out-of-touch>

Matt

Arcades Project (Walter Benjamin)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arcades_Project

Maya

Luna Luna

<https://lunaluna.com/>

How Drake's \$100 Million Bet Saved the Long-Lost Art Carnival Luna Luna

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/17/arts/design/drake-luna-luna-art-amusement-park.html>

When Keith Haring, Salvador Dalí and Jean-Michel Basquiat Created an Art Amusement Park

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/keith-haring-salvador-dali-jean-michel-basquiat-luna-luna-andre-heller-180983364/>

Jean-Michel Basquiat: King Pleasure

<https://kingpleasure.basquiat.com/>

Keith Haring: Art Is for Everybody

<https://www.thebroad.org/art/special-exhibitions/keith-haring-art-everybody>

Additional Learning Resources

[Incomplete BLM Reading List](#) > Updated weekly / FREE PDF Downloads.

[Curated Bookshelf](#)

[Collaborative Docs](#)

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[Facebook](#)

[Threads \(NEW\)](#)

Have a question?

You can always reach us via info@considering.art or why not send us a DM [@considering.art](#) - you can text us too - send ART to + 1 888 987 0031 (US only. Network access rates may apply).

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You Make This.

<https://considering.art>