Politics and Protest

Kristin Taylor, Curator of Academic Programs and Collections
The MoCP is temporarily closed to support the city of Chicago’s efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. We take the health and safety of the public, staff, and the Columbia College Chicago community as top priority. We hope to reopen soon. Meanwhile, we invite you to access our digital offerings, including this video featuring the seven curators introducing their sections of the exhibition What Does Democracy Look Like?

CURRENT EXHIBITION

What Does Democracy Look Like?
Oct 1 – Dec 23, 2020

Leading up to the 2020 presidential election, the MoCP invited seven faculty members from Columbia College Chicago to mine the MoCP’s permanent collection of 16,000 objects. Read more
Lewis Hine (American, 1874-1940)
Ellis Island, Italian Immigrants, 1905
Art Shay (American, 1922-2018)

Florence was pregnant with our second child, Harmon, when we visited a famous landmark in the NY Harbor. We both grew up in NY but had never visited it., c. 1950; printed 2014
Art Shay (American, 1922-2018)

*Hilton Hotel, Michigan Avenue, August 1968, Democratic Convention, 1968*
The Trial of the Chicago 7 film still (not in the MoCP collection)
Danny Lyon (American, b. 1942)
Fannie Lou Hamer, sharecropper from a family of twenty children, evicted from her home for applying to register to vote, severely beaten in the Winona police station, SNCC field secretary from Ruleville, and future Mississippi Freedom Democratic party candidate for Congress, marches in the cold Hattiesburg rain, 1963; printed 2010
Danny Lyon (American, b. 1942)

After giving a concert in a cotton field in Greenwood, Bob Dylan plays behind the SNCC office. Bernice Reagon, one of the original Freedom Singers and today leader of Sweet Honey in the Rock, listens. Mendy Samstein sits behind Dylan and talks to Willie Blue, 1963; printed 2010
Danny Lyon (American, b. 1942)

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic party was created in 1964 as an alternative to the regular state parties, from which blacks were excluded. Eighty thousand people joined. Here people vote in Mississippi, most for the first time in their lives, 1964; printed 2010
Danny Lyon (American, b. 1942)

John Lewis in Cairo, 1962; printed 2010
come let us build a new world together

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

8½ RAYMOND STREET, N.W. ATLANTA 14, GEORGIA
The young people kneeling today are following a long tradition. #TakeAKnee #goodtrouble
Bruce Davidson (American, b. 1933)
Selma March, 1965

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL
(MISSISSIPPI OR BUST)
Atlanta, GA. Protestors against hotel discrimination, 1962
Bruce Davidson (American, b. 1933)
Arrest of a demonstrator in Birmingham, Alabama, 1963
Jonathan Bachman image of Ieshia Evans being arrested in Baton Rouge, 2016 (not in the MoCP collection)
Bruce Davidson (American, b. 1933)

*Arrest of a demonstrator in Birmingham, Alabama, 1963*  (not in the MoCP collection)
Krista Franklin (American, b. 1970)
She Taught Us How to Fight I (diptych), 2016
Tina Modotti (Italian, 1896-1942)

*Woman with Flag*, 1928; printed c. 1990
Manuel Álvarez Bravo
(Mexican, 1902-2002)

Obrero En Huelga, Asesinado [A Striking Worker Killed], 1934
Manuel Alvarez Bravo
(Mexican, 1902-2002)

El Eclipse [The Eclipse], 1930
Graciela Iturbide
(Mexican, b. 1942)

Notre-Dame des Iguanes (Our Lady of the Iguanas), Juchitán, Oaxaca, 1979
Graciela Iturbide
(Mexican, b. 1942)

Marcha política /
Political rally, Juchitán,
México, 1984
Obrero En Huelga, Asesinado [A Striking Worker Killed], 1934
Greg Stimac  
(American, b. 1976)  

Concord, Vermont,  
from the Mowing the Lawn portfolio, 2006
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Tawana Brawley Protest, 1988
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Bleeding Protestor. Tompkins Square Park Riots, 1988
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Washington Square Park Protest, 1988
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Lower East Side Housing Demonstration, 1989
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
AID Protest, 1989
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)

After an AIDS protest, 1989
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Communist John, 1989
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 1998; printed 2017
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
White House, Washington, DC, USA, from Study of Perspective, 1995
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
Tiananmen Square, Beijing, China, from Study of Perspective, 1995
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)

Eiffel Tower, Paris, France, from Study of Perspective, 1997
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)

258 Caocangdi, Beijing, China, from Study of Perspective, 2012
Ai Weiwei (Chinese b. 1957)
MASK : Mask with Middle Finger, 2020 (not in the MoCP collection)
Suzette Bross
(American, b. 1968)

*Untitled #25*, from the *44 for 44* project, 2008
Suzette Bross
(American, b. 1968)

Untitled #35, from the 44 for 44 project, 2008
Suzette Bross  
(American, b. 1968)  

*Untitled #37*, from the *44 for 44* project, 2008
Suzette Bross
(American, b. 1968)

Untitled #30, from the 44 for 44 project, 2008