



What is considered
right and wrong in the
art world.

What are ethics?

- Ethics – a set of moral standards or principles
 - Ethics change across time.
 - Ethics change from place to place.
 - What is right and what is wrong behavior in society.
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Ethical Or Unethical?

- Debate "Rules"
 - Each team will elect a different "spokesperson" each round and only that person is allowed to speak.
 - Spokesperson must listen to all points of view before beginning their argument.
 - Each team has 2 minute to defend their "view"
 - Each team will have 1 minute to counter.
 - Ethical Argument (2 minutes)
 - Counter (1 minute)
 - Unethical Argument (2 minutes)
 - Counter (1 minute)
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Debate #1: Fairey vs. Garcia

In 2008, Mannie Garcia, a photographer for the Associated Press, took a picture of Barack Obama. Shepard Fairey then used that photo (without Garcia's knowledge) to use as a reference for his now famous HOPE poster. The AP sued Fairey for using the picture without permission and Fairey countersued claiming that the photo fell under the doctrine of fair use.

Was Shepard Fairey's use of the image ethical or unethical?



Debate #2: Artist vs. Artist

In 2015, The Coffeehouse in Uptown Normal hosted a local artist's work and even held an open house event for the artist to sell their work with a percent of the proceeds going to a specific cause. On the night of the open house, another artist (who happened to work at the Coffeehouse) decided to set up their own table and sell their work as well. Both artists were then competing against one another for sales and attention.

Was the second artist's decision to sell their work at another artist's open house ethical or unethical?



Treating Colleagues with Respect



- Contrary to what some artists believe, curators, galleries, funders and the art world are not merely a support structure. They are, rather, partners in your creative pursuit. One unflattering aspect of many artists is their attitude of entitlement. They think the world “owes” them support, but it is simply not true.

If you are perceived as self important, you may get a reputation as difficult to deal with, and curators will lose interest, even if your work is strong.

EX: Michelangelo Buonorroti , Borromini, Leonardo da Vinci, etc.

Don't Be Selfish

- Many artists are secretive about what they know and actively avoid sharing their knowledge. If you know an artist whose work fits the prospectus of an exhibition, by all means, let them know about it. Keeping information to yourself only hurts you in the long run. Artists who share information with each other get much further and develop excellent reputations. It is hard to be an artist, so be generous with your friends.



Don't Tread on Other Artist's Space

- It is inappropriate to solicit interest in your work at someone else's event, or at a party. Handing out postcards to your show at someone else's opening is tacky. It is okay to give one or two to a friend, but do not stand at the door and hand out your announcements. If you share a studio with other artists, don't invade their studio visits with curators. That is their time. It's OK to say hello, but don't drag the curator into your own studio to look at your work.



Using Other People's Images



- An ongoing problem, which has increased dramatically because of the Internet, is that artists use other people's images without giving the artist any credit, or not changing the image enough to make it distinct from the original. Copyright infringement is actually quite serious.

Also, while not illegal, making work that looks like someone else's is unethical. Sometimes this happens unknowingly. It is, of course, permissible to give homage to another artist and to demonstrate your influences, but be aware of the gray areas of appropriation.