

*The Work of Art: diplomacy and the arts in migration society*



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*After Courbet - Tanja Ostojic*

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# *The Work of Art: diplomacy and the arts in migration society*

How can art function as a bridge between cultures?

In this course we will explore art as a mode of self-expression, cultural critique, and a means of negotiating habits of perception in relation to what has been termed 'migration society'.

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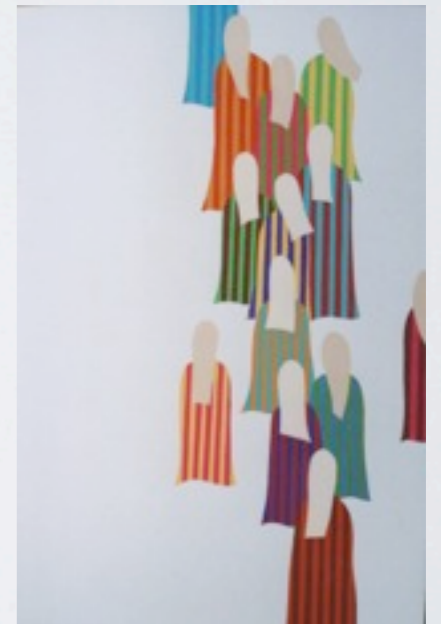
### Migration society

- What forms of migration are there?
- Why do people migrate?
- What are some potential problems and challenges migrants typically face?
- What potential opportunities does migration offer?
- What images do you associate with migration?
- How have you been sensitized to the topic of migration?

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*The arts as cultural diplomacy*

What are ,the arts‘?

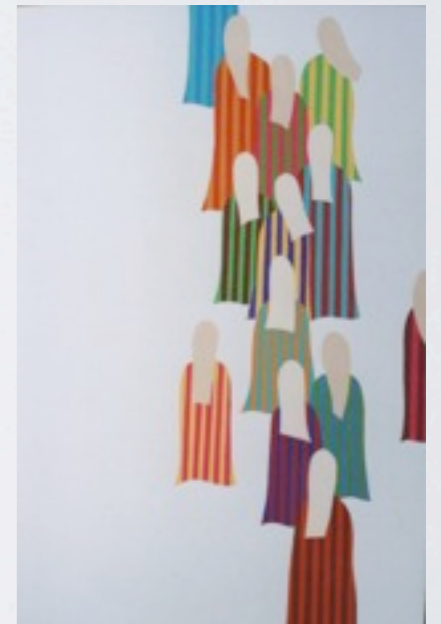


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## *The arts as cultural diplomacy*

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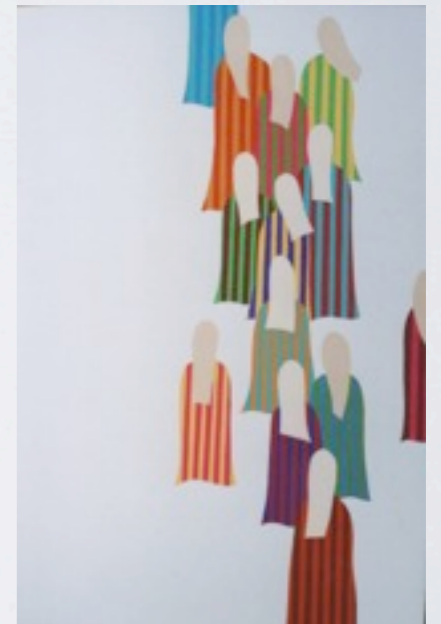
plastic and pictorial arts, literature, performance, cinema, and digital arts – and artworks that deal with topics of ethnicity, migration, and difference



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What can art do?



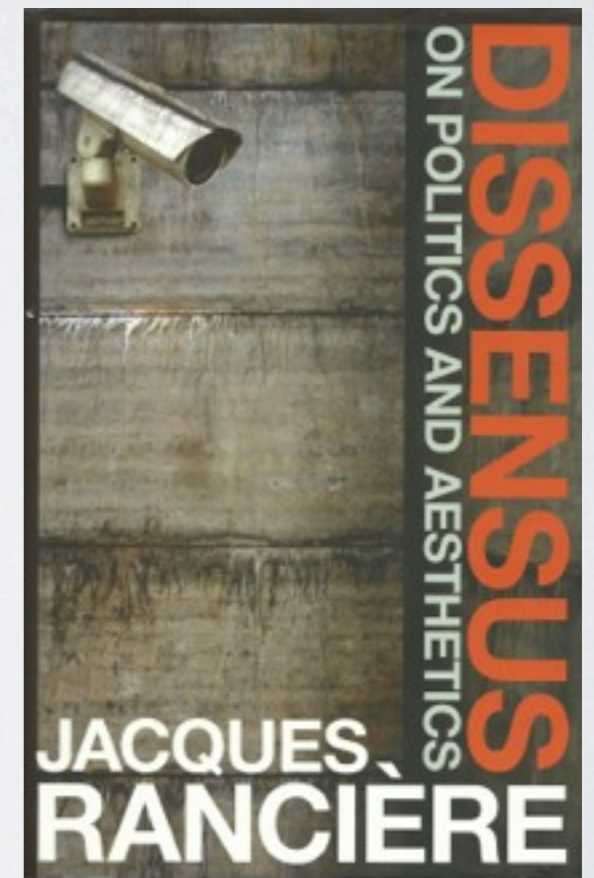
## thematic elements (general)

*The arts as cultural diplomacy*

What can art do?

- space: public / political
- artifact: articulation, vision, negotiation

(Ranciere; Zuidervaat)



## thematic elements (general)

*The arts as cultural diplomacy*

What can art do?

- migration (historical events)
- the arts and migration (cultural artifacts)
- relevant theory on migration society and political art

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What can art do?

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- relevant theory on migration society and political art

Ostojic: <http://www.van.at/see/tanja/>

Art and Cultural Diplomacy: [http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?en\\_acd\\_about](http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?en_acd_about)

Historical profiles:  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-12024253>

## *The Work of Art: diplomacy and the arts in migration society*

### Research colloquium

There will be 3 introductory sessions at the start of the semester and 2-3 concluding sessions at the close of the semester depending on the number of participants. The rest of the semester will be dedicated to the development and realization of group projects. The group projects will consist of identifying an artist, artifact, or set of related artifacts, developing a theoretical framework for the analysis of these, and providing an analysis via two distinct formats: (1) a scholarly group presentation of the artifact and (2) the creation of a multi-media artifact (preferably a video) that thematically and creatively reflects on the original artworks under consideration. The projects will be supervised by the instructor during the stages of development. Finally, students will write a brief essay describing their experience of the processes involved in the realization of their respective projects.