

Session at SECAC (Pittsburgh, 21–24 Oct 15)

Southeastern College Art Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, Oct 21–24, 2015

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[\[1\]](#) Socially Engaged Art History

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SECAC Session: Socially Engaged Art History

Session "Socially Engaged Art History"

Must art history be understood as the work of individual scholars focused on the production of art historical writing for publication aimed primarily, if not solely, at other scholars? Although this is precisely how art history is generally produced, this panel encourages instead the exploration of the practice of art history as a collaborative and socially engaged process. While collaborative and socially engaged artistic practices have received much attention in recent years, an arguably parallel and growing art historical practice has received little if any formal notice and even less study. Typically produced within and between social groups over an extended period of time, socially engaged art history seeks to engender a productive dialogue regarding social or political issues and to foster resilient and sustainable communities. Meaningful interactions with communities might address topics such as difference, division, and inequality in society. The current emphasis on undergraduate research as a high impact practice and the benefits of service learning has provided numerous opportunities for the development of collaborative and socially engaged art history. By showcasing specific examples and results of art historical projects that feature collaboration and social engagement, this panel seeks to broaden our understanding of art historical scholarship.

Session chairs: Cindy Persinger, California University of Pennsylvania, and Azar Rejaie, University of Houston-Downtown.

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Reference:

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