

ABSTRACT

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Visualizing Plastic Waste as Social Critique in Participatory Art Practice

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This final project is a form of art activism that aims to criticize environmental issues, particularly pollution caused by plastic waste. The artwork is not merely an aesthetic object but also serves as a reflective and action-oriented initiative that involves community participation in its creation. The artist initiated a cleanup activity in the surrounding environment, invited peers to participate, documented the process, and used the collected plastic waste as the main visual element of the two-dimensional artwork.

This process positions art as a tool for social criticism and a medium for change, where public involvement becomes an essential part of the artwork's meaning. The visualization of waste accumulation on canvas, along with the arrangement of photo documentation, serves as both a representation of ecological destruction and a call to action. The theoretical framework of this work is based on art activism, participatory art, environmental art, and socially engaged art, which collectively reinforce the message of the artwork as a movement of ecological awareness.

Through a participatory approach and the use of unconventional materials, this work is intended to serve as an educational, reflective, and provocative medium in response to the ongoing environmental crisis.

Keywords: art activism, participatory art, plastic waste, social criticism, environmental art