

## Debate on the political effects of art

You have been assigned a team, which corresponds with a position, outlined below. These positions roughly correlate with the authors assigned for next week's readings. Prepare for your team's arguments by doing these readings, and by assembling examples from the semester's lectures, your own research paper, and the subject readings over the term. Bring your ideas and suggestions in support of your team's position to class on Wednesday, December 8. Teams will meet briefly for 5 minutes before the debate; each side will have 15 minutes in all.

### **Team Red (Stallabrass)**

Resolved: Art is largely powerless – “the plausibility and power of art's freedom are on the wane” – and in fact *have always been waning*. Art in a capitalist society will always be put to use by capitalism in one way or another.

### **Team Green (Sholette/ Thompson)**

Resolved: Art is powerful – art must use its various media to “engage a particular sociopolitical context in order to create molecular interventions and semiotic shocks that contribute to the negation of the rising intensity of authoritarian culture.”

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4.651 Art Since 1940  
Fall 2010

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