



Themes of Contemporary Art: Visual Art after 1980

By Jean Robertson, Craig McDaniel

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Offering a unique thematic approach to recent art history, *Themes of Contemporary Art: Visual Art after 1980*, Fourth Edition, focuses on eight central ideas recurring in art over the past few decades: identity, the body, time, memory, place, language, science, and spirituality.

This thought-provoking volume features over 200 full-color images of artworks that exemplify a wide variety of materials, techniques, theoretical viewpoints, and stylistic approaches, by artists from diverse ethnic, cultural, and geographic backgrounds. Its concise, engaging, and accessible narrative challenges readers to think actively and critically about the ideas expressed in contemporary art.

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Review

"This book does everything I need it to. The thematic organization is valuable and unique, allowing me to incorporate supplemental materials easily. It is well written, reasonably priced, and my students love it as much as I do. I absolutely always recommend it to other professors."

--Julia Alderson, *Humboldt State University*

"*Themes of Contemporary Art* is written in a mostly jargon-free, plain-language manner that is at my students' level."

--Anita Welych, *Cazenovia College*

"I think the authors have done a sensational job of breaking down difficult-to-grasp concepts while synthesizing the discourse into streamlined and elegant prose."

--Miguel de Baca, *Lake Forest College*

"This is a superb contemporary art text. The writing, organization, and inclusiveness of *Themes of Contemporary Art* are outstanding. The historical overviews, the authors' self-reflection, and the analysis of artworks are exceptional. In my opinion, it is the best text for studio artists and a wonderful addition to contemporary art history courses."

--Andrea V. Feeser, *Clemson University*

About the Author

JEAN ROBERTSON is Chancellor's Professor of Art History at Indiana University's Herron School of Art and Design. **CRAIG McDANIEL** is Associate Dean and Professor of Fine Arts at Indiana University's Herron School of Art and Design. They are co-authors of *Spellbound: Rethinking the Alphabet* (2016).

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