



"That Loud-Assed Colored Silence: Protest" by Douglas Kearney (2016)

SPRING 2025

ENGL 525

## "To Sing the Love of Danger: Avant-Garde Literature and Social Crisis"

Wednesdays 7PM

Professor: Higgs

Pulsing with an ethos of dissent, disruption, and institutional critique, from the early 20th century Dadaists to the contemporary Black Radical Tradition, avant-garde artistic practice has consistently challenged conventions, undermined authority, resisted rules, and worked toward dismantling normative patterns of social behavior. With an emphasis on reading, viewing, thinking, discussing, and writing both critically and creatively, this graduate course will examine avant-garde literature from the past to the present in order to gain valuable approaches to impacting social issues today.

Work under consideration will include international poetry, fiction, drama, film, and theory, prioritizing the voices of historically marginalized creators.

Students can expect to participate in weekly writing exercises and discussions, produce a focused research/creative presentation, and compose a final project in alignment with their research/creative agenda.