

ANGELA DAVIS

SEIZE THE TIME

CONVERSATION
GUIDE

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CA.

Use this guide to explore the exhibition and start talking with other students and visitors. We've included the perspectives of students from Project Rebound, a California State University program that supports formerly incarcerated students in college.

ORIGINS OF ANGELA DAVIS

Angela first rose to prominence as an educator. What qualities of teachers have empowered or inspired you? How would you empower someone else?

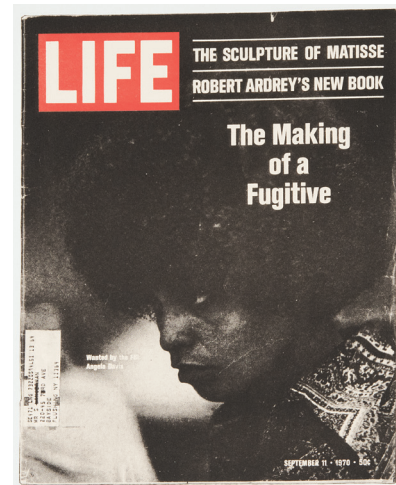
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Mr. Sanders, my 1968 homeroom teacher. The 1960s ushered in some profound insurrections in major cities across America. January 1969—I walked into my homeroom class and there he was. Tall, dressed in all black, booming afro, and sunglasses. ‘Everyone in this class is starting off with an A,’ he said. His wall was covered with posters: Malcom X, Huey P., gloved fists held high at the Olympics. I had never met any man so brazen, influential.”

—Trey Xavier, SFSU

MAKING OF A FUGITIVE

Compare and contrast the images used in UCLA's *Daily Bruin* newspaper versus other publications in the case below the trial wall. What differences do you notice?



Renée Green, *Partially Buried Triptych*, 1996

FREE ANGELA

The fight to free Angela Davis inspired a global movement that started in her community. What is an issue affecting your community, and how has your community come together to bring awareness to or fight the issue?

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Homelessness, identity issues, too many to name here. I believe the way to help communities to heal from their challenges is to not only address these issues, but to balance with the community passions. Art and music is the part of the consciousness of the community as a whole, why not leverage these tools to help open the door to positive change.”

—Richard Stewart, SFSU

ON MASS INCARCERATION

Inspired by San Quentin State Prison and the Bay Area, the art in this section looks at incarceration as modern-day slavery, and the presence of both privileged and justice-impacted individuals in the same community. Take a moment to reflect on the stories from Project Rebound students below. What would you want folks to think about in this section?

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While I was incarcerated, I leveraged art spaces (inside the institution) by picking up a paint brush for the first time in 30 years. I was able to put my energies toward my passion for art and created over 100 paintings during my stay. I have seen that those who are inside that are motivated to find and work these programs become better community members when they are released. I believe the more of these programs available for this community, the better that these institutions are truly practicing rehabilitation and helping to incite positive change.”

—Richard Stewart, SFSU

“

I would like other communities outside of the system and justice-impacted individuals to know (or become aware) of the injustice and need for major change right next door. MLK Jr. has a quote which I relate to this section... ‘Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere... We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.’”

—Nicole Ashley Bronson, SFSU

“

Changing laws is good but changing minds is better. That was the difference between Dr. King and Minister Malcolm X. The Dr. fought to change the laws, the Minister fought to change the thinking. One has a longer and more potent effect. the other can be changed at a majority’s whim.”

—Trey Xavier, SFSU

THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

What emotions do these artworks evoke for you? Do those feelings align with your own perceptions of Angela?



Melvin Edwards, *Curtain for Friends*, 2015

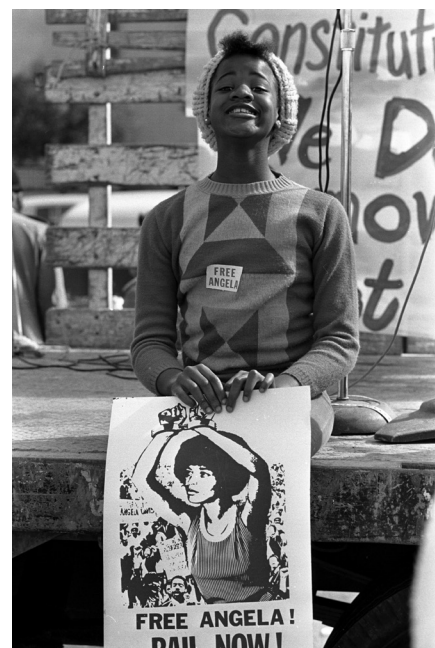
ARCHIVE & ACTION

“You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time.”

—Angela Davis

(Lecture at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2014)

Angela’s work continues to touch many lives today. How will you “Seize The Time” after leaving this exhibition? Explore the takeaway cards in this section for inspiration!



Stephen Shames, 1972—Oakland, California, USA: *Free Angela at Panther Constitutional Convention rally in DeFremery Park, 1972.*
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