

Artist Statement

I make revolutionary art to propel history forward. This is a world where a tiny handful of people control the great wealth and knowledge humanity as a whole has created. It is a world of profound polarization, exploitation and suffering. Billions are excluded from intellectual development and full participation in society. It does not have to be this way and my art is part of forging a radically different world.

Dread Scott: Decision is a performance that reflects on America, a country whose democracy is rooted in slavery. These roots are woven into the fabric of the country and its founding documents. I read from the text of 1857 Supreme Court Dred Scott Decision while a group of four nude Black performers was guarded and controlled two live German Shepherd dogs. The audience was part of the work and had to pass through the men to go into a "voting booth" and respond to a moral question. *Money to Burn* was enacted on Wall Street in 2010. Starting with \$250, I burned singles, fives, tens and twenties, one bill at a time, while encouraging others to join me with their money. The transgressive act of burning my own money alluded to the absurdity of a system based on profit.

I work in a range of media: performance, installation, video, photography, printmaking and painting. The thread that connects my work is an engagement with significant social questions confronting humanity and a desire to push formal and conceptual boundaries as part of contributing to artistic development. My projects are presented in venues ranging from major museum galleries to street corners. Sometimes work is presented to an unexpected audience. I bring contemporary art to a broader public and the audience is often an active element of the artwork.