



ART

"Community Board"

Many resourceful artists have responded brilliantly to the pandemic and to the summer's mass protests, but recent events have also elicited new meanings from works made in the now distant-seeming Before. The ten contributors to this online exhibition, on the Petzel gallery's Web site, engage with ideas of collectivity, albeit not always explicitly. A trio of paintings by Ross Bleckner, made between 1998 and 2000, relate obliquely to the theme, with their aqueous clusters of pearl-like forms, which evoke a microscopic view of cells in a body. In 2014, Walead Beshty installed pieces of raw copper in the gallery's office, where they were tarnished by daily tasks—at once a record of labor and a suite of enigmatic abstractions. The clearest expression of community here is by Rirkrit Tiravanija, who, in 2006, sent news photos of Thai protesters to his former students in Thailand and asked them to make pencil copies. The results—studious depictions of marching, chanting crowds—speak to our present paradoxical moment of solidarity and isolation.

—*Johanna Fateman*

 Petzel Gallery Online

[Website](#)



<https://www.newyorker.com/goings-on-about-town/art/community-board>