

# Post Studio Artistic Practices and Other Recent Trends

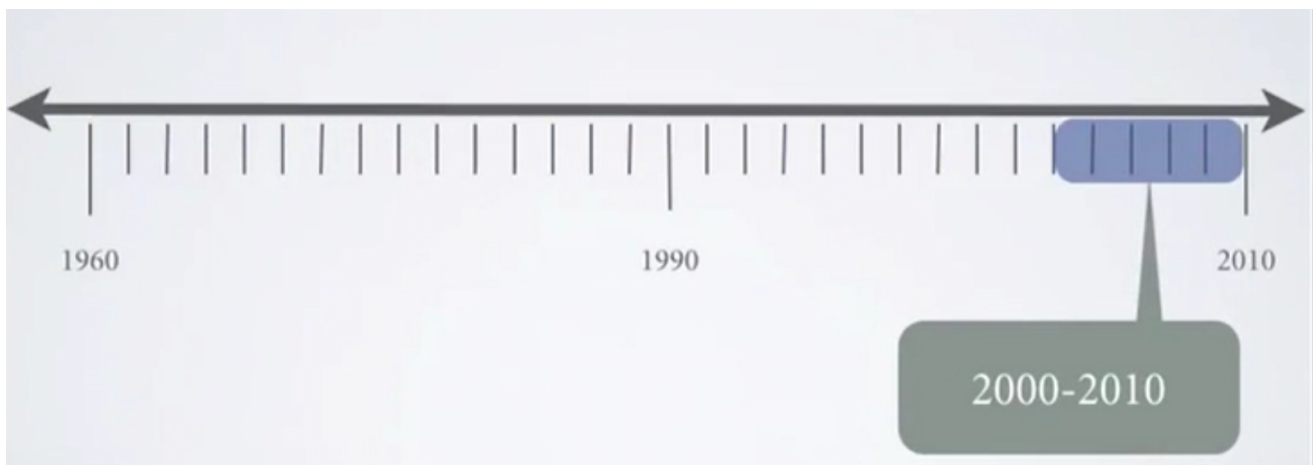
by Sophia



## WHAT'S COVERED

This lesson is about post studio artistic practices and recent trends. By the end of the lesson, you'll be able to identify forms and examples of post studio art. The big idea for today is that graffiti art, Hacktivism, and intervention, or art intervention, are newer, unconventional forms of art outside the traditional studio. You will cover:

The art that we're talking about today dates from between 2000 and 2010.



## 1. Graffiti Art

**Graffiti art** is a form of **post studio practice** given that it takes place out of studio and on the street. As an art form, it's an example of the recent trends, within the last decade or so, for some artists moving away from the isolation of the studio in order to integrate their work within the greater social sphere.



**Mural by Os Gêmeos**

**Graffiti**

**Lisbon, Portugal**

Banksy is a moniker for a graffiti artist who originated in Bristol, England. Despite the controversy regarding graffiti as art or vandalism, Banksy has been able to secure his reputation as one of the most important artists in this genre. Although graffiti can take on the form of vandalism, particularly with the prevalence of tagging, as it's called in larger urban settings, Banksy's work carries a certain political tone with it that addresses a particular issue and brings it to the public's attention.



One Nation Under CCTV by Banksy

2008

Graffiti

London, England

Although he began as a freestyle graffiti artist, around 2000, Banksy changed to premade stencils, allowing him to put up his work more quickly and move on. It's this subversive nature combined with the concept of raising social awareness that makes his work a form of interventionist and graffiti art.





Mural by Banksy

2005

Graffiti

Israel



#### TERMS TO KNOW

##### Graffiti Art

A controversial art movement or style of creating artwork that may include illegally spray painting or drawing on sides of buildings, walls, trains, boats, or cars and in locations outside traditional gallery spaces.

##### Post Studio Practice

The method of making artwork “in the street”.

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## 2. Intervention

**Intervention** as art can take on other forms such as **Hacktivism**. As artwork, computers are hacked into in order to bring awareness to a particular issue. The Electronic Disturbance Theater is a hacktivist group known for conducting virtual sit-ins, and Anonymous is another group associated with Hacktivism.

Intervention as art can also be in the form of performances. With the ubiquity and availability of the Internet,

sociopolitical messages can potentially reach millions or even billions of people. Critical Art Ensemble and the Yes Men are two groups that create social awareness of particular issues through a process called tactical media. This is a form of media activism where short interventionist messages are directed at a particular issue to create social awareness.

As opposed to a broader media outlet that covers a broad range of stories, tactical media specialists, such as Critical Art Ensemble, could be considered more surgical. Their targets are very specific, and they are looking to elicit a response and/or action from their audience.



**Radiation Burn: A Temporary Monument to Public Safety by Critical Art Ensemble**

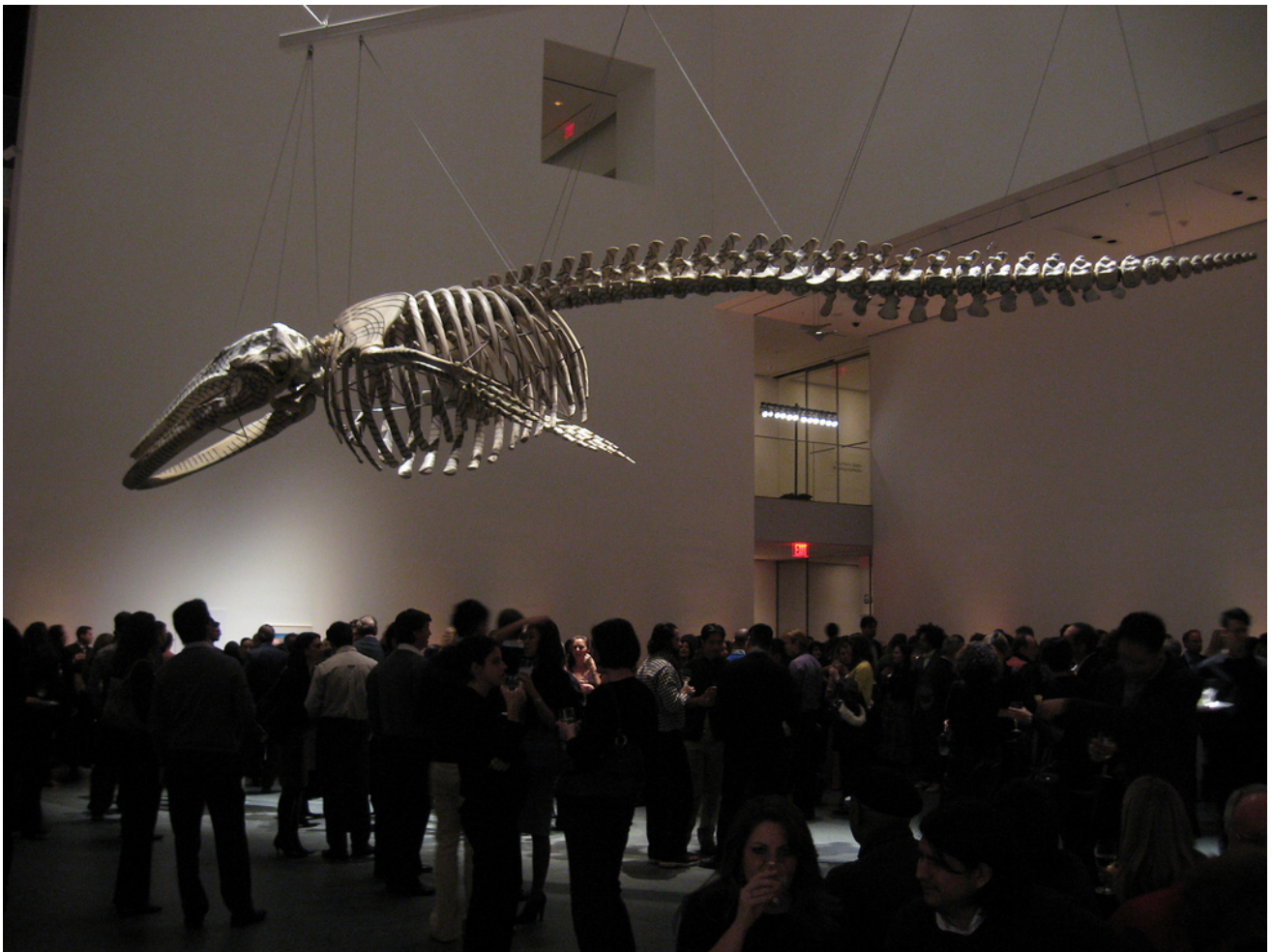
**2010**

**Performance**

In their performance of “Radiation Burn,” Critical Art Ensemble was addressing what they considered media and government scare tactics about the dangers posed by dirty bombs and their inevitable detonation. Believing it was an unnecessary and intentionally alarming proclamation by those groups, Critical Art Ensemble created a satirical video about how to detonate a dirty bomb.

Gabriel Orozco’s “Mobile Matrix” is a fascinating piece that explores the relationship between different parts of a biological machine.





**Mobile Matrix by Gabriel Orozco**

**2006**

**Graphite on whale bone**

In this case, you can see he uses a humpback whale. He was able to secure a complete skeleton from the Mexican government and, with a team of artists, drew concentric circles from joints and other specific locations that overlapped and crossed each other, like ripples on the water.

In this simple yet time-consuming process, he's visualized the unseen harmony that exists between parts of a biological machine, casting light on the inherent and covert beauty that exists within nature. Perhaps he was even rallying support for conservation all without saying a word.



#### TERMS TO KNOW

##### **Intervention**

A technique where existing artwork is used to elevate social awareness through subversive action.

##### **Hacktivism**

A form of activism where computers are illegally broken into and manipulated.



#### SUMMARY

Now that you've seen the lesson, are you able to identify and define today's key terms? Can you identify forms and examples of post studio art? The big idea today, once again, is that **graffiti art**, Hacktivism, and **intervention** or art intervention are newer, unconventional forms of art outside the traditional studio.

Source: This work is adapted from Sophia author Ian McConnell



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### **Intervention**

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### **Post Studio Practice**

The method of making artwork 'in the street'.