

If your role when you have no power is to make souvenirs of your culture for commercial use, then you are doing what the Government says artists do. People like that. Artists like that too because we are so alienated that it feels like we need this proof. So maybe I'm painting jazz paintings because it makes me feel artistic to paint paintings about jazz. Not because I have an urge in my blood to paint paintings about jazz. Not because it's part of my cultural community to paint jazz paintings. Maybe it makes me feel artistic to paint jazz paintings at a time when the entire set-up is saying you are not real, you are not the artist that [insert your own context mascot's name here] is. If you make art that is 'contextual' to be seen commercially, I think that you are necessarily destroying your place or community because you are doing the identity as though it was the identity and doing it and selling it. Every time someone buys into it, it is re-enforced that is the identity whatever.