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## End-of-Semester Presentation – American Art

<https://www.theartstory.org/definition/american-art/> <https://www.theartstory.org/definition/american-art/history-and-concepts/#nav>

### Spiral Jetty (1970)



Figure 1: Spiral Jetty

- Robert Smithson
- 1500 foot spiral in Great Salt Lake
- Earth Work or Earth Art
  - shaping the land itself
  - using natural materials like rocks and tree branches
  - ranges from temporary small alterations to long lasting, significant ones
  - installations can also be displayed inside galleries

## I Shop Therefore I Am (1990)

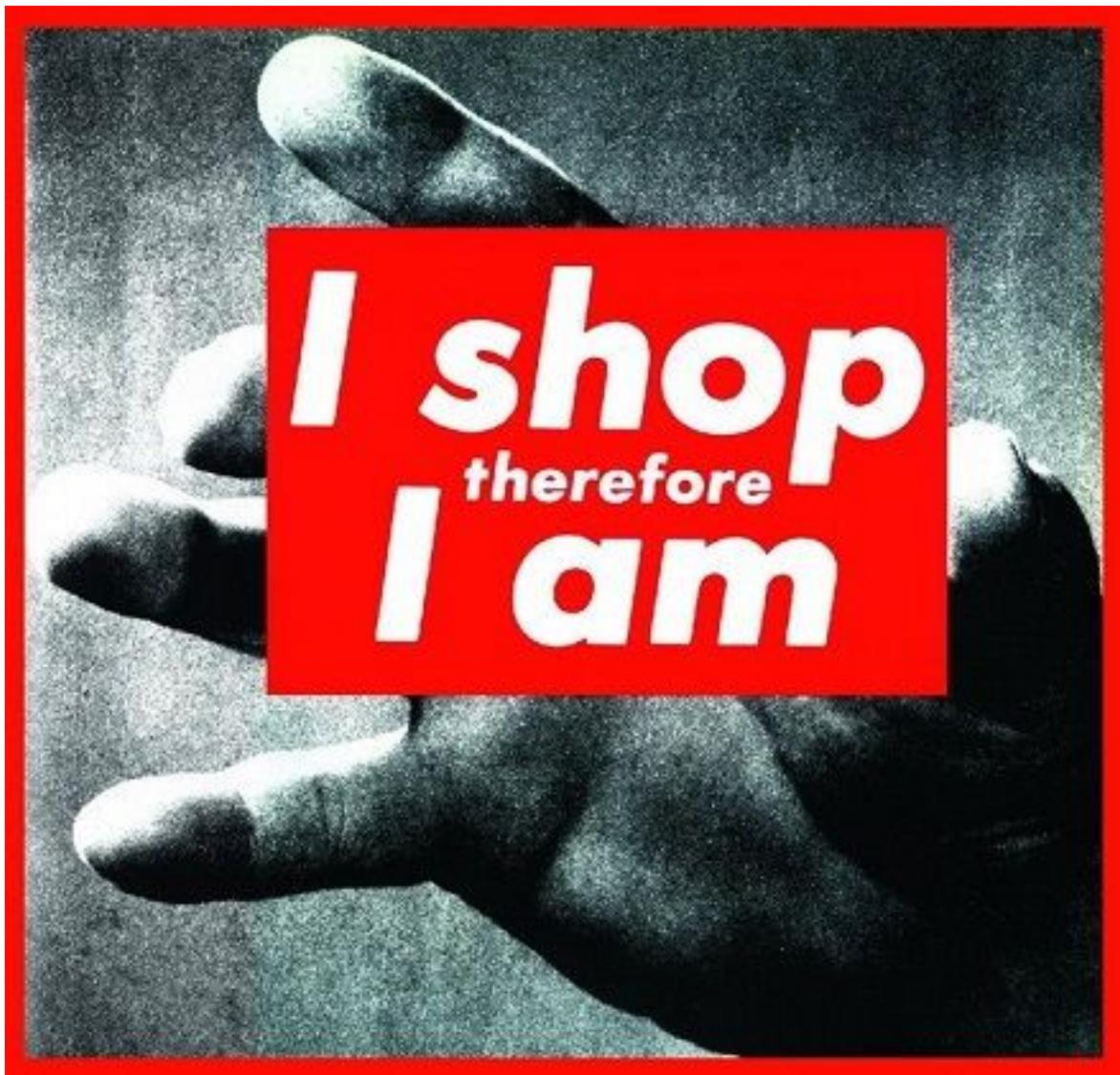


Figure 2: I Shop Therefore I am

- **Barbara Kruger**
  - best known for her prints
  - tongue-in-cheek satire on *Reaganomics* and consumerism
  - critique of social, cultural, political things
- cut-outs from magazines
- **Feminist**
  - challenge dominance of men and assumptions about womanhood
  - recently also covers intersections with race, class, forms of privilege, gender identity, fluidity
- **Conceptual**
  - prizes ideas over the formal or visual components of art



Figure 3: Your body is a battleground

## Napoleon Leading the Army Over the Alps (2005)



Figure 4: Napoleon Leading the Army Over the Alps

- [Kehinde Wiley](#)
  - painted Obama's official portrait in 2017
- oil on canvas
- [appropriation](#) and re-visioning of the famous painting
  - artists using pre-existing objects or other works of art with little transformation
  - traced back to collages of cubists from 1912