

Reading and Research Activity

In small groups: Answer the questions below based on your interpretation of the homework readings. All of the performative political actions described in the readings happened more than 10 years ago. Using the City Tech Library and the internet, find 2-3 sources about a more recent political performative act that addresses the social / political issue related to the reading you analyzed.

Have 1 member of your group serve as a note taker. Prepare a 5 minute presentation on your findings to share with the class.

Group 1. Waller, Marguerite. "Border Boda or Divorce Fronterizo?" in Cohen-Cruz, Jan, ed. *Radical Street Performance: An International Anthology* (86-89). London: Routledge, 2008.

How did the "Light up the Border" performative protests work to create an alternative "reading" of the border?

What is the central political or social issue this action hopes to reframe?

Current example:

Sources (MLA Citations):

1.

2.

3.

If you were to stage a performative intervention related to this issue today in New York City, where would you do it and why?

Group 2. Lane, Jill. "Reverend Billy: Preaching, Protest, and Postindustrial Flânerie," *TDR* 46(1) (Spring 2002): 60-84.

How did Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping protests at the Disney Store work to critique or even “destroy” the commercialism and cultural meaning of Disney?

What is the central political or social issue this action hopes to reframe?

Current example:

Sources (MLA Citations):

1.

2.

3.

If you were to stage a performative intervention related to this issue today in New York City, where would you do it and why?

Group 3. Greenwald, Dara, and Josh MacPhee, eds. *Signs of Change: Social Movement Cultures, 1960s to Now*. Ak Press, 2010. [Excerpts]

Does the squatting movement and in particular, the prefigurative Christiania community in Denmark, work as a critique? Is it a performance?

What is the central political or social issue this action hopes to reframe?

Current example:

Sources (MLA Citations):

1.

2.

3.

If you were to stage a performative intervention related to this issue today in New York City, where would you do it and why?

Group 4. Lane, Jill. "Reverend Billy: Preaching, Protest, and Postindustrial Flânerie," *TDR* 46(1) (Spring 2002): 60-84.

Read the Sermon on page 64 of the Lane text. Is Reverend Billy's work a religious critique? Does this example change the cultural meaning of a christian sermon? Why or why not?

What is the central political or social issue that the Church of Stop Shopping hopes to reframe?

Current example:

Sources (MLA Citations):

1.

2.

3.

If you were to stage a performative intervention related to this issue today in New York City, where would you do it and why?