

First of all, although I am very interested in citizen participation, that doesn't mean that I think that all art works or all artists should be interested in this. I think you can make great art in all kinds of art forms where you do not reflect on participation, and that's totally fine with me. I think that some of the things I've been interested in, they are where you try not to only do things for people, but you try to do things with people. You involve people as participants, and this is not an innocent endeavor. If doing something for people is like doing something for pupils, it can be kind of patronizing. Involving people as participants can be even more patronizing, because you don't only involve them by asking them to sit there, but you also tell them what to do while they are engaged. Jacques Rancière has written about this with the emancipated spectator who is not emancipated at all. Maybe it's more emancipatory to sit there and decide for yourself what you're going to think and how you relate to this artwork, instead of an artist standing there and wanting you to paint or do whatever. But that is just to say, I'm not preaching participation or anything like that.