

Shape, Color and Social Statement IB / Proficient Art

Objectives:

Choose an issue you care deeply about and would want to try and do something about. This issue should be a general issue or concern in society somewhere in the world. Be sure you are picking a general issue, not simply one of your own pet peeves. Some ideas of things you might be interested in depicting/standing up for or against:

pollution/environmental concerns, abortion rights, pro-life, racism, big government, homelessness, AIDS, (Creationism vs Evolution for private schools) religious wars, the war in Iraq, poverty, verbal abuse, bullying, depression, teen suicide, discrimination, gay rights...What do you CARE about? Talk to people- has anyone in your family been affected by any of these? How? Why? How did it affect them?

Resources:

[Sergio Hernandez](#) - Los Angeles artist who got his start as a cartoonist. See [Death Takes Frida](#) (Archive). Many powerful images! [See email interview with Sergio Hernandez](#).

[Zoraida Martinez](#) - Latino artist of Puerto Rican heritage - known as the creator of "Verdadism", a form of hard-edge abstraction in which paintings are juxtaposed with social commentaries. [Many women's issues - and about minorities](#). Must see site.

[Steve Shepard](#) - Work inspired by [Edward Hicks](#). Bold colorful compositions with text borders. Powerful messages. Steve's work is black ink and Prismacolor on paper darkened with alizarin crimson watercolor - with text borders inspired by the Peaceable Kingdom (and others) by Hicks. His work may inspire a lesson using pastels, [Prismacolor Double-Ended Markers](#), [Oil Pastels](#) or [Construction Paper Crayons on Black Construction Paper](#). Steve is fine artist from Mississippi - his work just has a "folk" appeal - his statements are political in nature.

[Marcia Yerman](#) Don't be stopped by the image on her home page - her work is AMAZING! Drawing, gouache, collage, mixed-media, or large-scale oil paintings, the themes are powerful - dealing with world issues - family and more. Work is both narrative and symbolic in nature. See my favorite! [If I Don't Do It](#) - A great tie in for Renaissance moments. (playing cards).

[Locus Media Gallery](#) Marcia Yerman is curator for this gallery. Gallery artists and art changes on the site. Browse at your leisure. Select examples

appropriate for your unit. Use "Fair Use" guidelines - cite your source and artist properly in you PowerPoint presentations.

Protest and Persuasion: A Unit on Printmaking or Mural Making (Archive) - Students look for visual signs of protest and persuasion in the world around them.

Optional: View Movie Fahrenheit 9/11. This lesson would be excellent as a follow up to this type of movie. Gives one plenty to think about. You can then follow it up with the rebuttal movie, Fahrenheit 9/11 It's always good to show both sides of the argument. Moore covers the liberal point of view while the other is the conservative point of view.

For Political Cartoons:

Try Gary Trudeau of Doonesbury and Walt Kelly of Pogo fame. They're both quite loaded with political and social commentary.

Daryl Cagle has the most extensive political cartoon website on the internet.

Kings Syndicate- This is their editorial cartoonists' page.

United Feature Syndicate- This is their comics and editorial cartoonists' page.