Visual Studies 1

Swansea
College *of* Art
Founded 1853

EVERYTHING IS POLITICAL

Politics is pervasive. Everything is political and the choice to be "apolitical" is usually just an endorsement of the status quo and the unexamined life.

Rebecca Solnit

“The opinion that **art** should have nothing to do with **politics** is itself a **political** attitude.”

George Orwell

Goya

Disasters of War 1810-20, published 1863



J.M.W. Turner

Slave Ship (Slavers Throwing Overboard the Dead and the Dying, Typhoon Coming on)
(1840)



DADA DADA *dada* DaDA Dada **DADA DADA**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABNwtDyx7T4

DADA

Hannah Höch and **John Heartfield** were members of the **Dada** movement (which emerged as a reaction to World War 1) who pioneered photomontage as means to **critique** and **confront the political and social conditions of their times**, and to **fight against the rise of fascism**.



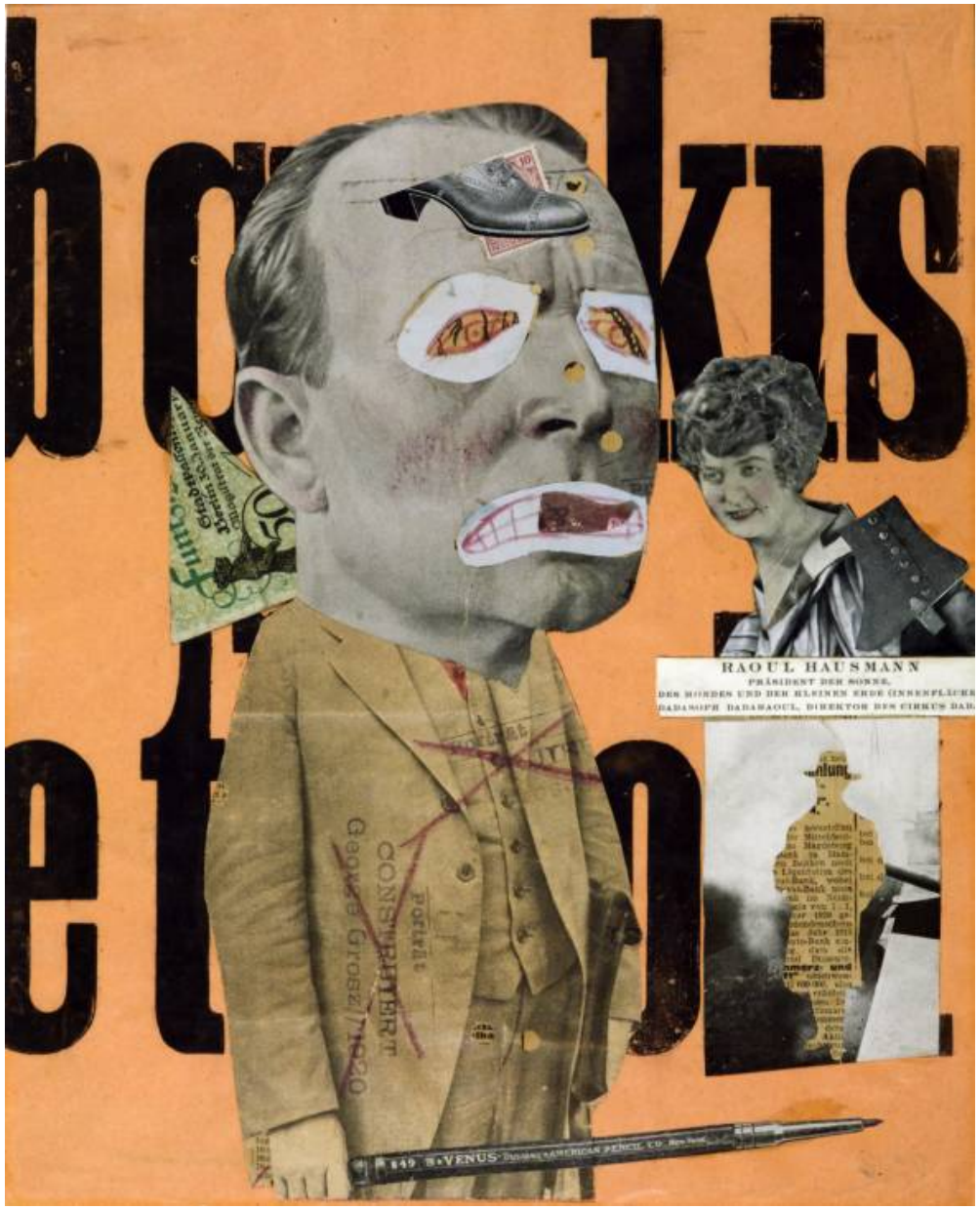
Hannah Höch

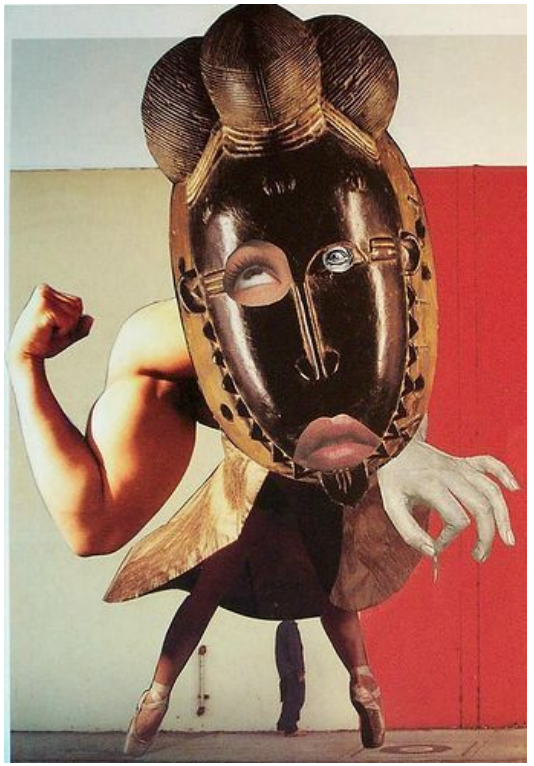


"Cut with the Kitchen Knife Dada Through the Last Weimar Beer-Belly Cultural Epoch in Germany

Photomontage

- the process of reassembling images to create new narratives









Degenerate Art

Henri Matisse





Max Beckmann

Walker Evans

Bud Fields and His Family, Hale Country, Alabama 1936.

Published 1941



Gordon Parkes

American Gothic
1942





Robert Rauschenberg

Retroactive 1
1963







Expressionism

Dada

Surrealism

Pop Art

For Dadaist poet Hugo Ball, the Dadaist goal of art was not to have art be “an end in itself, but [to be] **an opportunity for the true perception and criticism of the times we live in**.”

1968……

1968



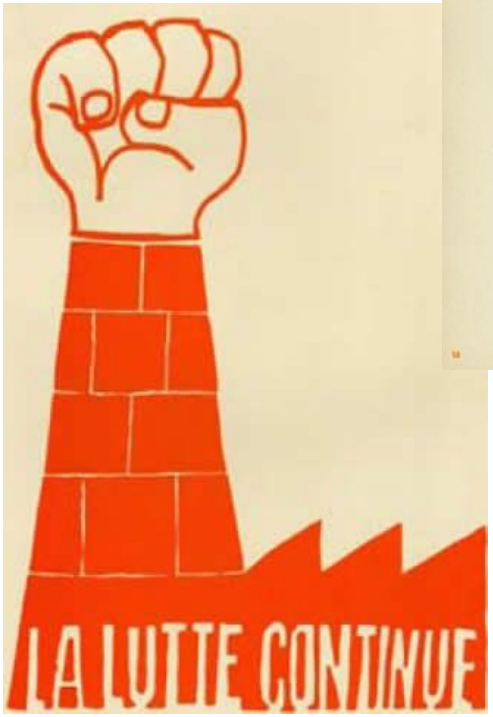


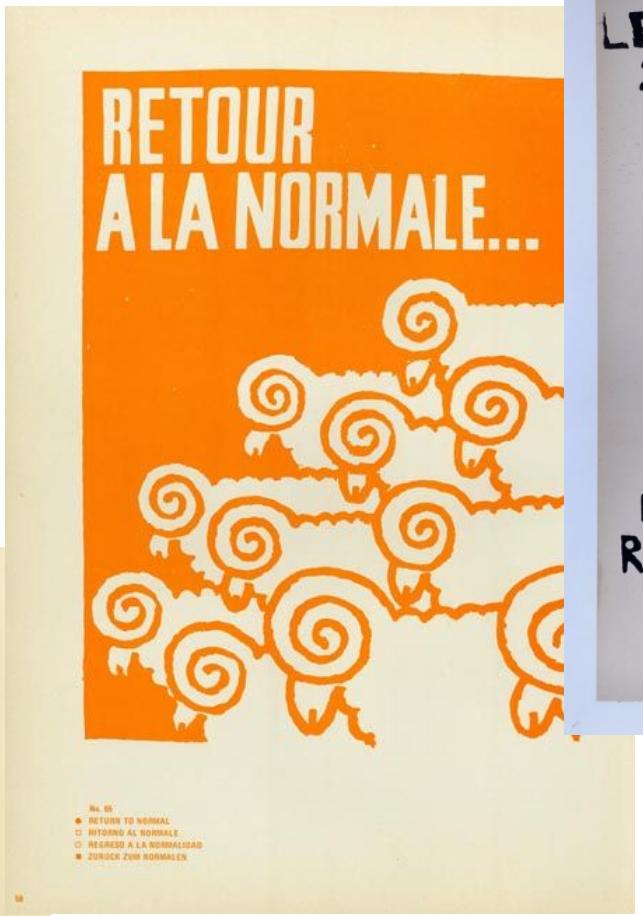
New Left

Martha Rosler

THE STUDENTS ARE REVOLTING

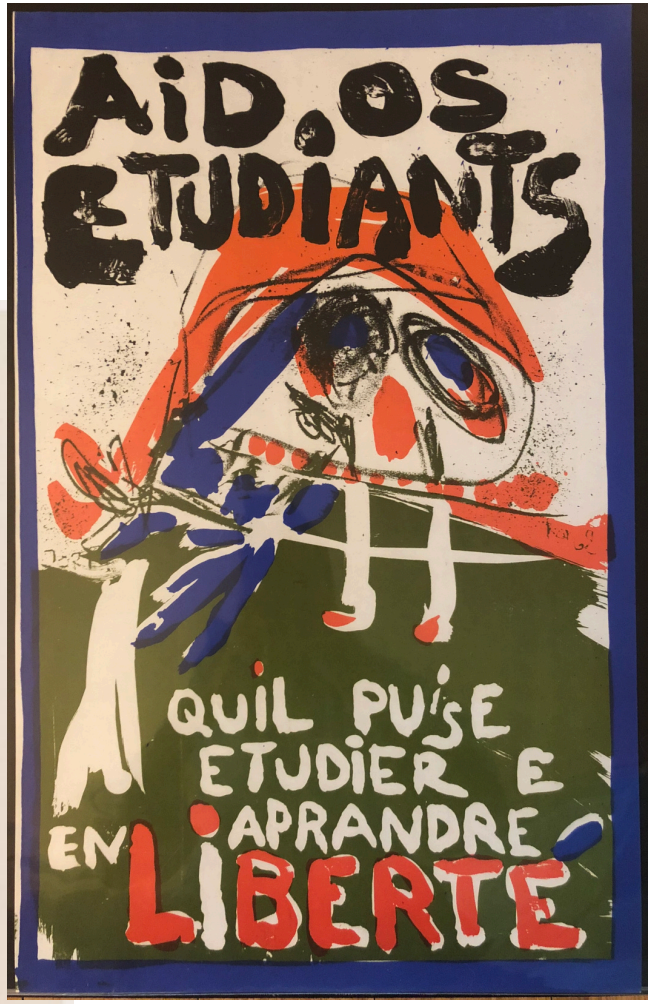








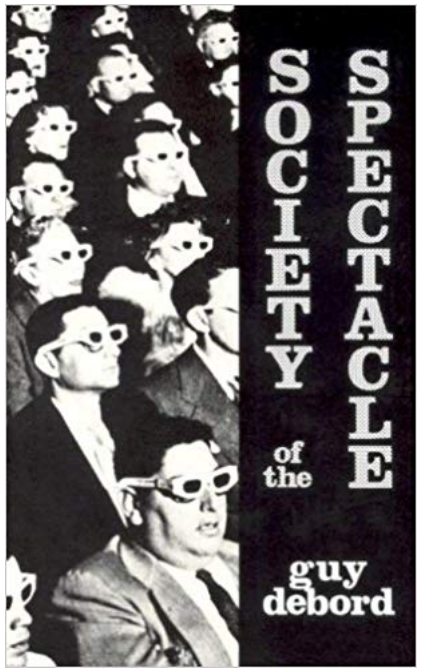




Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France

SITUATIONIST INTERNATIONAL

The Situationist International was founded with the objective of formulating a revolutionary program within the domain of culture.



Art Workers' Coalition

1969



Cindy Sherman

Untitled film stills #21

1978



Barbara Kruger

1988





Guerilla Girls

1989



Kara Walker

Grub for sharks: A concession to the negro populace.

2004





The present is only faced, in any generation, by the artist… The absolute indispensability of the artist is that (they) alone, in the encounter with the present, can give the pattern of recognition. (They) alone have the sensory awareness to tell us what our world is made of. (They) are more important than the scientist.

Marshall McLuhan 1968