

RE-THINKING SOLIDARITY AND CARE INFRASTRUCTURES IN BELARUSIAN PROTEST ART 2020–2021

RESEARCH SUBJECT

I'm researching protest art practices and their role in shaping the solidarity and networks of care in non-democratic societies. Artistic practices, which became an integral part of the protests, played a huge role in expressing political sentiments in Belarus. Belarusian protest art became an instrument of political imagination and social transformations, served for the growth of communities and promoted the idea of solidarity based on care as a structural practice, as an arrangement of life and radical transformations of the common future.



Masha Svyatogor, Everybody Strike!, 2020



Masha Svyatogor, Strike! Strike!, 2020

RESEARCH QUESTION

- **HOW DID AN ARTISTIC PRACTICE HAVE SUCH A STRONG EFFECT ON SOCIETIES?**
- **WHERE DID THIS POINT OF INTERSECTION BETWEEN ARTISTIC PRACTICE AND POLITICAL ACTION ARISE?**

RESEARCH APPROACH

- Caring infrastructures and solidarity networks could be created even inside oppressed societies.
- In a situation of extreme violence, the participants can use the potential of the peaceful, soft tactics in the protests and continue to provide assistance and support to each other.
- Working with the reality of an affect, protest art makes it possible for the individuals and groups to realize their involvement in the moment of action and to form horizontal network connections outside hierarchical structures.