

HYPERALLERGIC

Artists, Curators, and More Reflect on Their Voting Experiences

For Election Day, Hyperallergic asked a number of cultural workers to reflect on this year's critical election.

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A voter headed to the polls today in Minneapolis, Minnesota (by and courtesy Lorie Shaull/Flickr)

In the months leading up to Election Day in the US, November 3, artists, curators, and more have used their creativity to encourage voters to get to the polls and raise

awareness about voter suppression. Amid a global pandemic that has led to profound losses and a growing movement against systemic racism, the stakes are high for the cultural sector in the 2020 election.

Now that the day has finally come, Hyperallergic asked art workers and artists to share their reflections on the voting process and on the months leading up to today's critical ballot. We requested that respondents send in approximately one paragraph detailing their experiences exercising their civic duty — whether they voted early, by mail, or in-person today — and the catalysts that led them to their decision. Ranging from anxious to hopeful, observations from these creatives can help us paint a picture of today's climate, and what they hope to see in the country's future.

Deborah Kass



Deborah Kass wearing a Joe/Kamala t-shirt, holding an “America needs a big cup of Joe” mug (courtesy Deborah Kass)

Since the minute Trump was installed on November 9, 2016, I have been chomping at the bit to vote his predatory, misogynist, racist, treasonous ass out of the office Putin stole for him. Our plan was to vote early in person at Barclays in Brooklyn, but it was scuttled by a

surprise appendectomy a couple of weeks before the election. I was so upset not to vote in person, but mailed in my backup plan absentee ballot the first day I could, and the last day I heard it was safe to send in: October 22, right after surgery and a little spaced out from Percocet. I tracked it, and it was labeled “valid” on October 29. PHEW! In 2016 I was 1000% certain of Hillary's victory (she won) and have spent the last four years watching this illegitimate, cruel, sadistic, corrupt, feral, mobbed-up, murderous, ignorant, low IQ traitor, his GOP enablers, and his crime family in horror and fear as

they rape, pillage, destroy the rule of law and our mental health, commit crimes against humanity in our name, and literally kill hundreds of thousands of American citizens with impunity. I will never, ever be certain of an outcome again. If Trump wins, I am leaving. A transnational mafia kleptocracy ruled by a fascist right-wing minority relying on death and repression to keep the rest of us in our place, that is intent on stealing every cent they can while they are at it, will be even more deadly for the vast majority of Americans than it has become in the last three years: women, seniors, LGBTQ, POC, Indigenous people, Democrats, progressives, Jews, Muslims, literally just about all of us. In fact, given global warming, it won't even be safe for the "straight" white men who spend all their waking hours figuring out how to continue to rule and rob us to maintain power at any cost. It certainly will not be a democracy. Color me terrified.

Find this article in: <https://hyperallergic.com/599239/artists-curators-and-more-reflect-on-their-voting-experiences/>