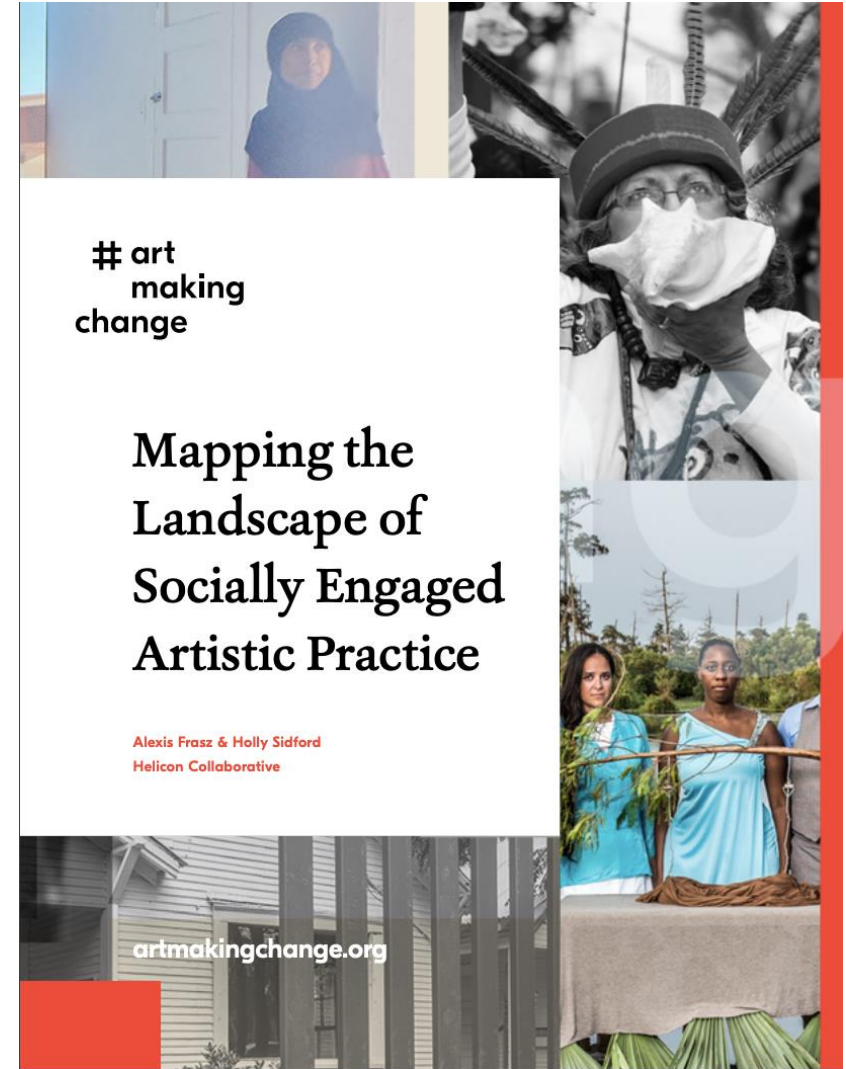
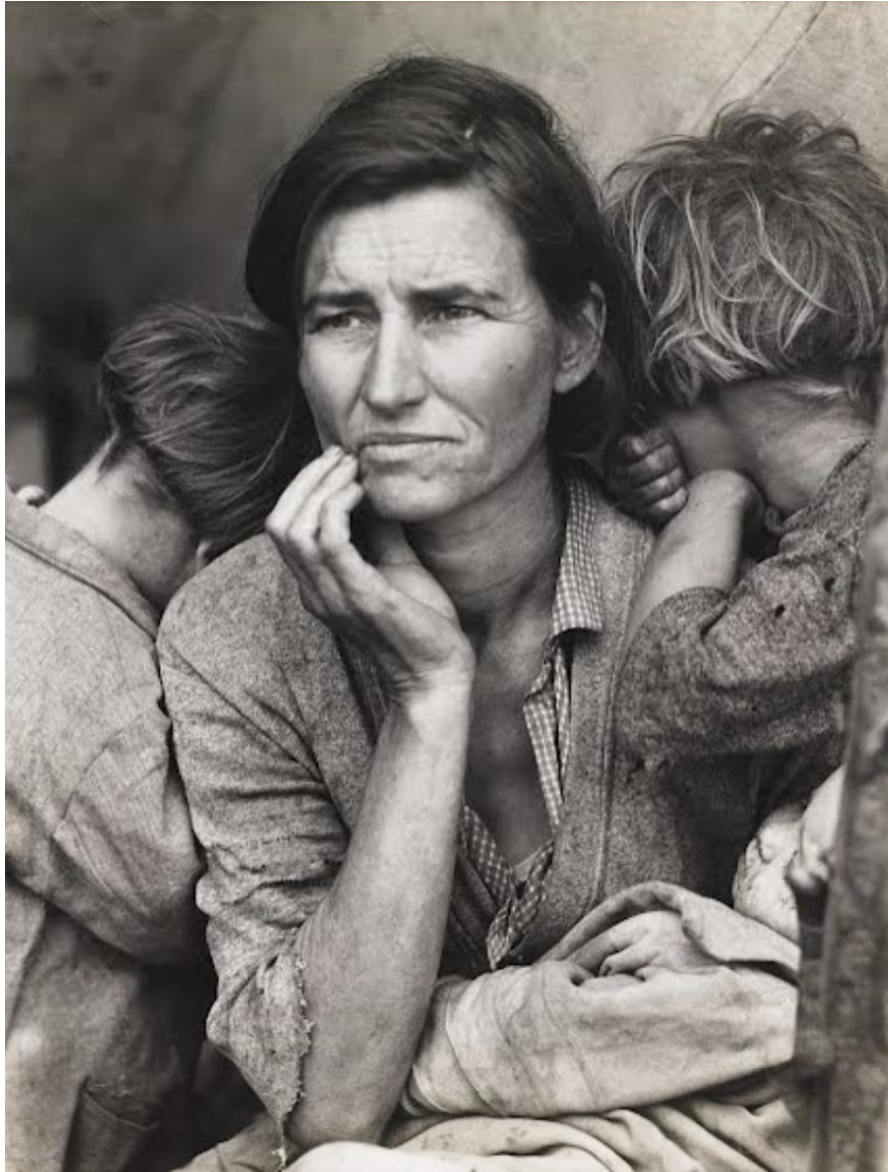


Ethics of Socially Engaged Artistic Practices

Alexis Frasz
Creative Climate Leadership
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Permission, but no attribution

Positive intention of artist and real social impact—
raising awareness about Dust Bowl poverty

Negative impact on the subject's self image over
time, lack of control over use

Benefit (money and recognition) accrue to artist

Spectrum of characteristics for socially engaged artistic practice

place

specific

non-specific

issue

single

multi

duration

short

long-term

Spectrum of characteristics for socially engaged artistic practice

aesthetics

social

fine

artist's role or function

facilitator

visionary

origin of artist

rooted

outsider

Spectrum of characteristics for socially engaged artistic practice

origination of the work

community

outside

definition of the work

process

product

direction of “influence”

participants

audience

Common values of socially engaged artists

Humility

Reciprocity

Curiosity

Generosity

Safety

Equity

Principles for Working in Communities (especially when not your own)

1. Secure an invitation to be there
2. Be aware of your own bias and privilege
3. Recognize and value local expertise, knowledge, and cultural practices
4. Work with community partners that can continue the work
5. Have an exit strategy and leave the community better off
6. Acknowledge your mistakes

Exercise

Think about a time you experienced an ethical dilemma in your work:

- How did it feel?
- How did you deal with it?
- What did you learn from this experience about what matters to you?

Exercise

1. Who or what is the community you are working with / in / on behalf of? Are you from that community or a part of it?
2. Are you the right person to be leading this project? If so, why? What is your connection to the issue or situation?
3. Who has determined the need for this project? How were consent / permissions gained?
4. How is the community involved in the design and decision-making of the project?
5. How do you understand your own power and privilege?
6. What biases or assumptions might you be bringing in?
7. What will the community gain or be left with as a result of this project? Are there any potential risks of doing harm?

Exercise

What is your ethical commitment to the community in and / or with which you will be working?