

Learning Places Fall 2018

SITE REPORT #2A

name of site report

NAMING PROTOCOL. When saving and posting your site reports on OpenLab, please follow the following format: SiteReport#Letter.LastnameFirstname. Here's an example: **SiteReport2B.BritoKevin**.

STUDENT NAME: Kevin Brito

Thinking Frame:

In the reading, audio, and video assignments for this week a number of spaces for voices of protest are discussed. The Guerilla Girls broadcast their messages across a wide variety of media and places: posters on walls and billboards, handouts on the sidewalk, t-shirts on bodies, projections on walls, installations in abandoned buildings and art galleries, magazines, zines, websites, etc. Next Epoch produces ecological art in neglected urban wastelands. Decolonize This Place conducts protests in museums, without prior permission for use of the spaces. As a group, these interventions could be described as unsanctioned or subversive events performed in spaces that were not designed or curated specifically for protest.

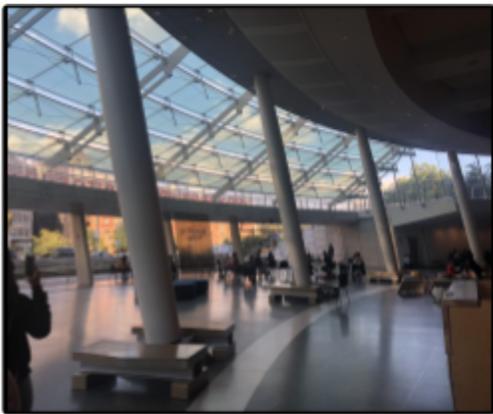
In response to these kinds of activities (and perhaps in recognition--aesthetically or culturally of their importance), there have been increased efforts by community leaders and cultural institutions to create spaces for critical or dissenting voices. Landers, et al, describes strategies to create sanctioned spaces for protest in libraries, plazas, and parks. Similarly, the Brooklyn Museum now seeks to create spaces for alternative, minority, and resistant cultures and voices through curation and architectural interventions.

The question remains whether resistant practices, alternative performances, and protest are more effective when sanctioned or unsanctioned. Where is Dread Scott's *Impossibility of Freedom in a Country Founded on Slavery and Genocide* more effective, in the original 2014 performance on a street or represented in photographic form in a museum in 2018 as part of a curated exhibition?

As you go through the site report collecting images and documenting your ideas, keep these tensions in mind.

SITE OBSERVATIONS

Insert two images of Brooklyn Museum's facades. The first of a more **traditional architectural feature** for a public civic space and the second an **untraditional architectural feature**.



Untraditional Facade



Traditional Facade

Why did you choose these images? As you look at each, what do you expect to encounter once you enter the building? Explain.

I chose these two images because, they have a significance impact on the work that is provided on the museum. Although if you did not enter the museum you can expect to be surprised with, modern and classical art. Based on the original building facade you can tell this is a important structure. You can also see the addition of the more modern facade, kind of saying "we might be old, but were not outdated."

The stated *mission* of the Brooklyn Museum is "to create inspiring encounters with art that expand the ways we see ourselves, the world and its possibilities." Take a photo of one piece of artwork that expands the way you see yourself or the world. Give the photograph a caption and explain why it expands your vision of yourself or the world.



Malcolm X (Portrait)

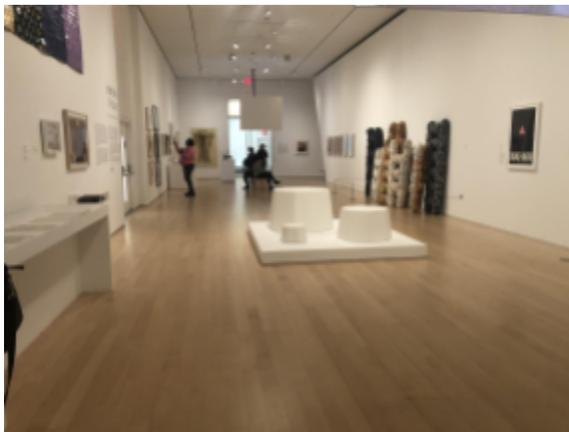
This image connects to my vision of how I see the world, because I see suffering and words to try to rationalize and to persuade people on their way of thinking. To try and emphasise change throughout the community and the country itself. This is the type of art that can make you connect with the artist and wonder what their thinking. Or even maybe what they are thinking.

To me this image makes more sense than all the other abstract art.

The stated vision of the Brooklyn Museum is to create a place “where great art and courageous conversations are catalysts for a more connected, civic, and empathetic world.” Consider the curated areas of the museum. How is space arranged in order to create “courageous conversations”? Can you describe conversations between spaces?

Each space is separated and controlled on the same subject. The type of conversations created through this space might include, maybe the artists thought process, a recap of the time period, a relative who was going through that period, or maybe even they might try to explain what they think the art means. These conversations are achieved by creating a relative small stage space to view and appreciate the art.

Insert an image of designed space (not art objects themselves) that suggest “connection.” How is the concept of “connection” articulated in the way art is arranged in space? (Consider the walls, walkways, display boards, pedestals, rooms, etc.)



The concept of connection is created through the space, by having the art distributed through the walls but also giving enough space to make people surround the art. The surrounding of the art is created in the middle of the floor as well this is a perfect example of how the surrounding of the space creates the concept of “connection”

Use of Space

Brooklyn Museum declares that “since we see ourselves as a conduit for open sharing and learning, we accept the controversies that may accompany courageous conversations.” Consider the way art objects are arranged in space for the *Half the Picture* exhibition in relation to viewers. How would you describe the arrangement of objects for viewers. Did the arrangements accept controversies? Did they encourage courageous conversations? If so, how? If not, why?

In *Half the picture*, a feminist look at the collection, the arrangement of the art did encourage courageous conversations. By the looks of it some people may have liked the art others maybe not. Apart from having opposing opinions as individuals some might take a political side of view stronger than the other. And so raise a potential conflict. The art is courageous and it does bring a lot of courageous conversations to the table. The art objects were going in order to emphasize the viewer to explore the space. I thought this was very clever, because not only did it attract more attention to the art and exhibition itself but also it centered people to have this conversation with each other of the work.

SITE REPORT #2B

Based on your observations at the Brooklyn Museum, **develop a complex research question** about the relationship between 1 piece of art that you viewed and a social or political issue.

Remember, your research question should be specific and researchable.

Research Question:

What was the effect of the work "Waiting is forbidden" and the effect of the syrian people?

Find 2 sources. *For this report, one of your sources MUST be an academic journal article. Your other source can be a news article, internet source, or book.

1 source should have to do with the **artwork, artist, artistic style, or some element of the work** you chose. For example, if you were interested in learning more about realistic photography depicting women engaged in domestic activities, you might search for sources about "domestic imagery AND photography" or "realistic photography" rather than sources about the specific artist.

1 source should be about the **social / political issue** that is articulated in your research question. This source may or may not have to do with art.

Write an MLA citation for each source:

Source 1

Source Citation (MLA 8th Edition)

"Photography Exhibition on Syria Kicks Off in Moscow." *Syrian Arab News Agency*, 21 Dec. 2012. *Global Issues in Context*, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A315007740/GIC?u=cuny_nytc&sid=GIC&xid=0c66d52c. Accessed 24 Oct. 2018.

Source 2

Source Citation (MLA 8th Edition)

Rehr, Manuela, et al. "Prevalence of non-communicable diseases and access to care among non-camp Syrian refugees in northern Jordan." *Conflict and Health*, vol. 12, no. 1, 2018. *Global Issues in Context*, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A546206416/GIC?u=cuny_nytc&sid=GIC&xid=fedb9525. Accessed 24 Oct. 2018.

Describe the process you used to find these sources including any **keywords** and the **specific search engine or tool** you used to search.

First I used the search engine GALE. Which is for global issues in context. Then I searched for Syria and photography for the first source. And than Syria people for the second source.

In a sentence or 2, describe the main point of each source. Then consider: how do these sources address all or part of your research question?

Source 1

This source was about photography which tried to bring awareness of the terrorist acts going on on syria. It said how they would compare how beautiful it was before the terrorist organizations came in and started terrorising syrian citizens.

Source 2

This source was about how the Syrian people flee their country to other neighboring countries as refugees. There are nearly 700,000 syrian refugees all on jordan. This lead to problems with diseases and death. This source is about how the syrian people were affected.

Describe ways the two sources you chose are similar and different. Would it be difficult to integrate these two sources into a single writing assignment? Why or why not?

It would be easier to integrate these two sources together because they involve the main topic which is the terrorist movement going on through syria right now.

What other sources or further information would you need to answer your question? Where would you look for that information?

I could not find any information of the image I had chosen at the museum but, if i can find the artists take on the subject it will make the topic more detailed, and we can all know what's going on.