

To Disembark

TE 802 Social Studies Conference 7 December 2012
Joshua Hagler

To Disembark – Glenn Ligon



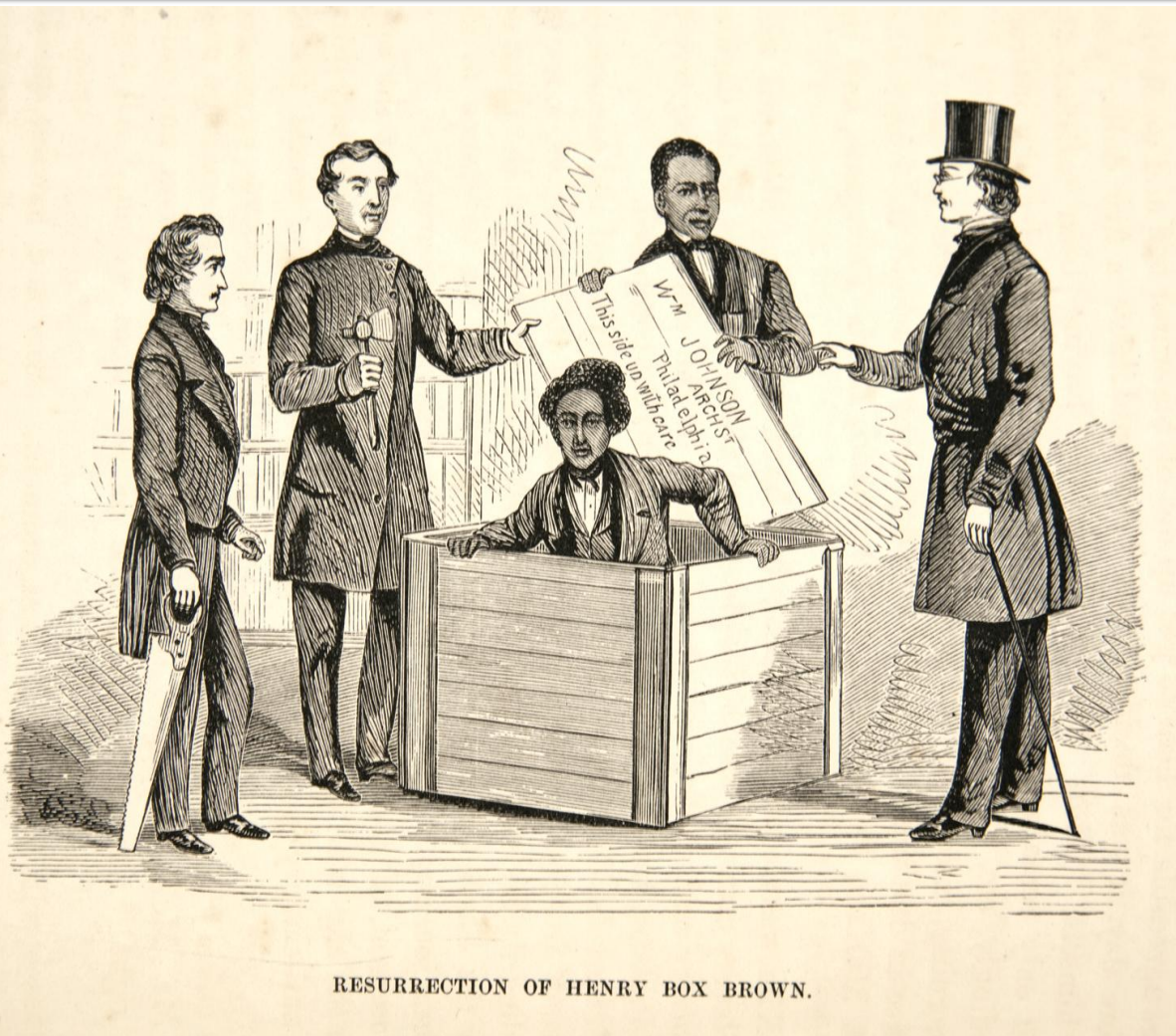
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4ZyuULy9zs>

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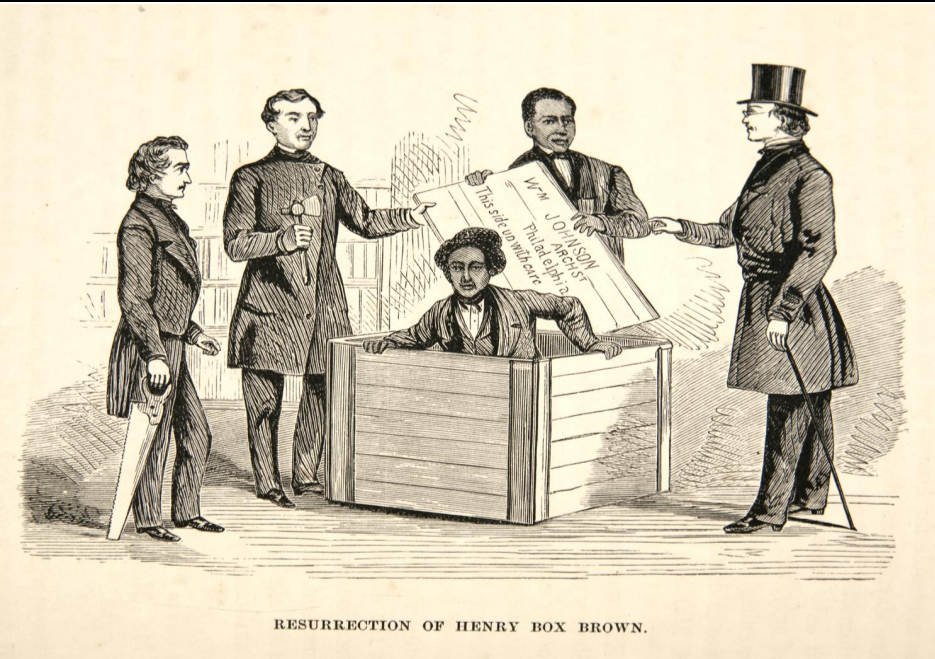


- 1. Write down any thoughts you have about this installation.
- 2. What do you think the title means?
- 3. To what could this piece refer?

Resurrection of Henry "Box" Brown



- With the help of a shop owner, Brown mailed himself from Virginia to Philadelphia in 1849. He burned his hand with acid to escape work and begin the 26 hour journey.



RESURRECTION OF HENRY BOX BROWN.

- 4. What is meant by the word "Resurrection?"
- 5. Why would he spend 26 hours in a box to go from Virginia to Philadelphia?



- 6. Write down any feelings you may have about the installation.

“Strange Fruit” –Abel Meeropol

- **Southern trees bear a strange fruit,
Blood on the leaves and blood at the root,
Black bodies swinging in the southern breeze,
Strange fruit hanging from the poplar trees.**

**Pastoral scene of the gallant south,
The bulging eyes and the twisted mouth,
Scent of magnolias, sweet and fresh,
Then the sudden smell of burning flesh.**

**Here is fruit for the crows to pluck,
For the rain to gather, for the wind to suck,
For the sun to rot, for the trees to drop,
Here is a strange and bitter crop.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4ZyuULy9zS>

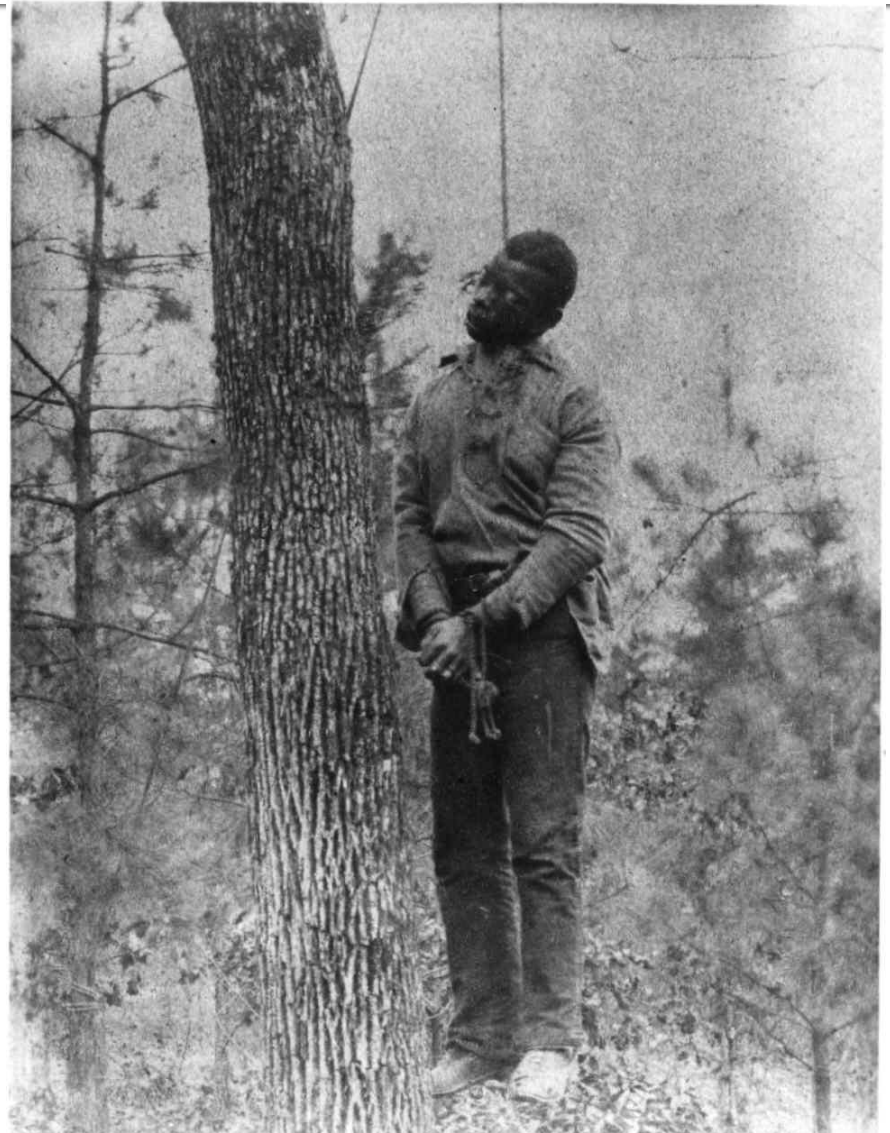
“Strange Fruit” –Abel Meeropol

- **Mark the text for meaning. What is strange, interesting, meaningful, or unfamiliar?**
- **7. What does this poem mean to you or what feelings does it evoke?**
- **8. What do you think about this poem?**
- **9. What is Strange Fruit?**

Lynching in the United States

- **Lynching:**
 - To punish without legal process or authority, especially by hanging, for a perceived offense or as an act of bigotry.

Webster's Dictionary



- African-Americans ~10% of US population.*
- 1882-1965: 4,742 (3,445 were African-Americans, 73%)
- Mississippi 581 93%**
- Georgia 531 93%
- Texas 493 71%
- Louisiana 391 86%
- Alabama 347 86%
- Arkansas 284 80%
- Florida 282 91%
- Tennessee 251 81%



Marion, Indiana 1930



“Strange Fruit” –Abel Meeropol

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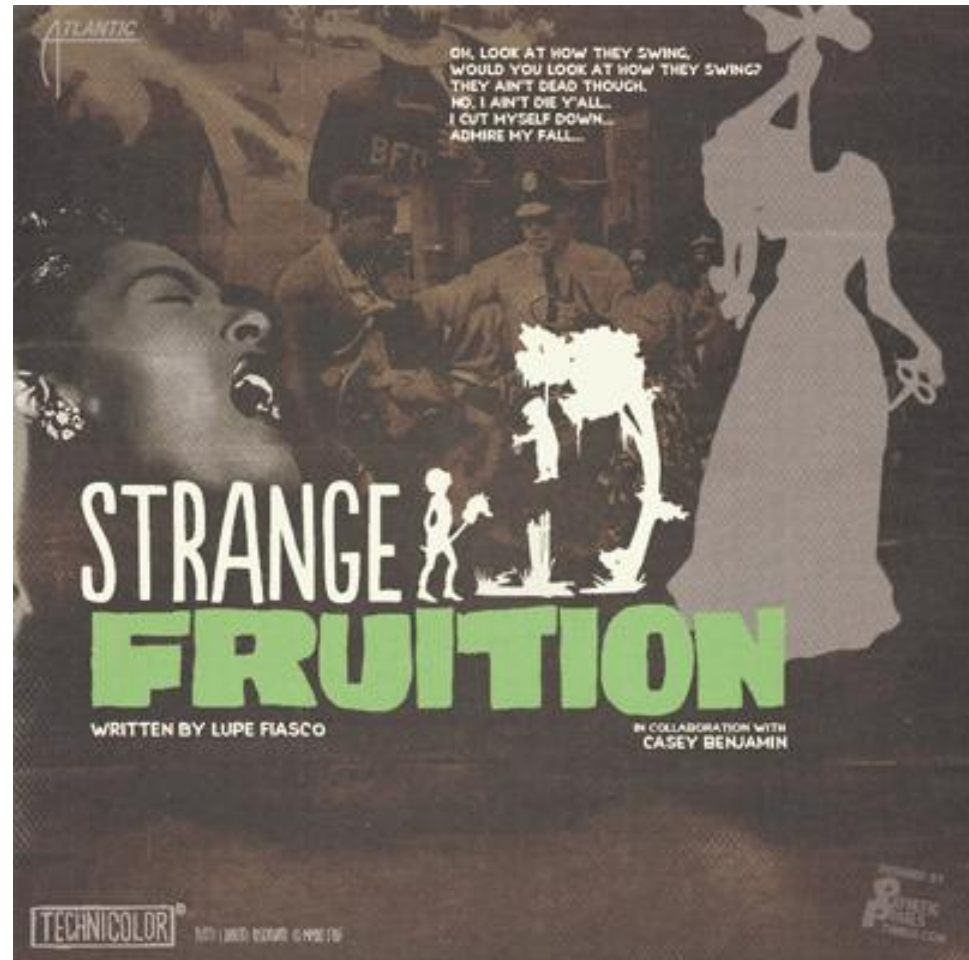
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- 10. Write down any thoughts you have about this installation.
- 11. What do you think the title means?
- 12. How have your thoughts about this installation changed since the first viewing?

Follow Up Options:

- Traditional:
 - *Strange Fruit* – Joel Kats and Oniera Films
- Emotional:
 - “Strange Fruit” lynching slideshow
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lscrQnhg6l8>
- Contemporary Issues:
 - “Strange Fruition”- Lupe Fiasco
 - <http://rapgenius.com/Lupe-fiasco-strange-fruition-lyrics> for explanations



Works Cited:

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- Katz, Joel writer and director. *Strange Fruit*. Oniera Films, 2002.
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