Restorative Cultural Arts

APPROACHES | PRINCIPLES | PARAMETERS | PRACTICES
Restorative Cultural Arts

Restorative cultural arts praxis conceptualizes art in Communities of Color as a pathway to address, repair, and transform colonial wounds. It provides parameters, approaches, practices and principles that hold space for collective decolonial healing.
RESTORATIVE CULTURAL ARTS

**APPROACHES**
Conscious & Subconscious intent

**PRINCIPLES**
Rooting & grounding concepts, methods, and projects.

**PARAMETERS**
Structure for meaningful engagement, collaboration, and participation.

**PRACTICES**
identifying tools, materials, and process to share artistic work.
APPROACHES

SUBCONSCIOUS & CONSCIOUS INTENT
Restorative Cultural Arts Approaches

Address | Repair | Restore | Transform

1 | Responding to Colonialism
   Erasure, displacement, & marginalization of non-western dominant culture
   Explore through cultural practices the root causes of colonial wounds.

2 | Addressing Colonial Wounds
   Identifying the wounds of colonization and conquest
   Centering Non-Western cultural practices and experiences.

3 | Repairing the Impact
   Examining the historical, inter-generational, & individual impact of colonialism
   Disrupting colonial practices by reclaiming community cultural practices.

4 | Restoring Individual & Community Agency
   Whose experiences benefit from the legacy of Colonialism?
   Resisting erasure, Challenging Displacement, and Centering Marginalized experiences.

5 | Transforming Through Decolonial Healing
   What does it take for internal & external transformation?
   Transformation can happen within the spaces in Communities of Color live, work, and play in to undo the Internal & external impact of the colonialism and colonial wounds.
Principles

ROOTING & GROUNDING CONCEPTS, METHODS, & PROJECTS.
Restorative Cultural Arts Principles

COMMUNITY | STORYTELLING | CULTURE | AGENCY

1 | Cultural production for wellness
   What community cultural practices center, and embrace wellness and healing?
   Embraces the ideas, concepts, and values from Communities of Color that cultivate restoration and transformation.

2 | Experiential knowledge as agency
   How do we see, experience and feel agency?
   Centers the identities, aesthetics, knowledge, and experiences of People of Color in the process of community cultural projects.

3 | Storytelling as Cultural Aesthetics
   How do we disrupt the impact of colonialism?
   Engages participants in critical thinking, fostering community, sharing personal stories, and restoring connections to traditional practice, knowledge, and wisdom.

4 | Centering our ancestors & inheritance
   Why reclaiming our inheritance fosters courage and is a tool for restoring agency?
   Reconnect, center, and build on the practices inherited and carried through the epigenetic layers of the DNA.
Parameters

STRUCTURES FOR MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION, & COLLABORATION
Restorative Cultural Arts parameters are collaborative procedures and provide necessary structure to cultural art production.

1 | Site
Incorporate the participants' surroundings
Acknowledging mutual accountability and obligations between artist and participants foster transformation and restoration.

2 | Community
Applying meaningful community & cultural methods
Critical participation occurs when cultural production provides access to community members to be integrated into the decision making process.

3 | Context
Address historical, inter-generational, and personal experiences connected to spaces.
repair the wounds of colonialism in communities by centering traditionally erased, displaced, and marginalized experiences.
Practices
IDENTIFYING TOOLS, MATERIALS & PROCESS TO SHARE ARTISTIC WORK
Restorative Cultural Arts Practices

REACTIONARY | CO-OPTIVE | CONFORMIST | TRANSFORMATIONAL | SELF-DEFEATING RESISTANCE ART

1 | Reactionary Resistance Art
   Artistic practice that generates a personalized reaction to external experiences without connecting them to the inter-generational, historical, and lived experiences of people of color.

2 | Self-defeating resistance art
   Artists who utilize their discipline as a tool to express a critique of their oppressive conditions.

3 | Co-optive Resistance Art
   Artists provide a substantive critique of the oppressive conditions burdening communities of color co-opting capitalist markets to change their condition.

4 | Conformist Resistance Art
   Their approach to art practices holds no critique of the systems of oppression. They intentionally utilize art to engage other community members of color, yet the results of their work uphold traditional notions of white liberalism.

5 | Transformational resistance Art.
   Art, process, methods, tools, concepts, and approaches that are motivated and intended both as a critique of oppression and a desire to establish a process of transformation.