

# SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES ON AMERICAN ART

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ART AND SOCIAL WORK



# SEVERAL TYPES OF ART

- ❖ Painting and posters
- ❖ Photography
- ❖ Monuments and Sculpture
- ❖ Music
- ❖ Folk Arts and Crafts

# SOCIAL WORK THEMES

In this presentation, we'll examine...

- ❖ Slavery and abolition
- ❖ Poverty, inequality, and class issues
- ❖ Idealism and utopianism
- ❖ Civil rights, racism and anti-racism
- ❖ Peace movements and anti-war sentiments

# SOCIAL WORK ART

In this presentation, we'll examine...

- ❖ Public sponsorship of artists
- ❖ Arts as a way to build communities
- ❖ Arts in protest and political conflict
- ❖ Arts as a tool of social transformation
- ❖ Arts and identity (multicultural and national)

Representational Art more than Abstract Art.  
Contemporary Art seems less interested in social welfare

Mark Tobey  
*Pacific  
Transition*  
1943



# PHOTOGRAPHY

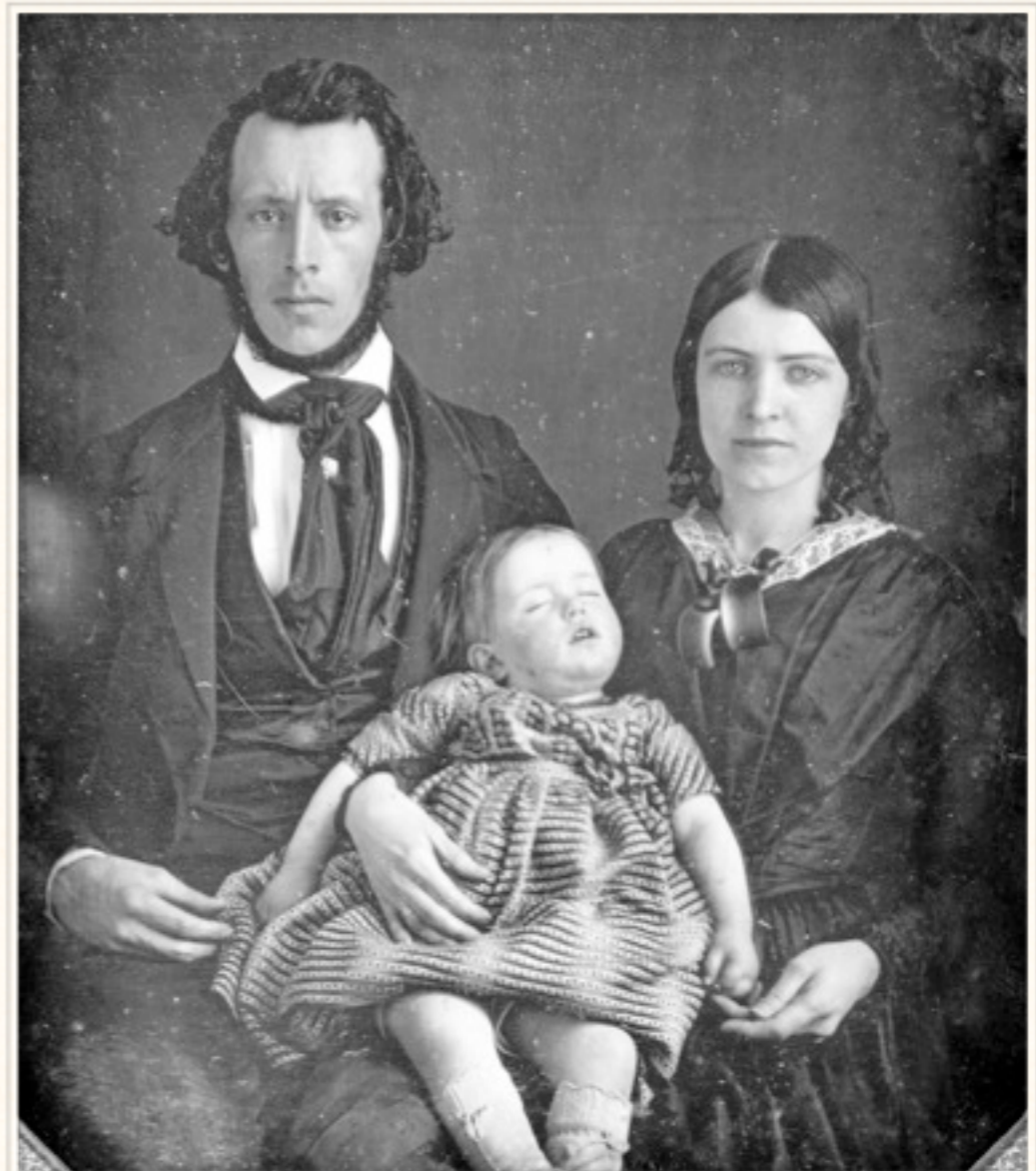
Brought from France  
to England to America

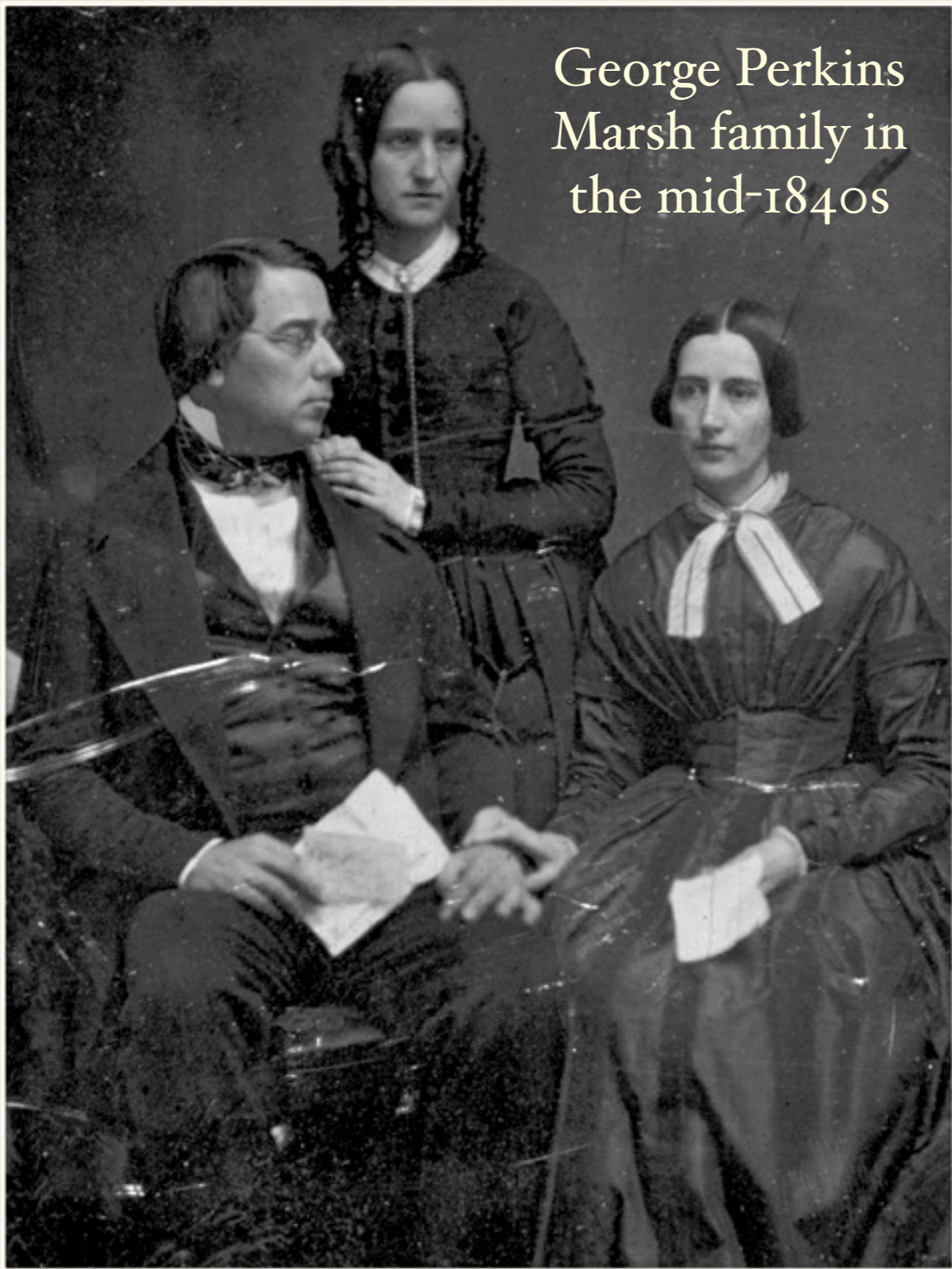
- ❖ First American  
portrait photograph,  
Robert Cornelius,  
autumn of 1839.



# EARLY PORTRAITS

## ELITES AND MIDDLE CLASS IN THE 1840S





George Perkins  
Marsh family in  
the mid-1840s



1853, Edwin  
Stanton with son



Ezra Ames (1768-1836), *The Fondey Family*, 1803



# EARLY PORTRAITS

## MECHANICS AND ARTISANS (LABORERS) IN THE 1840-50S



# PRIDE IN LABOR

AMERICAN TRADITION OF A STRONG WORK ETHIC.





# AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY



# AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRY



# Springfield, Illinois train station mural



# WORK





# Winslow Homer, *The Cotton Pickers*



Thomas Hart Benton, *Louisiana Rice Fields*, 1928



Tyrone Comfort, *Gold Is Where You Find It*, 1934



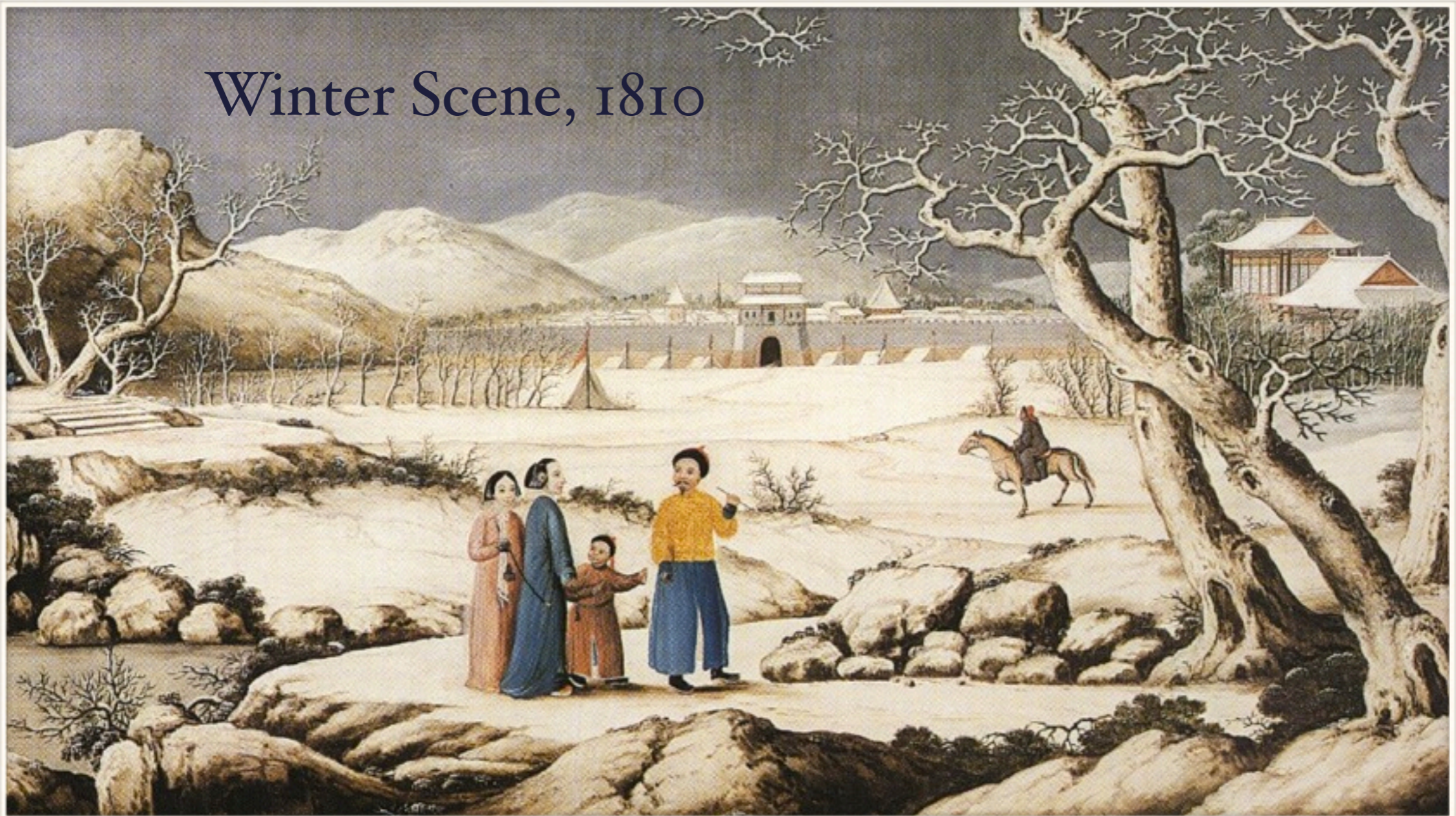
E. Irving Couse, *Indian Weaver*, 1934



# FAMILIES

## ART PORTRAYING OR CELEBRATING FAMILIES

Winter Scene, 1810





Brescia. 300-380 C.E.

# FAMILIES, 1845

LOVE AND RADICALISM (THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY SINGERS)

MOST ACTIVE 1840S THROUGH 1860S



Copley, *The Copley Family*, 1776





Worthington Whittredge, *Summer Pastorale (View of Kallenfels)*, 1853



# JAPANESE SMALL STATUES DEPICTING FAMILIES











Norman Rockwell,  
*A Family Tree*



Norman Rockwell,  
*Breaking Home Ties*,  
1954





# The Heroic Family



# IDEALIZED WORLD

PORTRAYALS OF THE WORLD WE DESIRE

Edward Hicks, *The Peaceable Kingdom*, c. 1846



# Edward Hicks



Thomas Cole, *The Voyage of Life, Childhood*. 1842



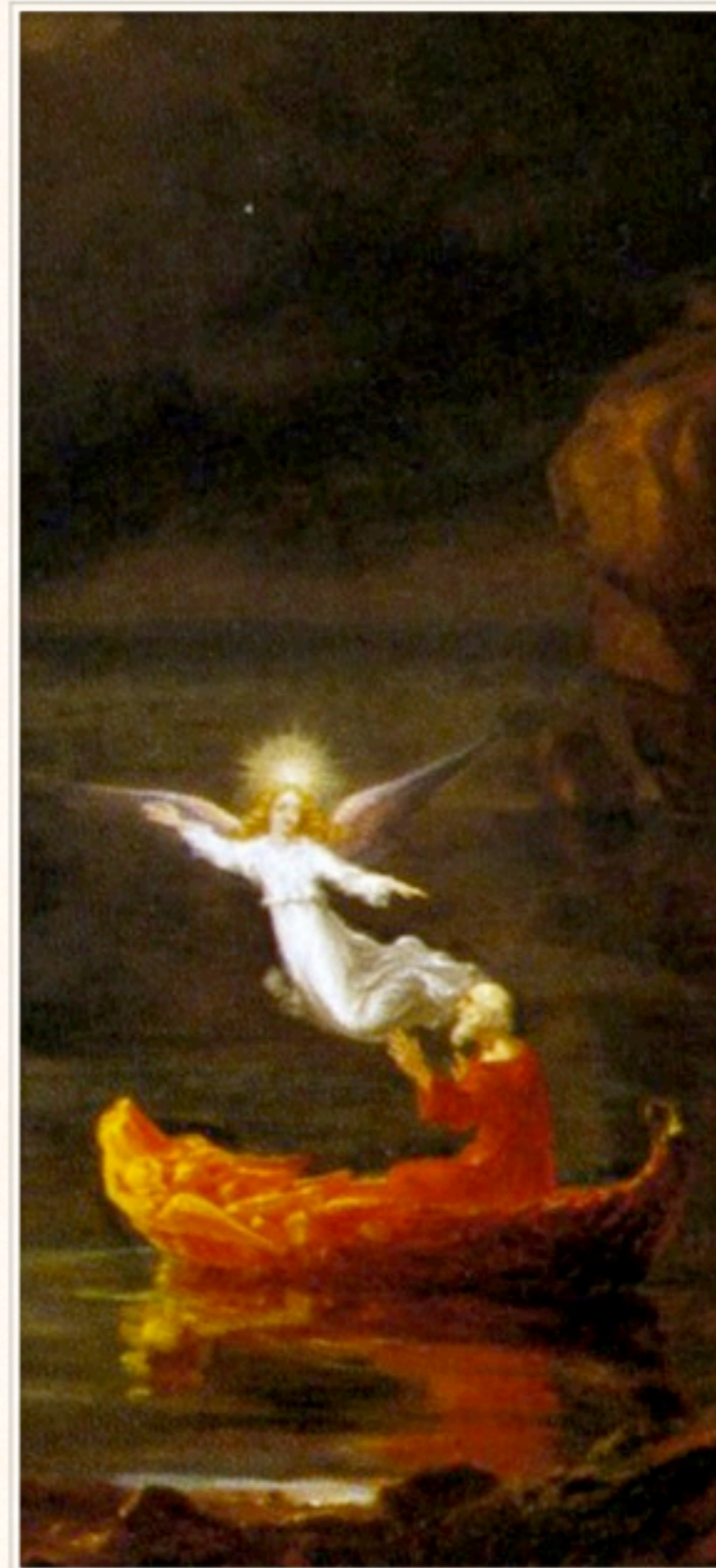
Thomas Cole, *The Voyage of Life, Youth*. 1842



Thomas Cole, *The Voyage of Life, Old Age*. 1842



Thomas Cole, *The Voyage of Life*



1848  
Droits De L'Homme







# PEACE TREK (1980S COLD WAR)









COMMUNITY BANK  
INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

WE NOW HAVE  
SOLAR-T  
BILLS

Rental  
Center

PERIENCE-NOT THINGS

EINSTEIN st.

GAND

CENTER FOR  
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

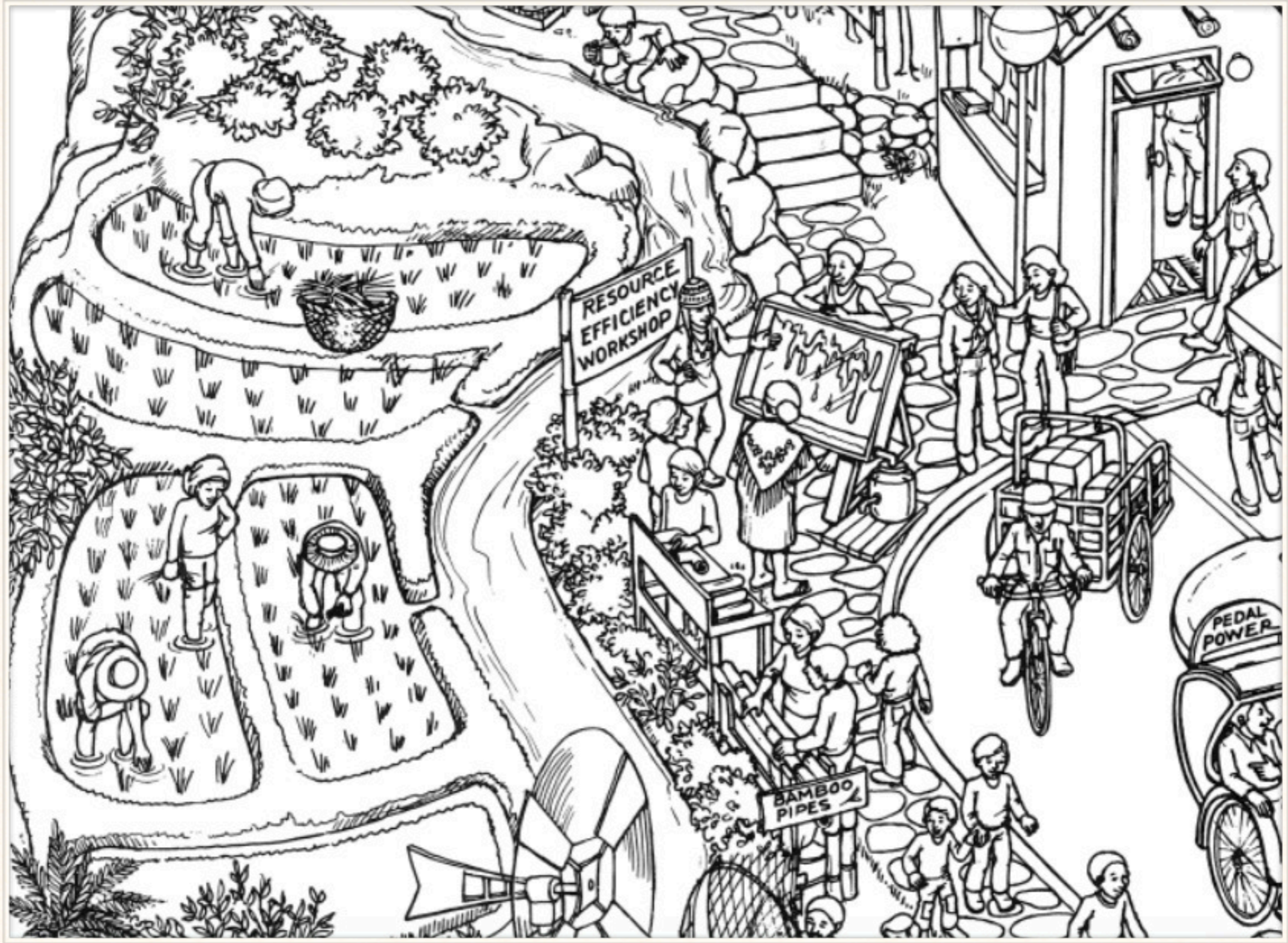
MEDIATION  
ARBITRATION  
CONCILIATION  
NEGOTIATION

A WORLD  
THAT WORKS  
FOR EVERYONE

ECONOMIS  
RE-TRAINI  
CENTER

THE  
ECONOMICS  
OF  
PEACE  
JUSTICE  
EQUALITY

MAIL





WALTER CRANE. MAY DAY 1891









# PEACE AND WAR

ART IN MEMORY OF SOLDIERS, AGAINST WAR, OR INSPIRING PEACE

Maya Ying Lin 林璎, *The National Vietnam War Memorial*, 1982



DANIEL P REISTROFFER • CHRISTOPHER J SCHRAMM • JAMES A RIDER  
A • CHARLES H SANDBERG • NELSON SANTIAGO-APONTE • WAYNE R  
EIN Jr • HAROLD A STONE • DAN P VANNOY • STANLEY J SUKOWATEY  
TOZOUR • CHARLES A URDIALES Jr • EDWARD E STROUD • DIXIE DE W  
WALTZ • SYLVESTER WASHINGTON • ROBERT E WELCH • ALVIN E WILES  
VITTEVRONGEL • JOHN L WOJCICKY • BOBBY CLYDE WOOD •  
ORTHEY • STEVEN D ZUCROFF • VESA J ALAKULPPI • EDWARD ANDERS  
TT • SEYMOUR R BASS • RICHARD J BECK Jr • DALE L BLUME •  
TA • JIMMY R COX • EDWARD D CROW • JAMES S DAHL •  
DAVIS • JOHN DI NAPOLI Jr • JOSE R DIANA-DIAZ • RICHARD L GILBERT •  
GGETT • ROBERT J GROTHAUS II • RICHARD J GUERRERO • ROBERT R HA  
JOE HON • DANIEL G JOHNSON • LEE F JONES • FRANCIS E JORDAN •  
ES • JAMES J KLINE • LANCE J KOHANKE • RICHARD M KUCHEK • JAMES  
VE • MICHAEL H LYNCH • JAMES R MAURER • JESUS MEJIA •  
MUNDY Jr • ROBERT D MURPHY • DENNIS E McDONALD • ROGER D S  
/ RIGGS • JAMES R RINGEL • KENNETH D RYNNING • LARRY J HARDY •  
EMI • JAMES F TURNEY • WILLIAM H ZEIGLER • WILLIE E ALSTON •  
ANDERSON • LESLIE G APUTEN • STANLEY W BEHM • HOMER B BELL Jr •  
OWTHER • WARDELL BORDERS • ANDREW J BRINZO III • NORMAN C BI  
MPBELL • WILLIAM CHAPMAN Jr • DORIS W CLARK • CHARLES A COPE •







Bruno Schmitz, *The Soldiers  
and Sailors Monument*,  
Indianapolis, 1888-1901

Walker and Weeks, *The Indiana World War Memorial*, Indianapolis, 1927-1965

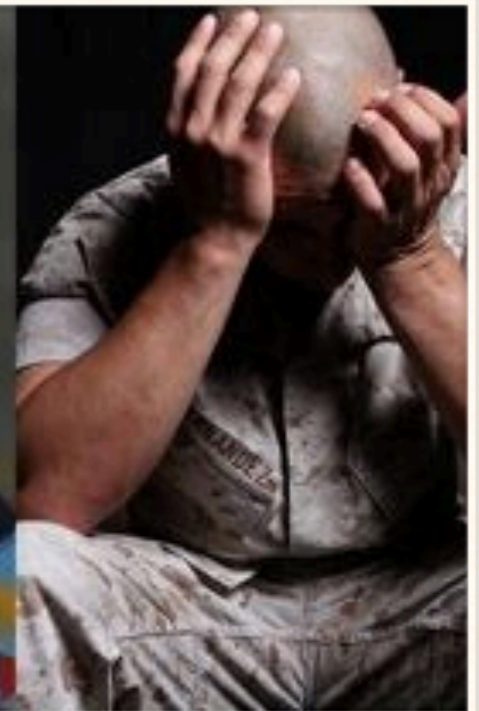
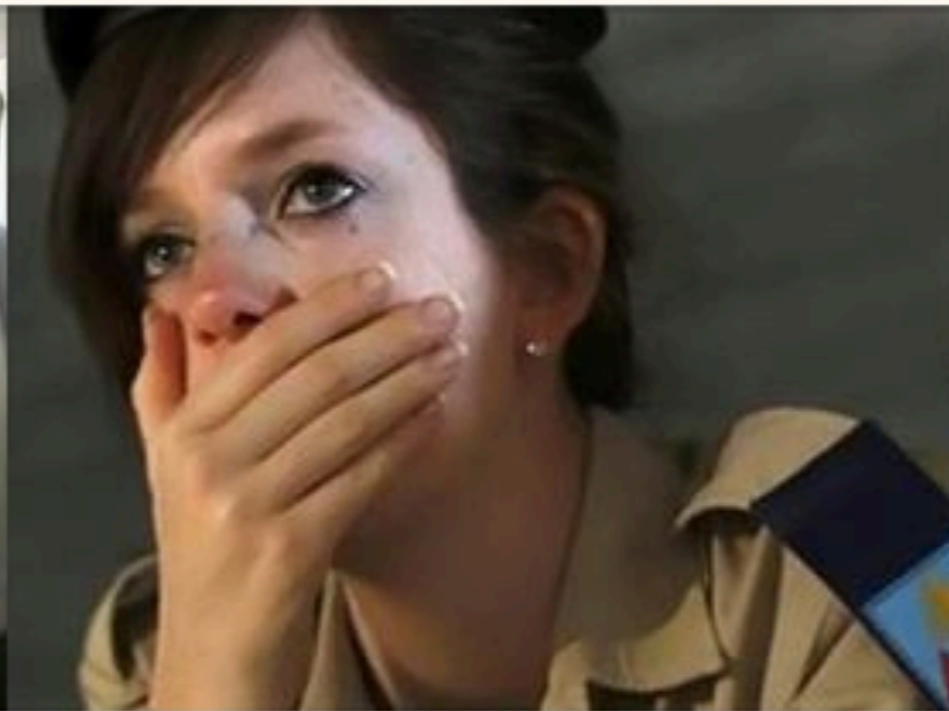


Henry Hering, *Pro Patria*, Indianapolis, 1929



WILLIAM TYLEE RANNEY *Veterans of 1776 Returning Home, 1848*





**There is no such thing as an unwounded soldier - José Narosky**



Jose Narosky

The Office of Governor Pat Quinn Presents

# Portrait of a Soldier

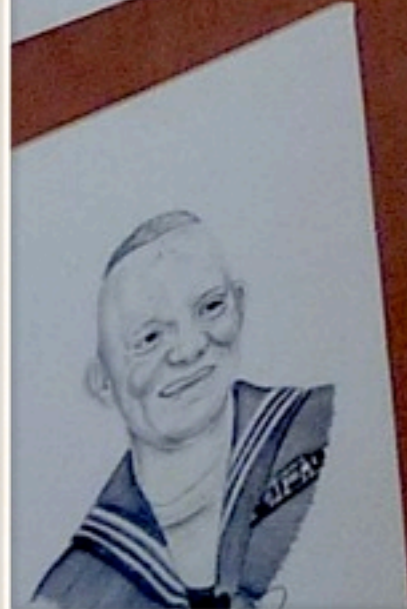
*A special memorial tribute to the Illinois service members  
who have given their lives for our country.*

*A riveting display of handdrawn portraits of Illinois soldiers killed in the Global War on Terror*





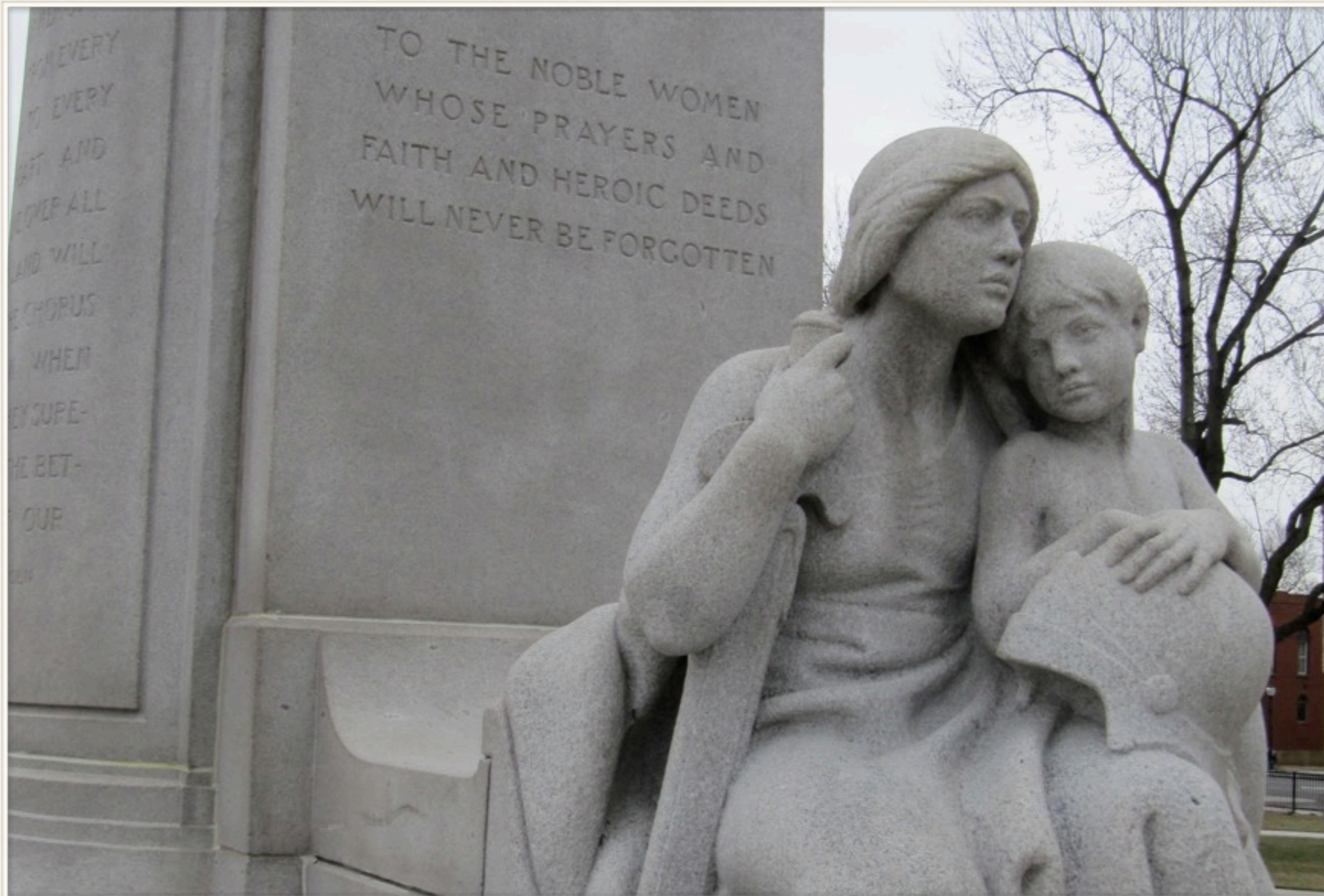




# MEMORIAL DAY



## WAR MONUMENT IN JACKSONVILLE, IL





LORADO TAFT (1860-1936), DESIGN FOR A WAR MEMORIAL

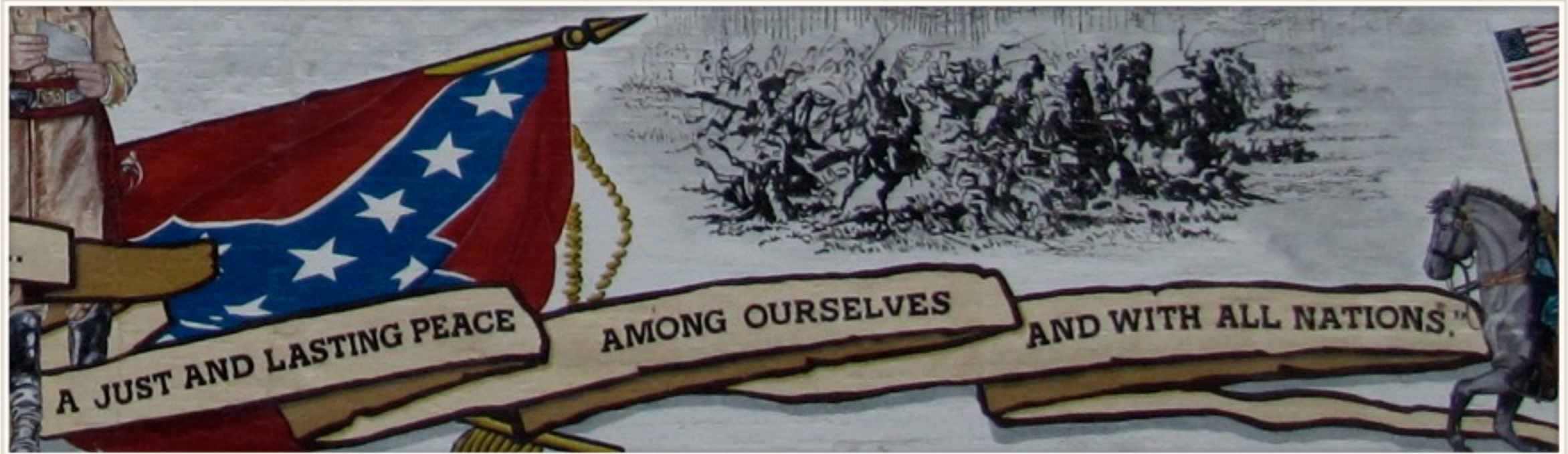


Thomas Hart Benton

*Again,*  
1941



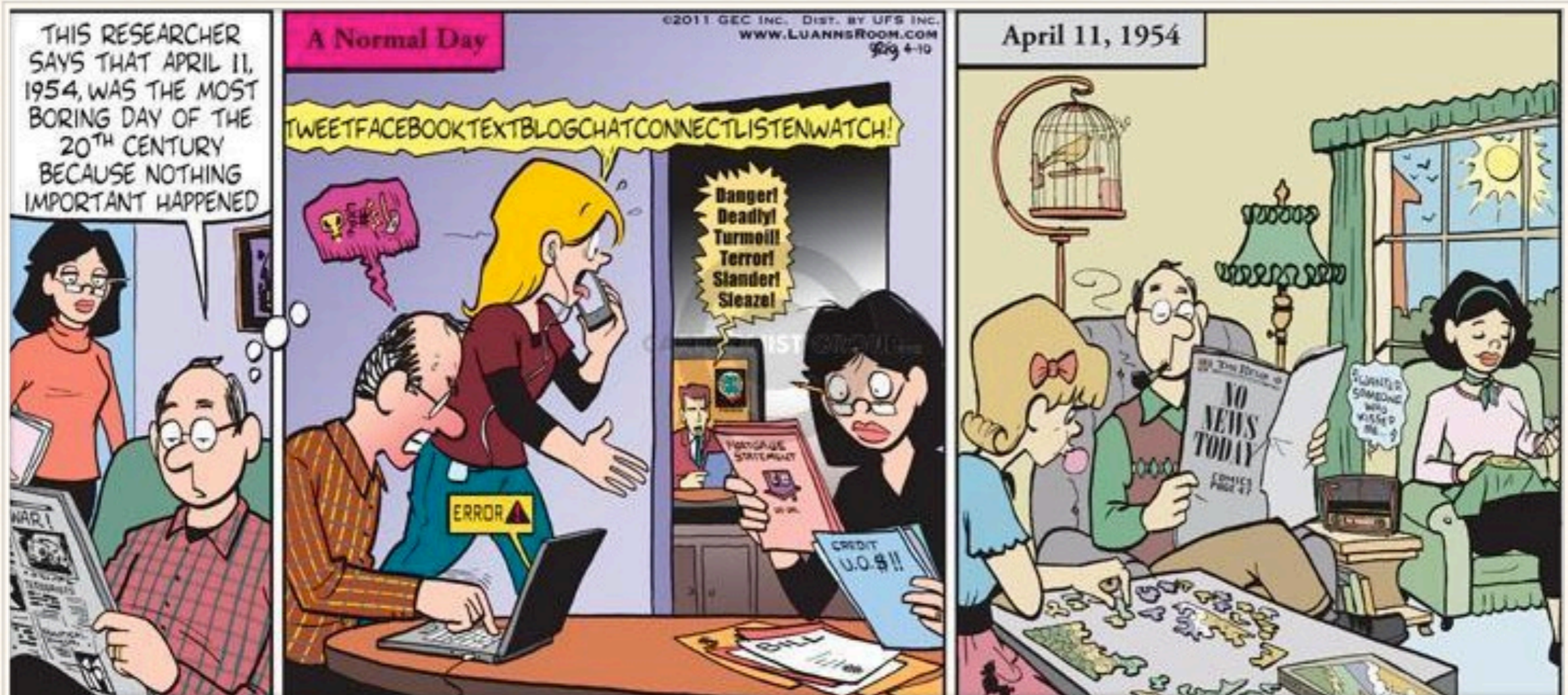
# WAR MURAL IN JACKSONVILLE, IL



Norman Rockwell,  
*Bedtime*



# Nostalgia for the “Good Old Days”



# LEISURE

ART PORTRAYING PEOPLE SHARING PLEASANT OR JOYFUL ACTIVITIES

Agnes Tate, *Skating in Central Park*, 1934





Klaes Molenaer,  
*Winter Landscape with Skaters*,  
about 1660





Morris Kantor, *Baseball at Night, 1934*







Thomas Hart Benton, *The Music Lesson*, 1943





Thomas Hart Benton,  
*Evening Concert*, 1948

# Utah State Capitol Building

III



WILLIAM SIDNEY MOUNT. *Bar-room Scene*, 1835





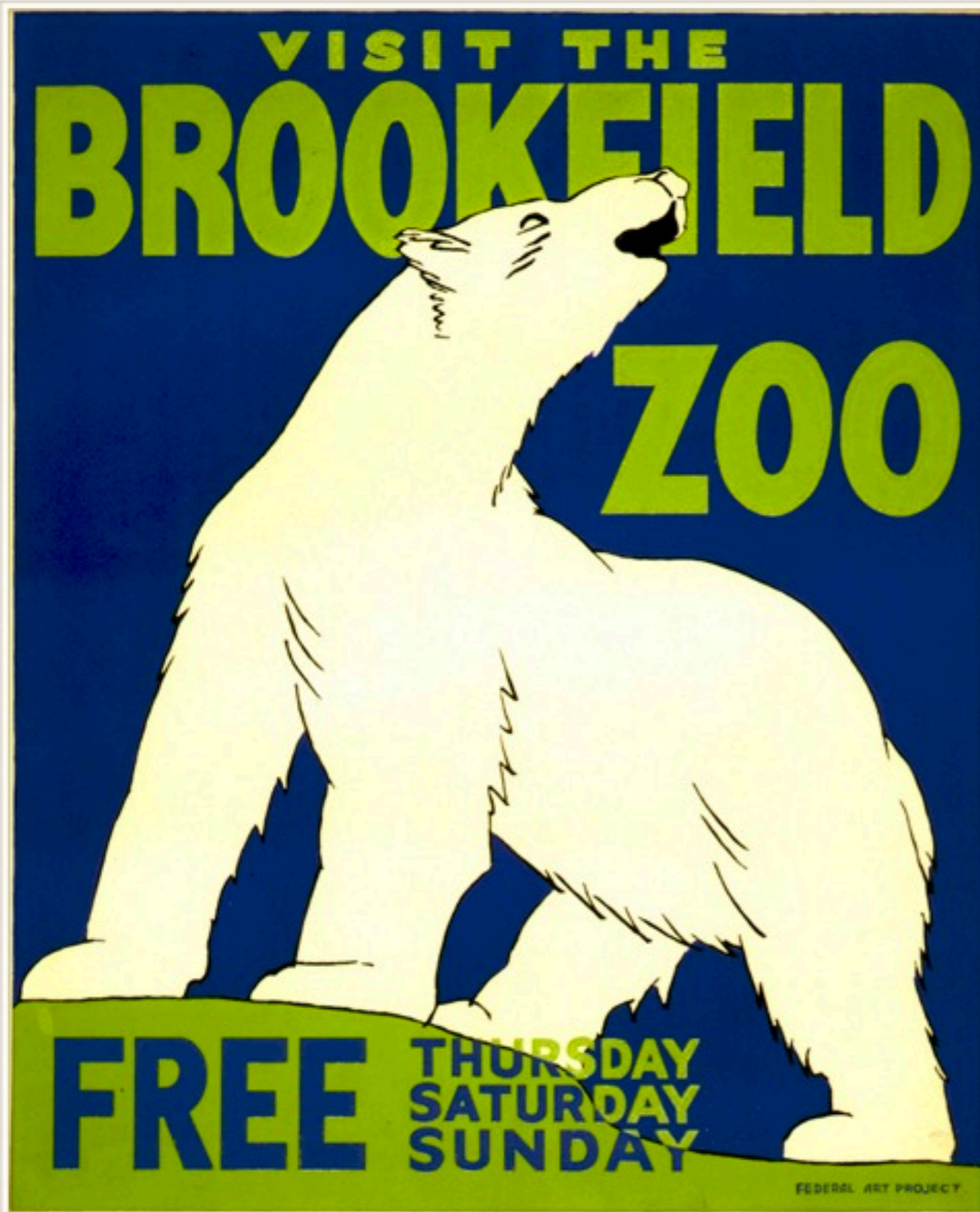




WILLIAM SIDNEY, *Mount Farmers Nooning*, 1836



FEDERAL ART PROJECT POSTERS



FEDERAL ART PROJECT POSTERS

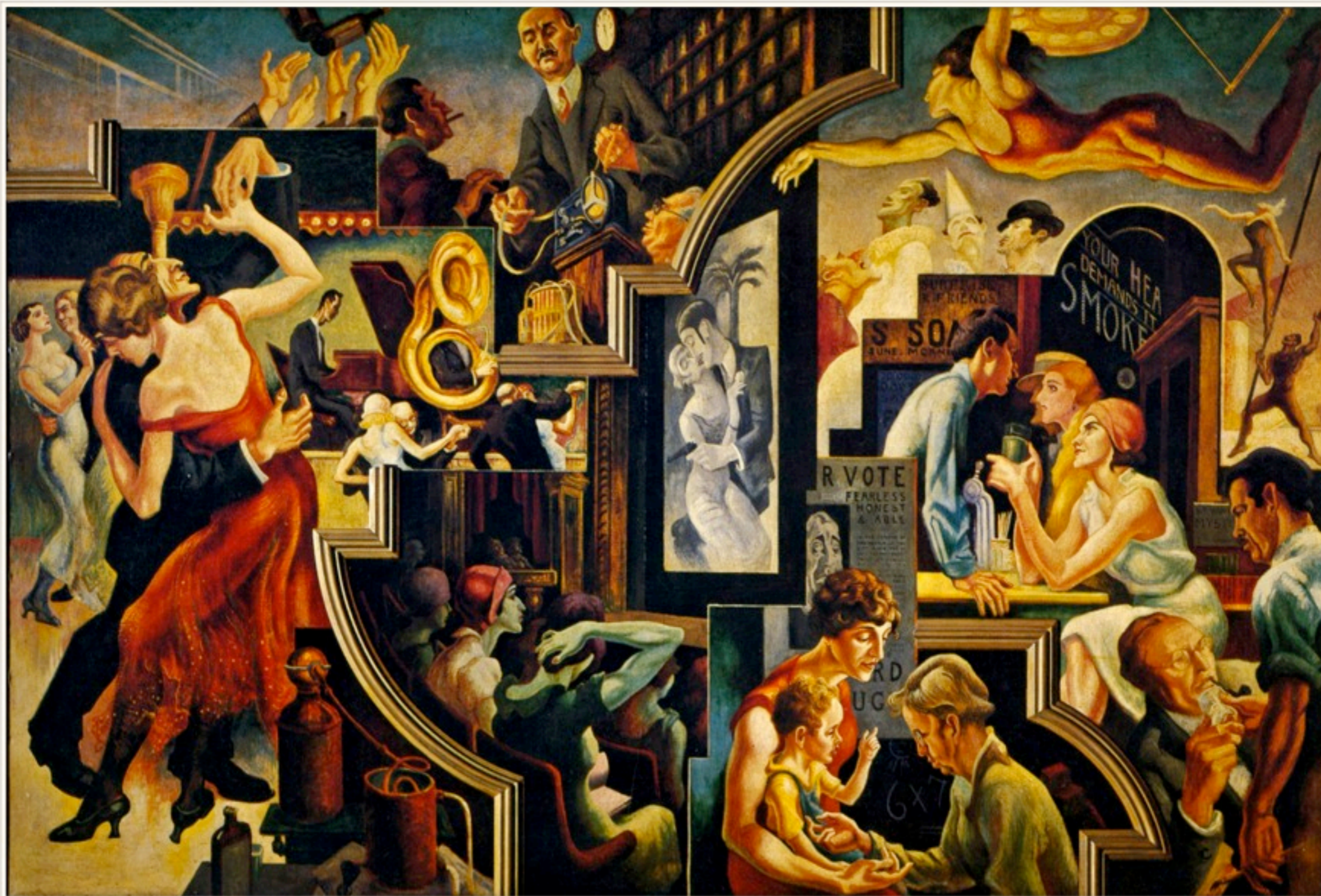


**PROTECT  
YOUR PARKS**



**SPARE  
OUR TREES**

THOMAS HART BENTON, *City Activities*, 1930-1931



# PUBLIC SPACES

ART PORTRAYING PEOPLE USING PUBLIC SPACES OR SERVICES

Andrew Stevovich,  
*Eight AM*, 1993



THOMAS HART BENTON, *City Activities*, 1930-1931





Lily Furedi *Subway*, 1934





Carl Gustaf Nelson *Central Park*, 1934

REGINALD  
MARSH  
(1898-1954),  
*Tattoo and  
Haircut,*  
1932



Joseph Henry Sharp, *Fountain Square Pantomime*, 1892



# COMMON PEOPLE

ART PORTRAYING COMMON PEOPLE IN EVERYDAY LIFE



陳澄波



# Night Vendor



Cicéri's colored lithograph of Borget's drawing of Macau scene



Joaquim Sunyer (1874-1954), *L'esmorzar*, 1915





Thomas Eakins, *Shooting for Rail*, 1876



JAN BRUEGHEL THE ELDER *River Landscape*





THEODOR GROLL. *Washington Street, Indianapolis. 1895*







Hendrick van der Burch,  
*Courtyard Scene*, 1660

# LABOR AND ACTIVITY

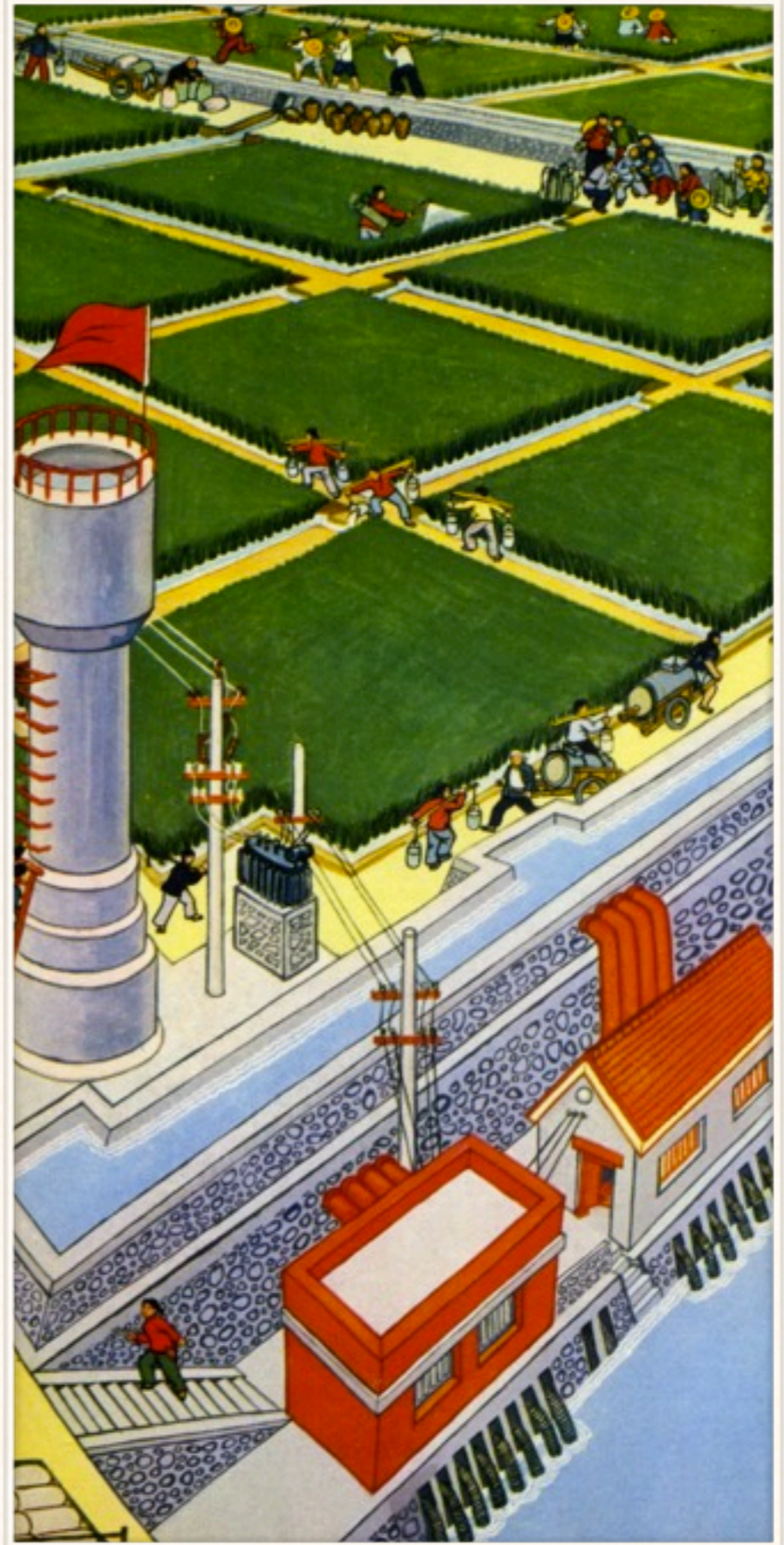
ART PORTRAYING PEOPLE AND WORKERS DOING THEIR WORK



Grant Wood,  
*Dinner for Threshers*, 1934









WASHING CLOTHING AS A THEME



John Ottis Adams (1851-1927), *Wash Day*, 1885



*Magnasco Landscape with Gypsies and Washerwomen*, 1710





Millard Sheets *Tenement Flats*, 1934

# FOREIGN FACTORIES AT GUANGZHOU





RAY STRONG, *Golden Gate Bridge Under Construction*, 1934



FEDERAL ARTISTS PROJECT *Underpass. Binghamton, New York, 1934*

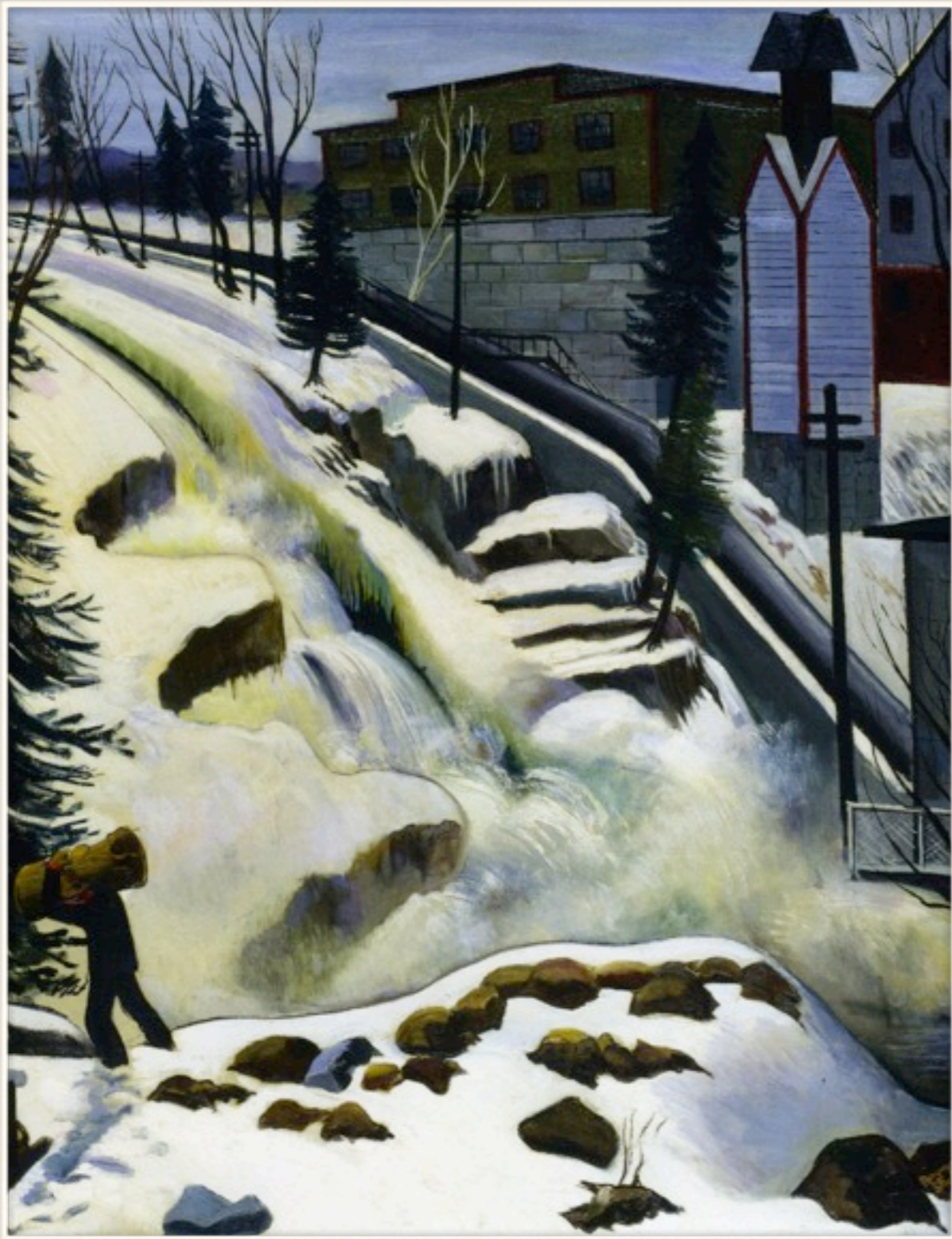


ERLE LORAN *Minnesota Highway, 1934*





KENJIRO NOMURA *The Farm*, 1934



Raymond White *Skolfield  
Natural Power*, 1934



Henry W Scheuch, *Finishing  
the Cathedral of Learning*, 1934

# HUMAN DIVERSITY

ART PORTRAYING ISSUES OF HUMAN DIVERSITY, PREJUDICE, AND RACISM



ANTI-SLAVERY  
ART

James Henry Beard  
(1811-1893)  
*North Carolina  
Emigrants: Poor  
White Folks*, 1845



ROBERT S. DUNCANSON (1821-1872)

*Cincinnati from Covington, Kentucky,*  
ca. 1851









Andrew Wyeth *That Gentleman (Tom Clark)*, 1960



Norman Rockwell (1894-1978). *The Problem We All Live With*, 1963



THOMAS HOVENDEN. *Last Moments of John Brown, 1884*



George Catlin  
*See-non-ty-a Iowa*  
*Medicine Man,*  
1845

Peace Medal



Winold Reiss  
*Home Gun*, 1934

Federal Art  
Project



E Martin Hennings, *Homeward Bound*, 1934



Thomas Hart Benton  
*Romance*, 1931

Earle Richardson *Employment of  
Negroes in Agriculture*, 1934





Robert Brackman  
*Somewhere in America,*  
1934



George Caleb Bingham,  
*Election Results*

# CIVICS

ART EXPLORING CIVIC LIFE AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE











**AMERICANS**  
**will always fight for liberty**



VACHEL LINDSAY. *The Village Improvement Parade, 1910*





Vachel Lindsay

A CRUDE  
ADMINISTRATION IS  
DAMNED ALREADY

A BAD DESIGNER IS  
TO THAT EXTENT, A  
BAD CITIZEN

LET THE BEST  
MOODS OF THE  
PEOPLE RULE



Vachel Lindsay

FAIR STREETS ARE  
BETTER THAN  
SILVER

GREEN PARKS ARE  
BETTER THAN GOLD

BAD PUBLIC TASTE  
IS MOB LAW.

GOOD PUBLIC  
TASTE IS  
DEMOCRACY



# Utah State Capitol Building

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## ARTS & EDUCATION



Norman Rockwell

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FREEDOM OF  
SPEECH





*Nebraska State Capitol Building*

THE HOPE OF DEMOCRACY DEPENDS ON THE  
DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM

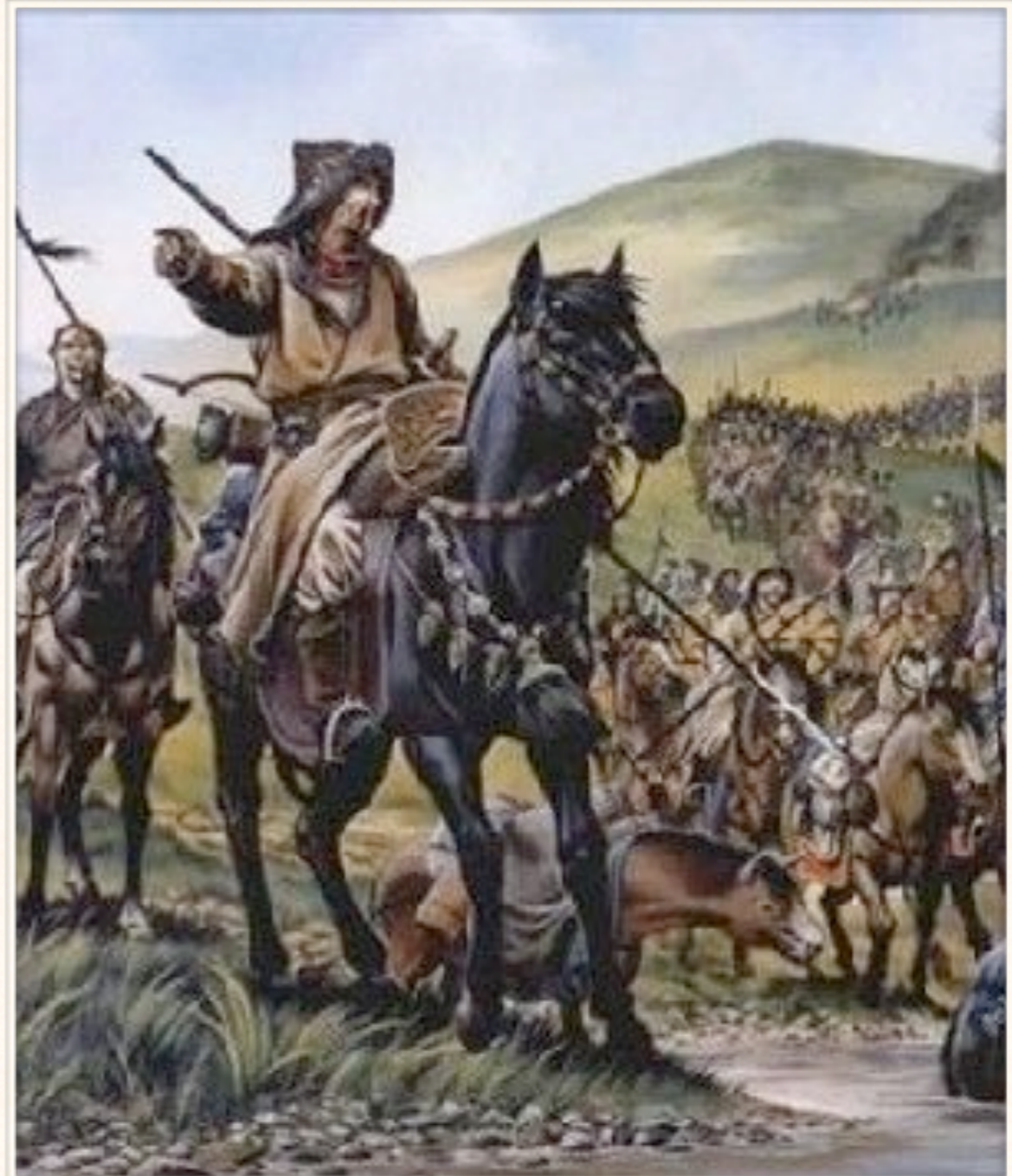


*University of Illinois Main Library*

# COMMUNITY ART & PUBLIC ART (CREATING COMMUNITY)



# HOW WE SHOW OURSELVES IN ART SHOWS US HOW WE UNDERSTAND OUR IDENTITY







THE WOMEN'S M  
AN INSTITUTE FOR THE F



# Saratoga Springs, NY



# Springfield, IL



# Mount Rushmore, SD



# Saint Louis, MO



# Jacksonville, IL



# Portland, OR

Student murals at Lincoln High School  
in Portland, Oregon. (2006)



A world  
without  
borders

Un Mundo Sin  
Fronteras



Cold War



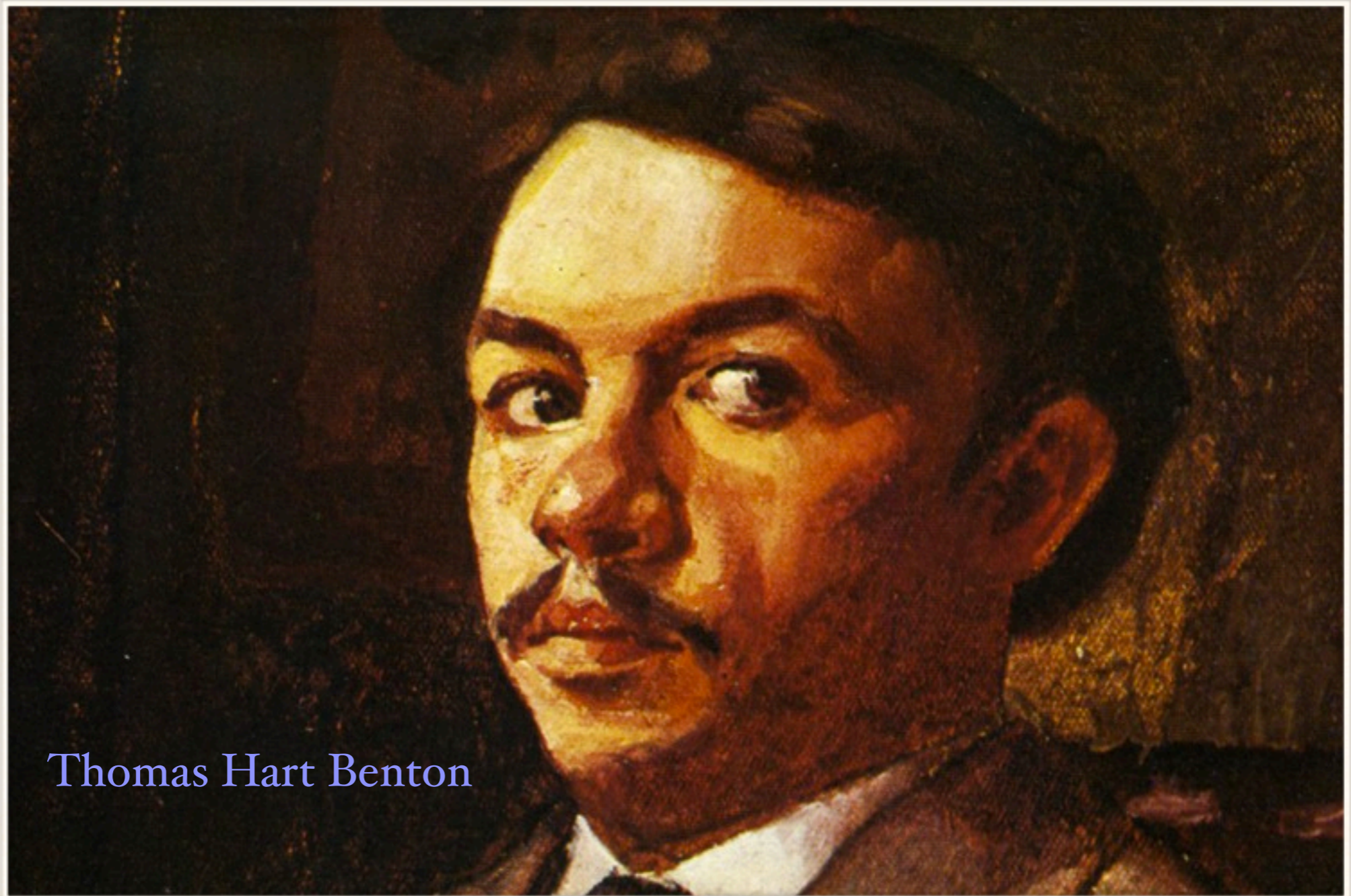






# REGIONALISM

ACCESSIBLE ART SHOWING PRIDE IN A LOCALITY OR REGION



Thomas Hart Benton

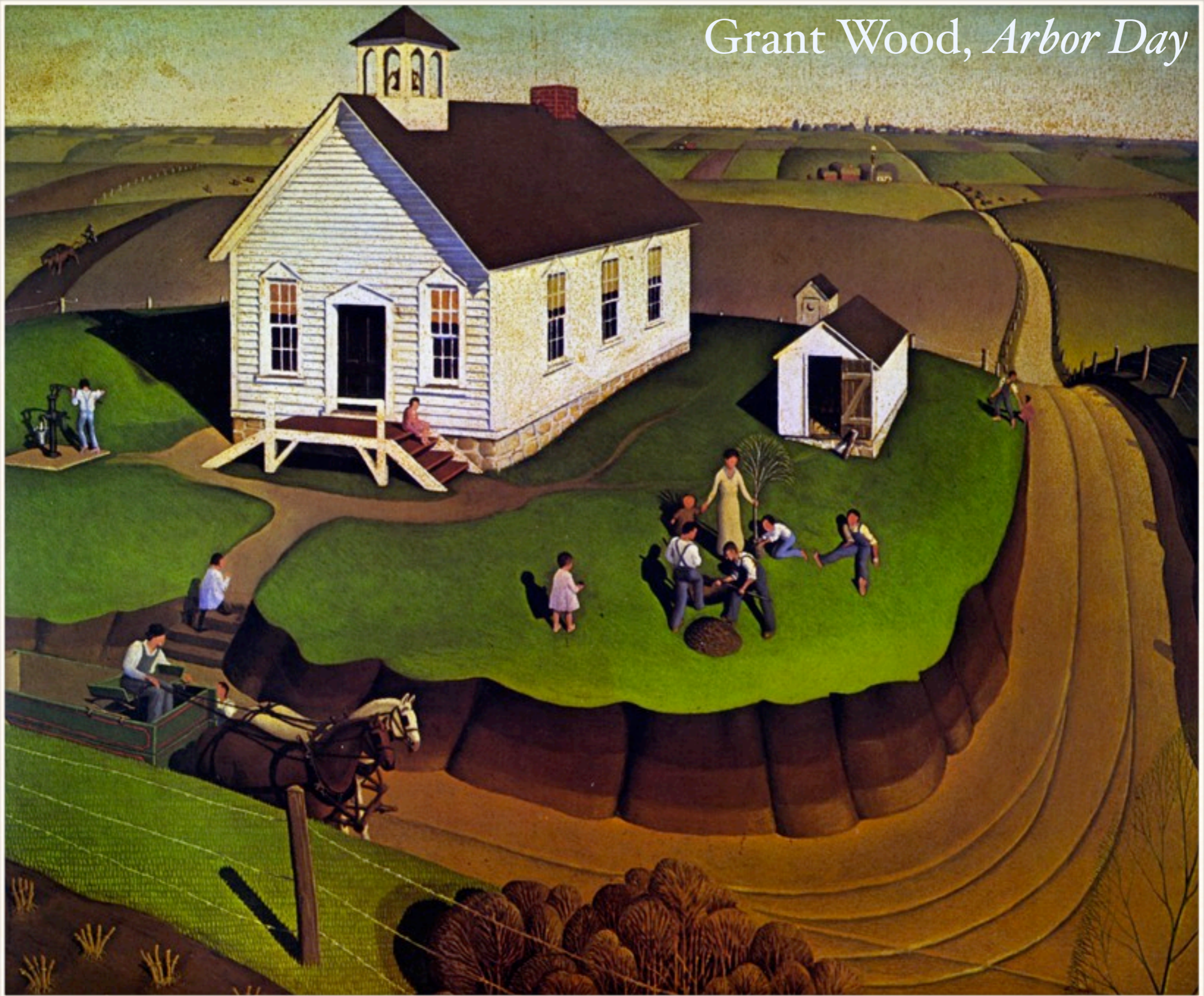




John Stockton de Martelly, *Looking at the Sunshine*, 1938



Grant Wood, *Arbor Day*



Grant Wood, *Autumn Plow*







# WOMEN

REAL WOMEN AND THE REALMS OF WOMEN'S LIVES, NOT NECESSARILY AS OBJECTS OF DESIRE



Greek  
Amphora  
400-430 BCE

*Conversing Youths*  
The girl's eyes  
look down, the  
boy's eyes look  
directly at the girl.











VIVE LA REPUBLIQUE









John Sharman (1879-1971)  
*At the End of the Porch*, 1918



LILLY MARTIN SPENCER (1822-1902) *Patty-cake*, mid 1850s



MARY CASSATT (1844-1926). *The Child's Bath*, 1893; *Breakfast in Bed*, 1897



THOMAS HART BENTON



*Fessie with Guitar, 1957*



*Missouri State Capitol*



Grant Wood

STAGES OF LIFE

Norman Rockwell





# FEMINISM



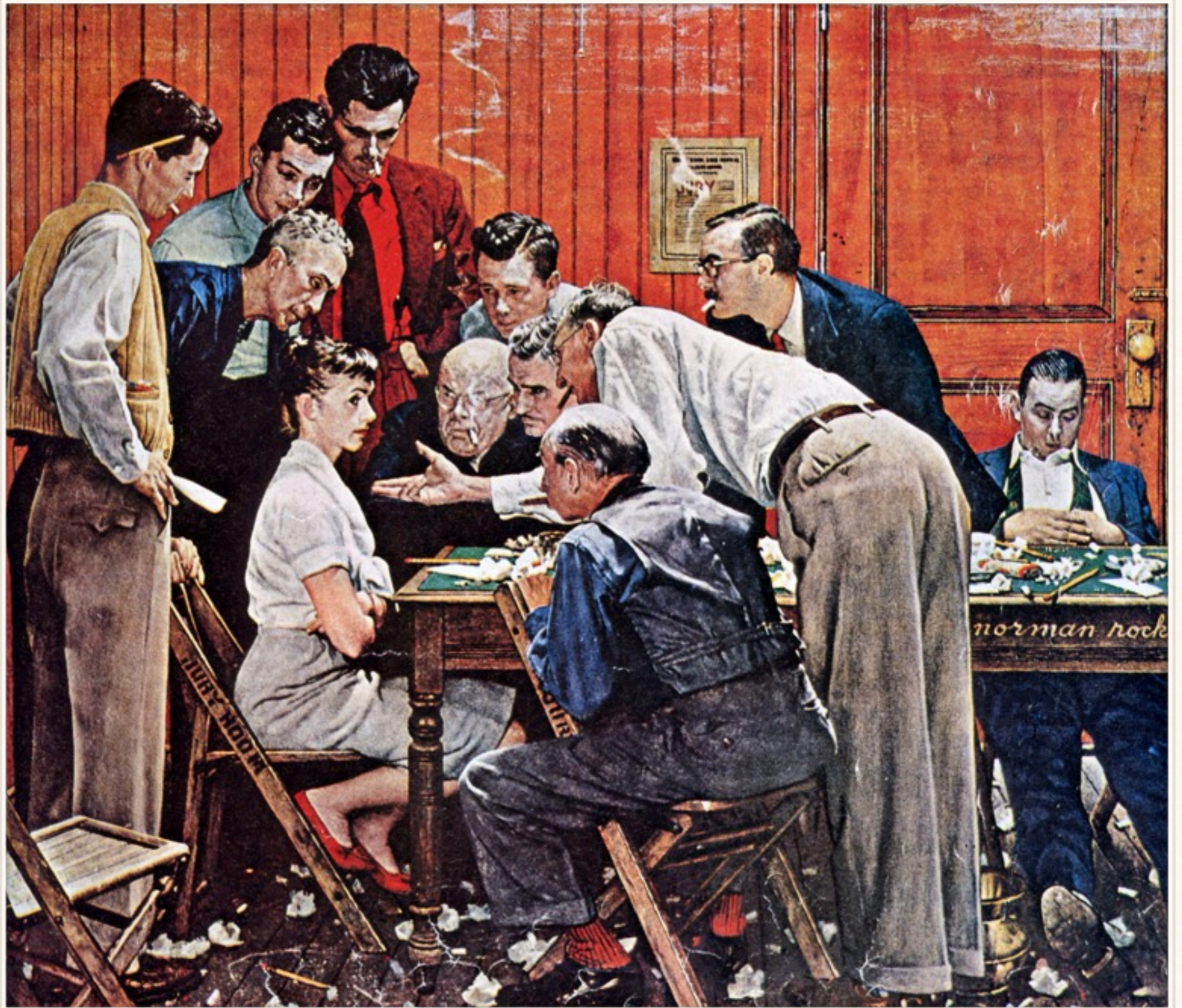
# Parity Begins at Home

Karl and Jenny Marx

(Book on the table is  
*Inequality in Britain*.)



Norman  
Rockwell,  
*The Holdout*,  
1959



Niki de Saint Phalle

Nanas

Nana Vase, 1995



# CHILDREN

CHILDREN AND CHILD WELFARE

John T. Peele (1822-1897), *Chasing Butterflies or Boy and Butterfly*, 1848





# Italian boys kidnapped and brought to America



Joan Brull  
(1863-1912).  
*Nena donant  
menjar a una oca.*





Dorothea Lange  
*Oklahoma Girl*  
*lives in shack*





Philadelphia, 1840s,  
James Peale Jr. &  
August Runyon Peale.



Federal Art Project  
Posters to promote  
public health.





Chaim Gross, *Mother Playing*, 1957

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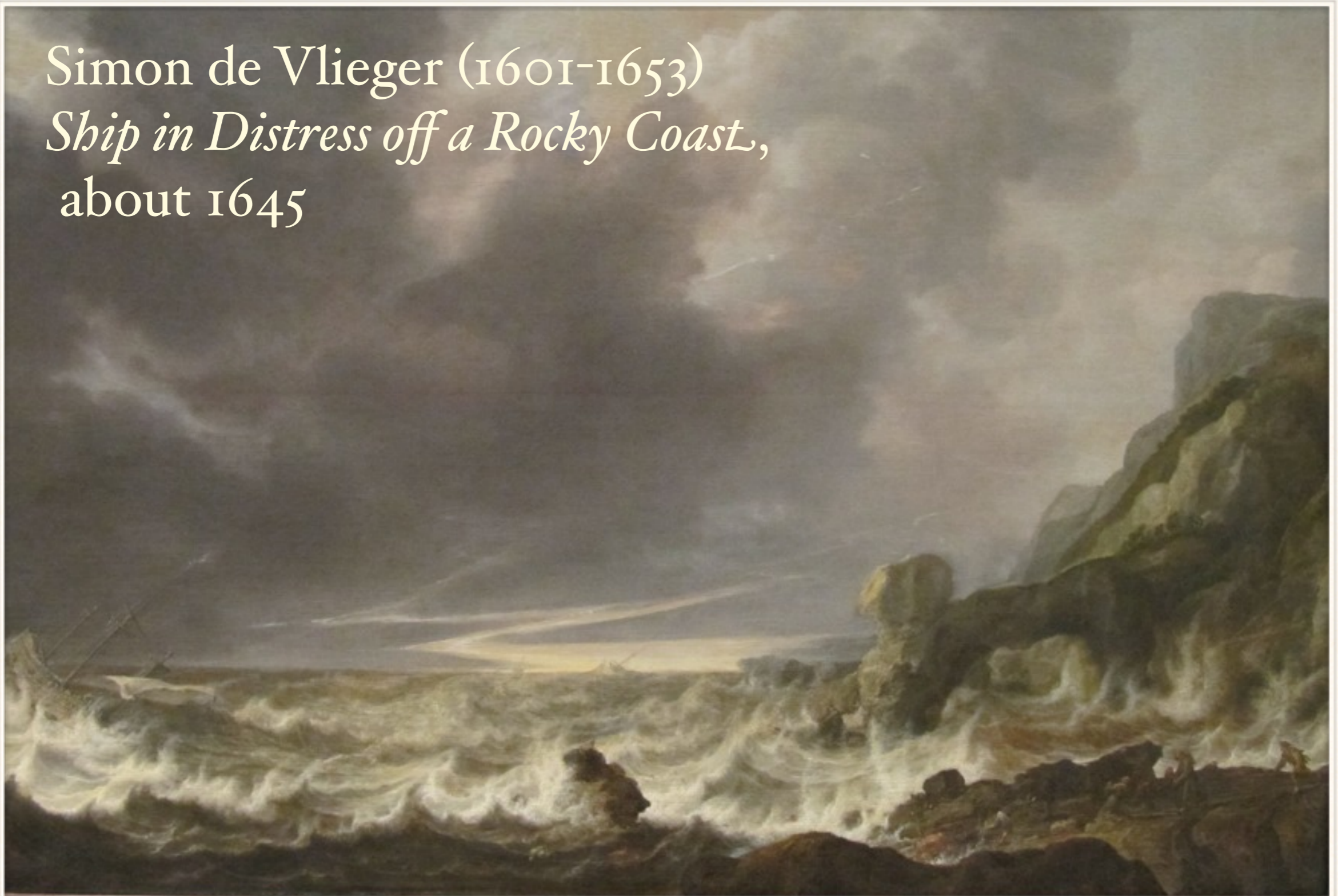
# PROBLEMS

PORTRAYALS OF DISASTERS AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN ART



HELPING THOSE IN DISTRESS

Simon de Vlieger (1601-1653)  
*Ship in Distress off a Rocky Coast,*  
about 1645







LORADO TAFT (1860-1936) *The Blind*, 1908





WINSLOW HOMER, *Gulf Stream*, 1899



COPLEY, *Watson and the Shark*, 1778



Political  
Campaign Poster  
from the 1920s  
(United Kingdom)



Campaign to  
Raise Support for  
Children with  
Disabilities

National Society  
for Mentally  
Handicapped  
Children

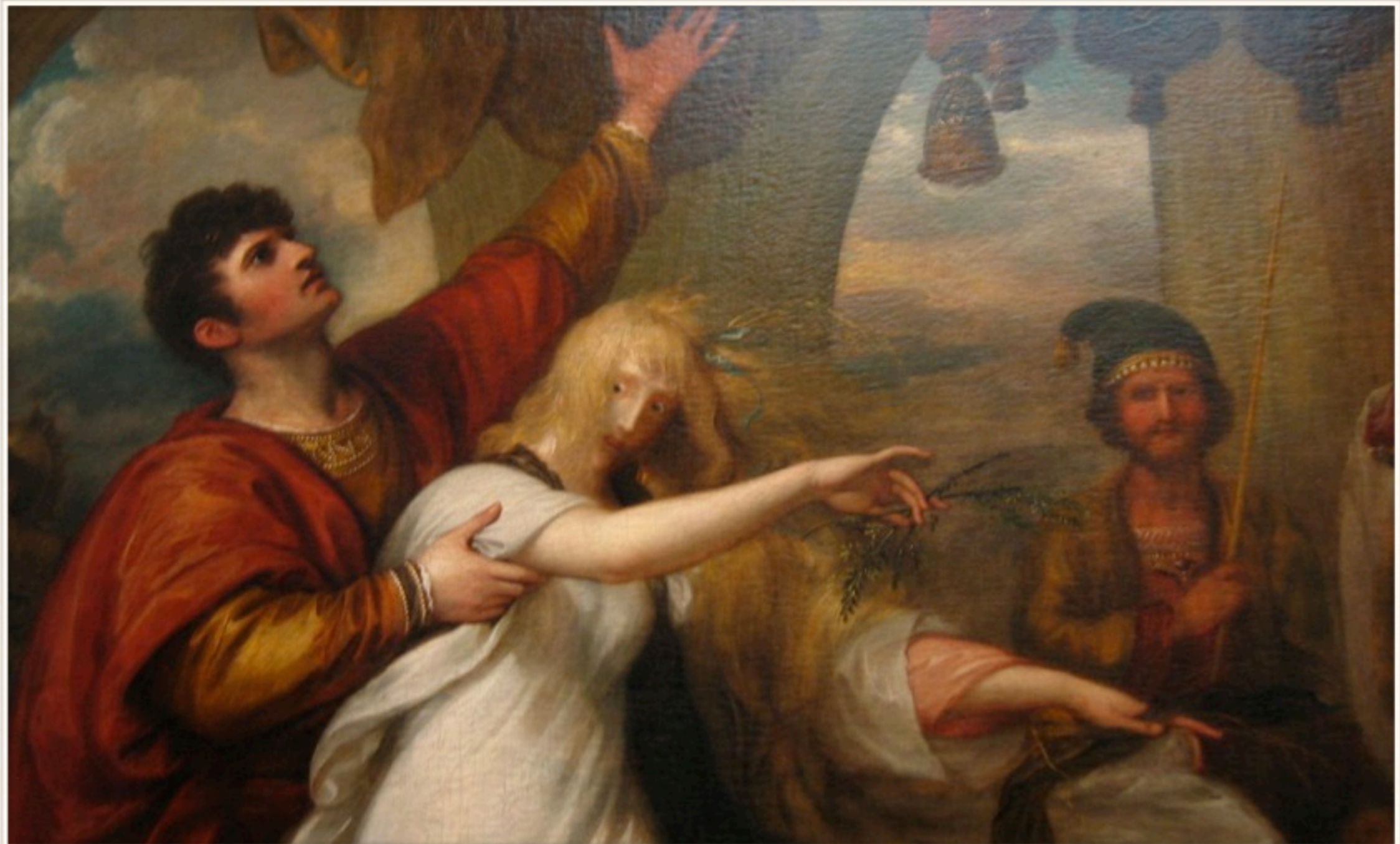




Seymour Rosofsky, *Unemployment Agency*, 1958

# MENTAL ILLNESS / HEALTH

ART PORTRAYING MOODS, EMOTIONS, AND MENTAL STATES





MATTHIAS GRÜNEWALD'S ISENHEIM ALTARPIECE, 1512-1516



FOLLOWER OF HIERONYMUS BOSCH, *Christ in Limbo*, about 1557







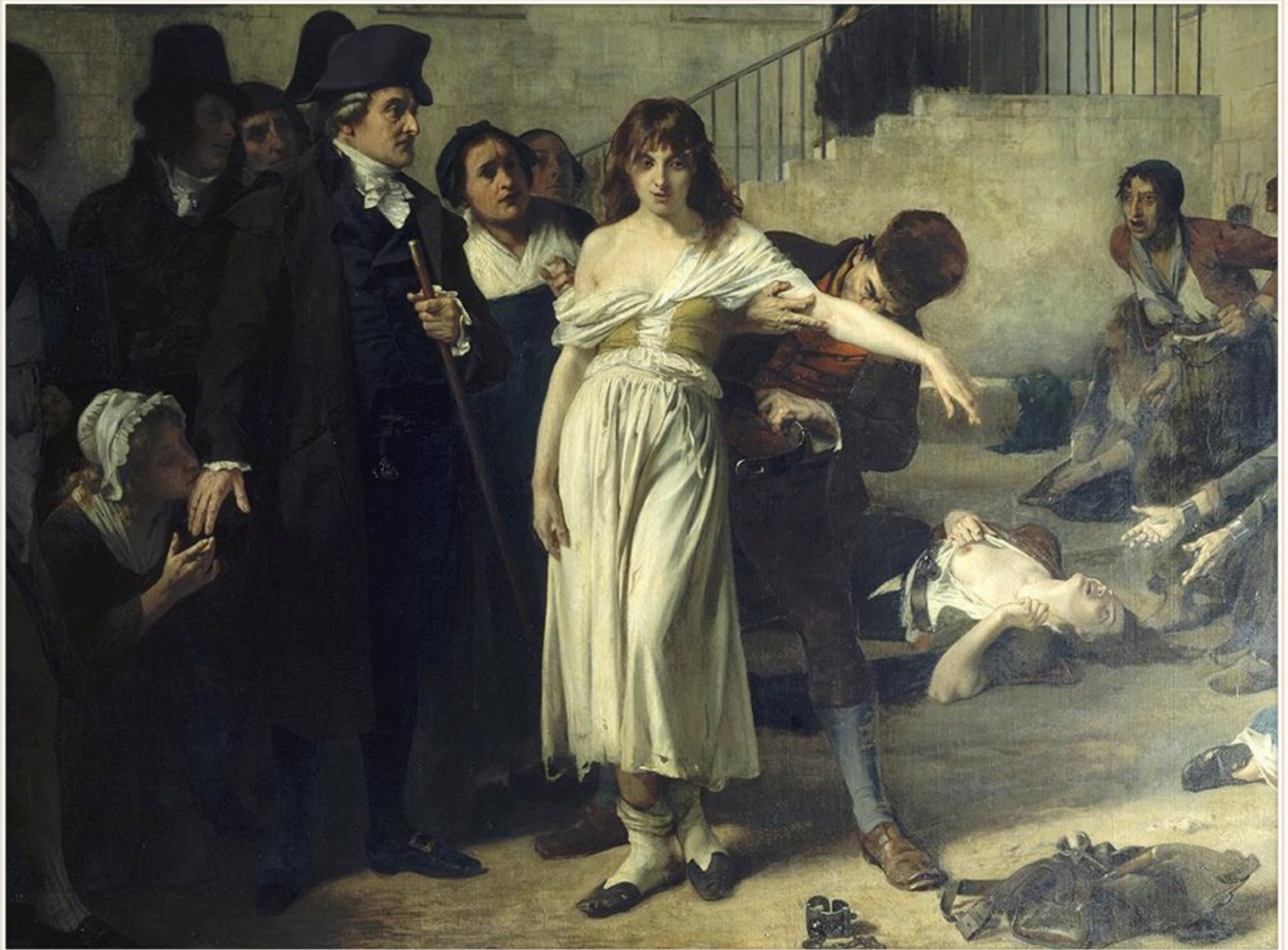
VISION OF WELLNESS



TONY ROBERT-FLEURY (1837-1911).

Le docteur Philippe Pinel  
faisant tomber les chaînes des aliénés.





# DESPAIR







# HEALTH AND DEATH

ART PORTRAYING DEATH, ILLNESS, GRIEF, OR MEDICINE



Jules Théophile Schuler (1821-1878), *Le char de la mort*, 1851



Les Fosses Communes, Cimetière de St Owen,  
Paris, 1876

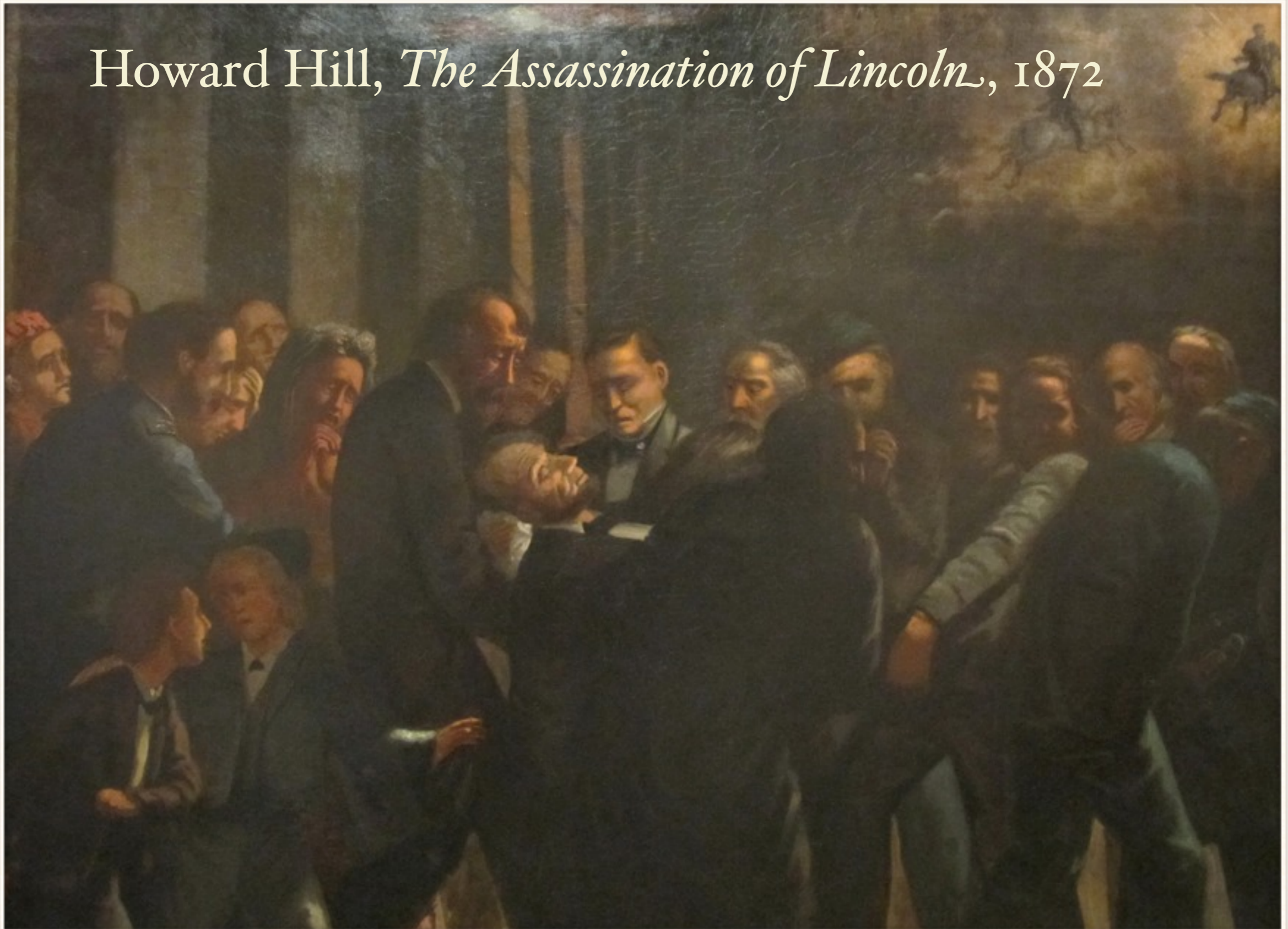




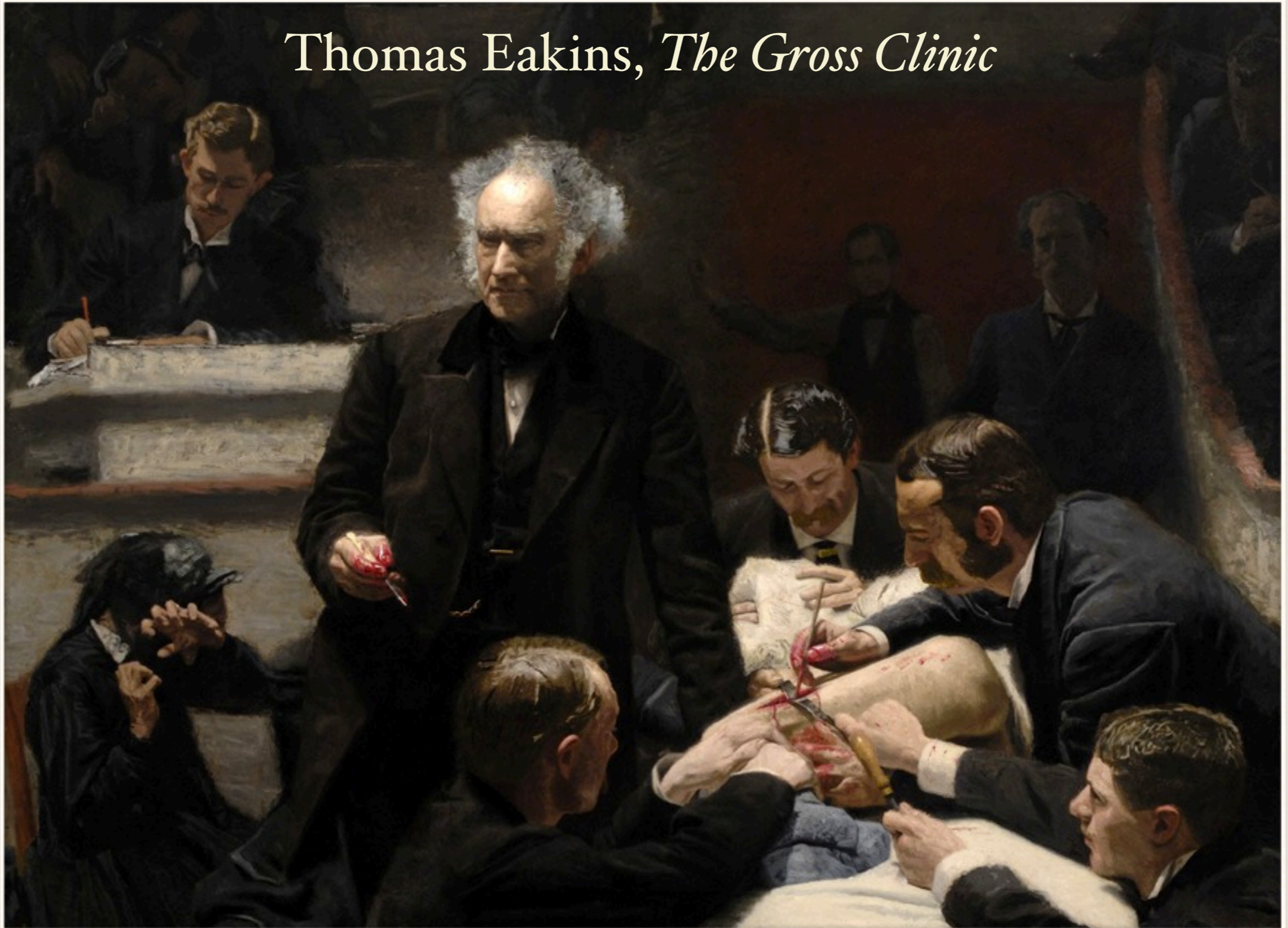
# William Ranney *Prairie Burial*, 1848



Howard Hill, *The Assassination of Lincoln*, 1872



Thomas Eakins, *The Gross Clinic*





Thomas Eakins,  
*The Gross Clinic*



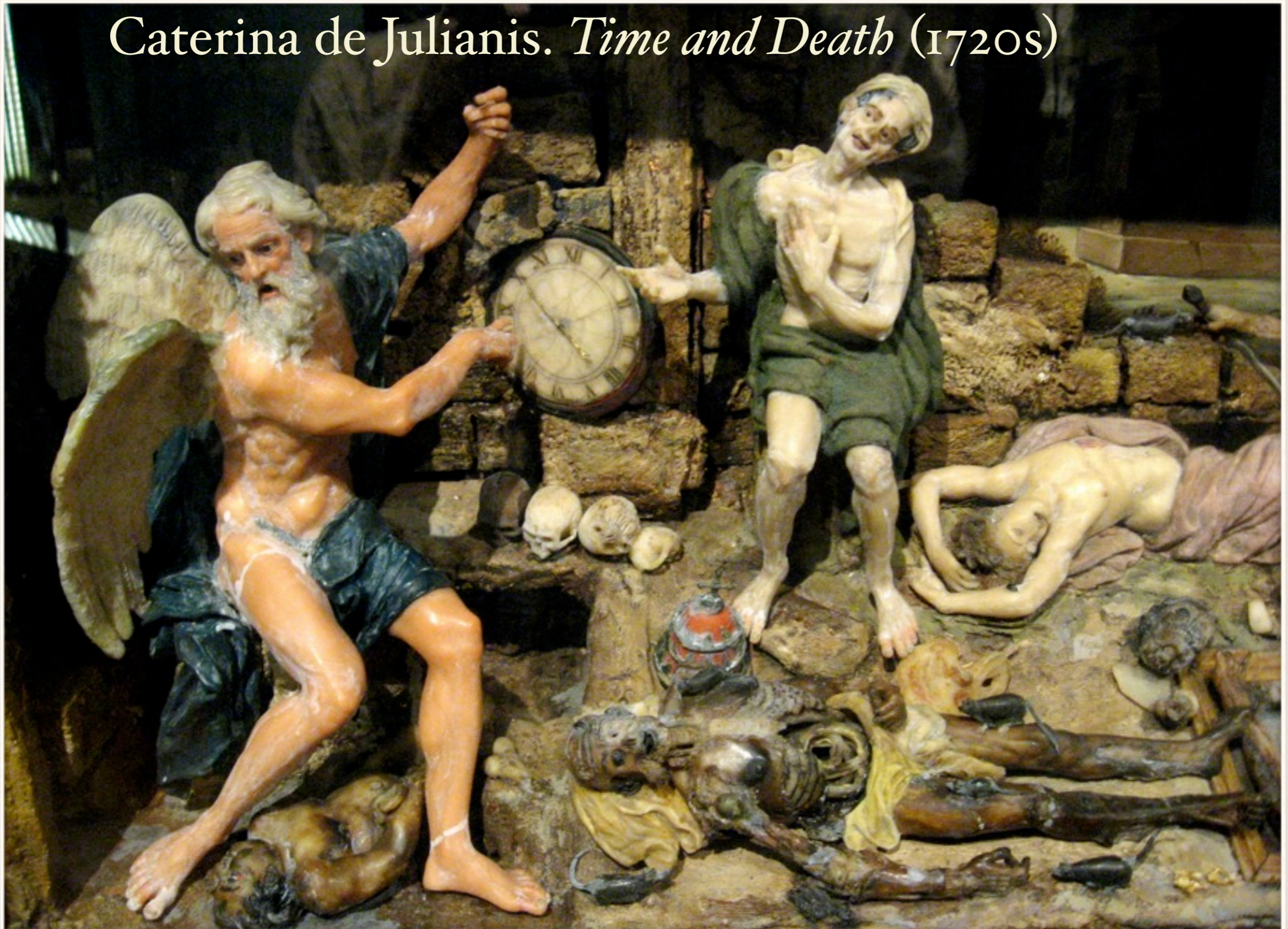
Herb Block  
*Stalin Dies*

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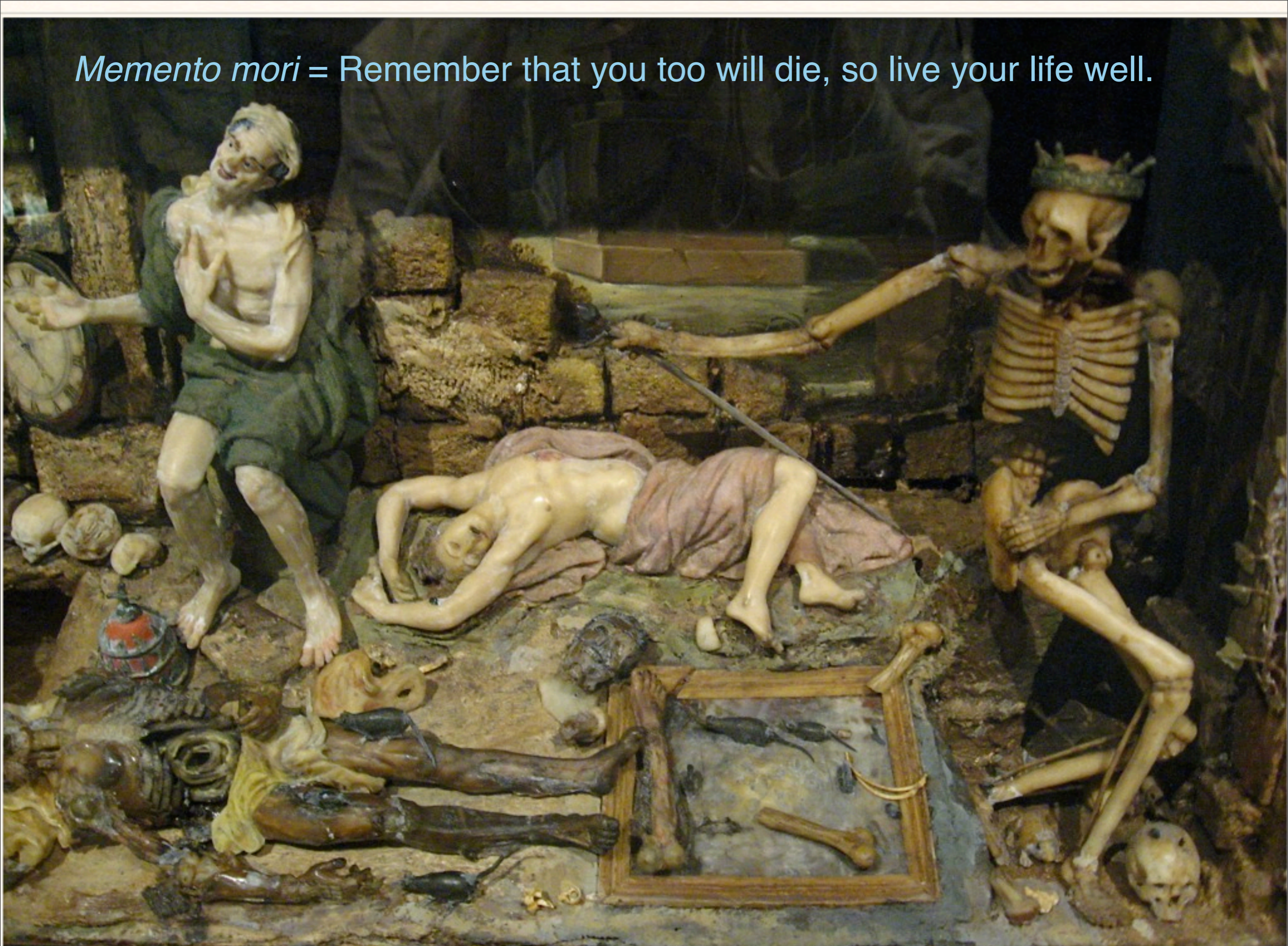
You were always a  
great friend of  
mine, Joseph.



Caterina de Julianis. *Time and Death* (1720s)



*Memento mori* = Remember that you too will die, so live your life well.



陈建州, 范玮琪. *Love Life* (2008-2012)



请你帮我们好好活着，好吗  
Will you please live your life to the fullest for us?

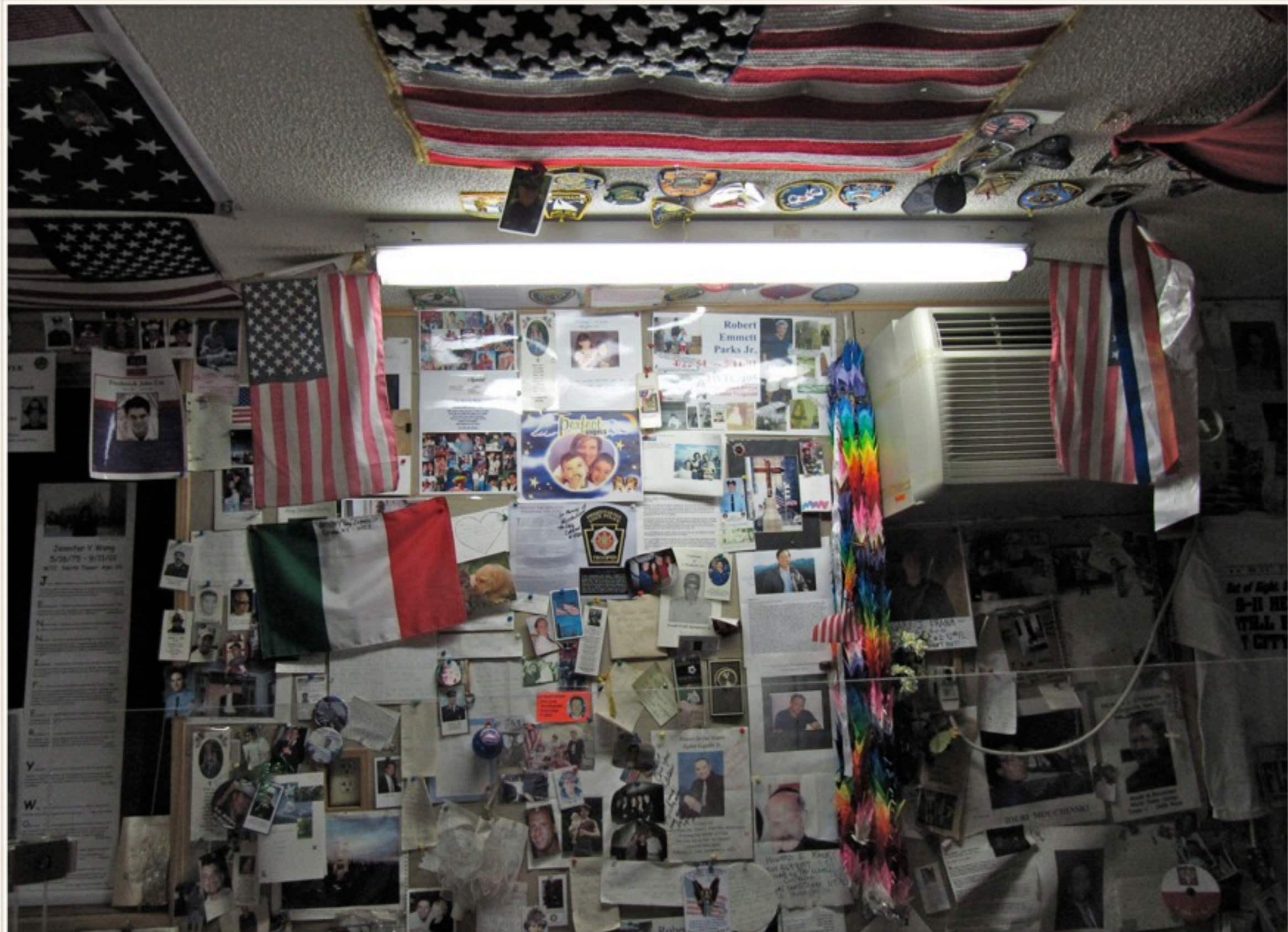
陈建州, 范玮琪. *Love Life* (2008-2012)



奶奶我爱你  
Grandma I love you

Elihu Vedder,  
*the Cup of Death* 1885









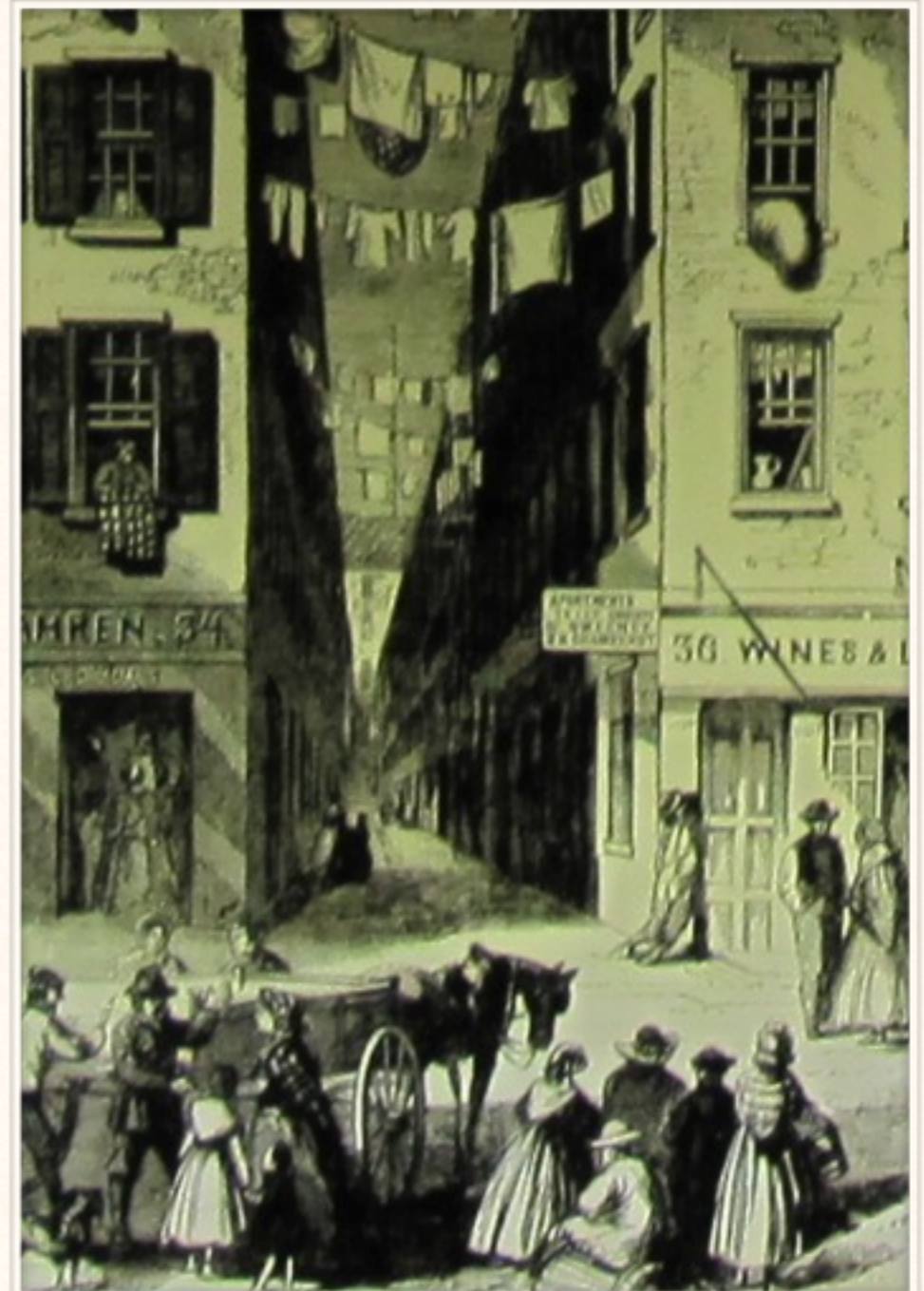






# POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

ART ILLUSTRATING ECONOMIC INJUSTICE AND THE POOR











Olin Herman Travis, *Mayor of Hoover City*, 1929





Dorothea Lange, *Refugees in Oklahoma*



Ben Shahn,  
*Miner's Wives*,  
1948



Norman Rockwell,  
*Changing a Tire*



William Hahn, *Sacramento Railroad Station*, 1874



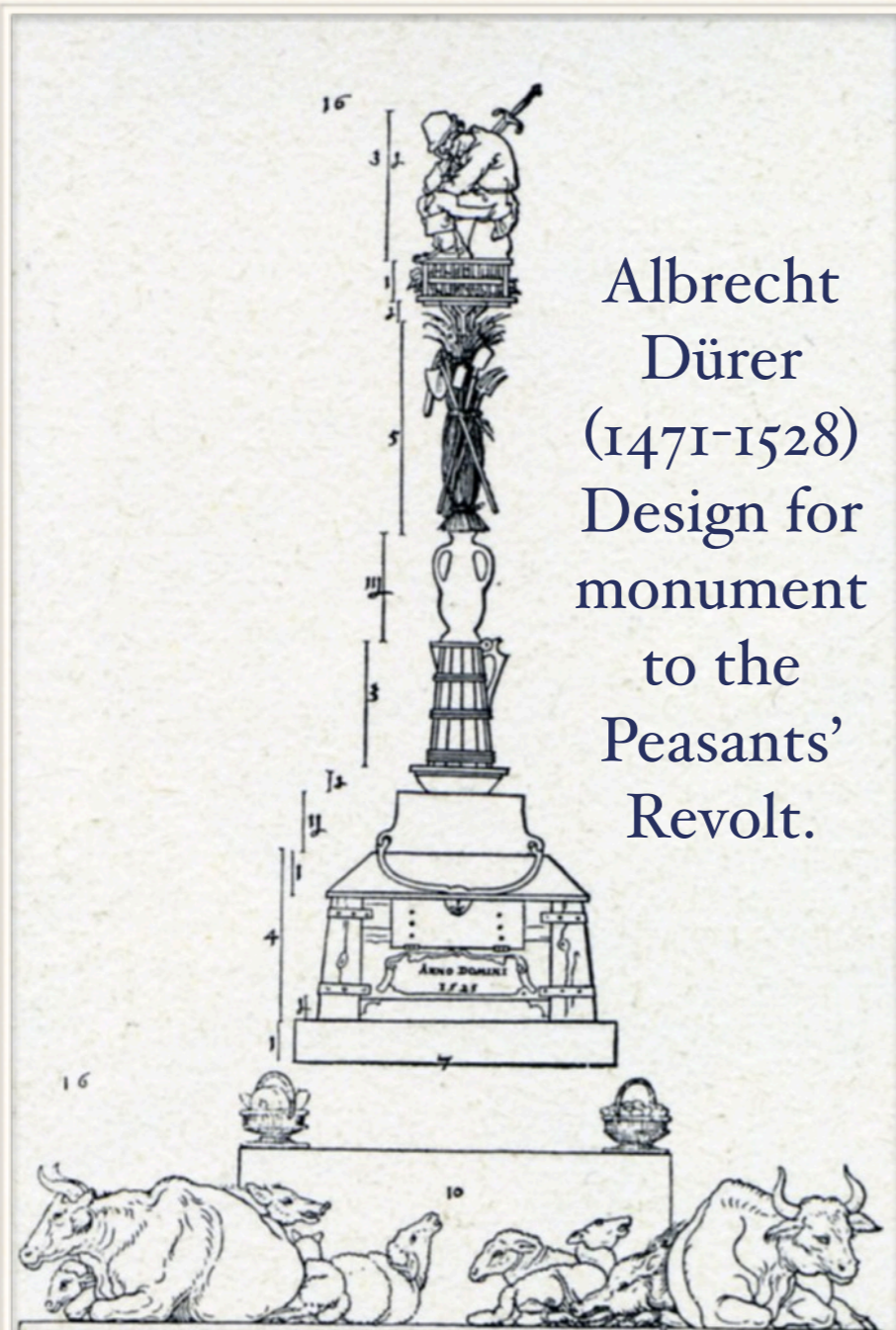






# OPPRESSION

ART ILLUSTRATING HUMAN CRUELTY AND OPPRESSION OF OTHERS



Albrecht  
Dürer  
(1471-1528)  
Design for  
monument  
to the  
Peasants'  
Revolt.





# The Thinker's Club



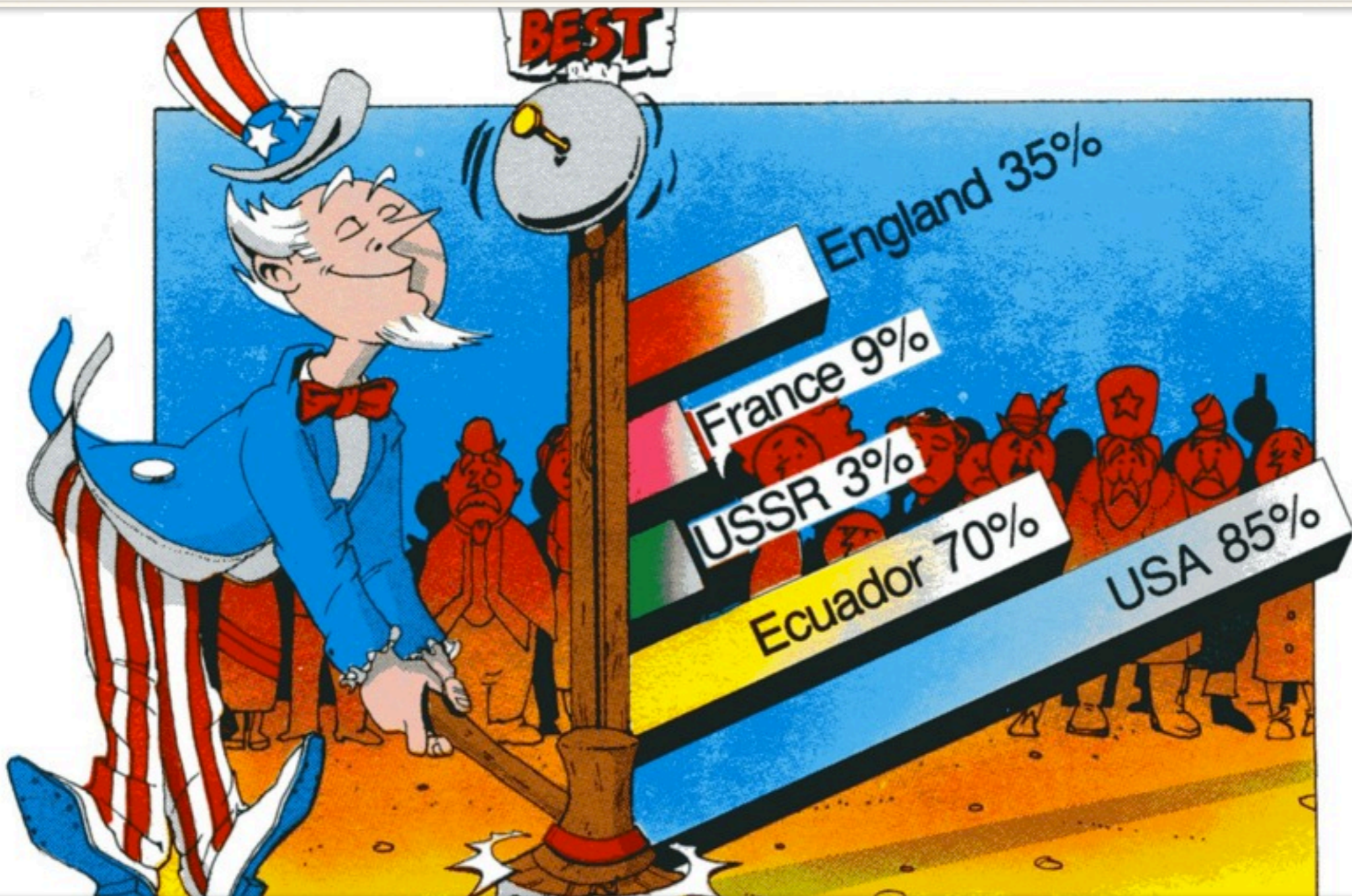
# The Peterloo Massacre





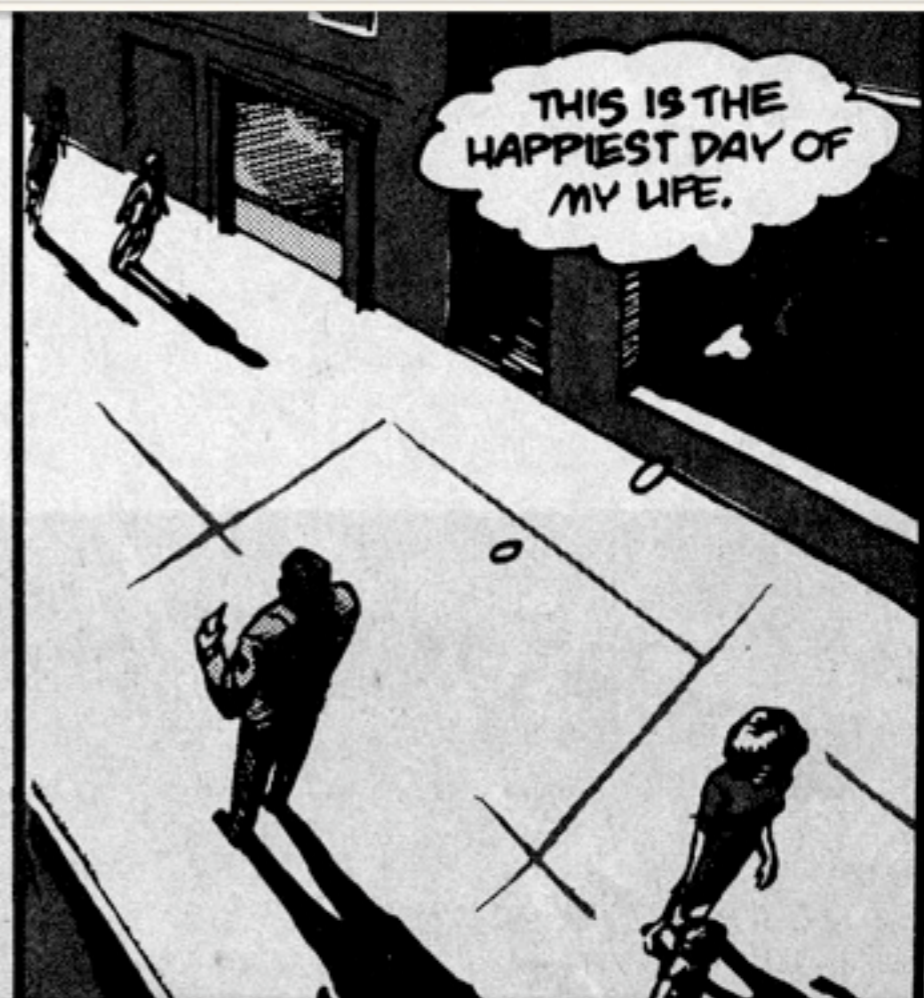
# SOCIAL CRITICISM

PROPAGANDA, EDITORIAL CARTOONING, SATIRE, AND EXPOSÉ



Helios Gómez  
(1905-1956).







# Rick Geary's absurdist approach to the "enemy" in the CCCP

**EXCURSIONS**  
Rick Geary  
©82  
LIFE IN RUSSIA



LET'S SEE WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON INSIDE SOVIET RUSSIA.



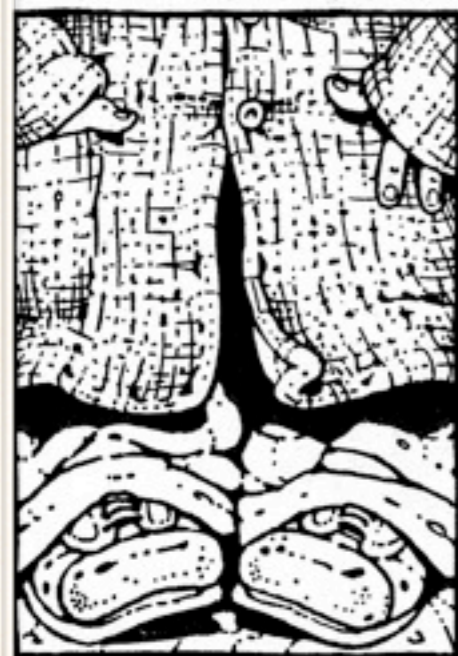
FOLKS HERE SEEM, AT FIRST, TO BE MOROSE AND MELANCHOLIC.



AND SMALL WONDER: THEY ARE REQUIRED TO STAND IN LONG LINES ALL DAY...



THEIR CUISINE CONSISTS MOSTLY OF TURNIPS AND MUD...



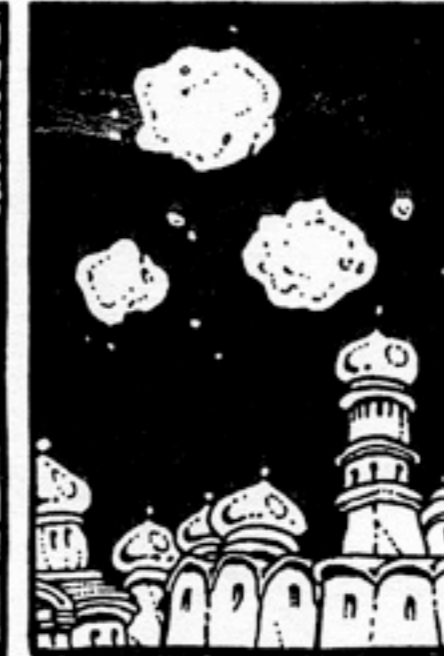
ALL OF THEIR APPAREL IS TOO LARGE...



YET IN THE PRIVACY OF THEIR HOMES, THEY'RE A BOISTEROUS AND RIBALD BUNCH...



THIS OLD GENTLEMAN IS POSSESSED OF A SALTY HUMOR.



SOMETIMES THE NITE SKY IS LIT BY WHAT ARE CALLED "ATOM BALLS."



SO IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S PRETTY HAPPY AFTER ALL.

# Herb Block (HERBLOCK)

"What Do You Figure This One Would Cost?"



"IT'S STILL A REPRESENTATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT—THEY REPRESENT US"



© 2000 HERBLOCK

# Domestic Spying

"WE BROKE THE LAW? WE ARE THE LAW!"



# An Ignorant and Apathetic Electorate

"YOU THINK HIS ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN BAD, HIS DOMESTIC POLICIES ARE NO GOOD, YOU CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT HE SAYS, HE MIGHT GET US INTO WAR AND YOU'RE GOING TO VOTE FOR HIM — RIGHT?"

