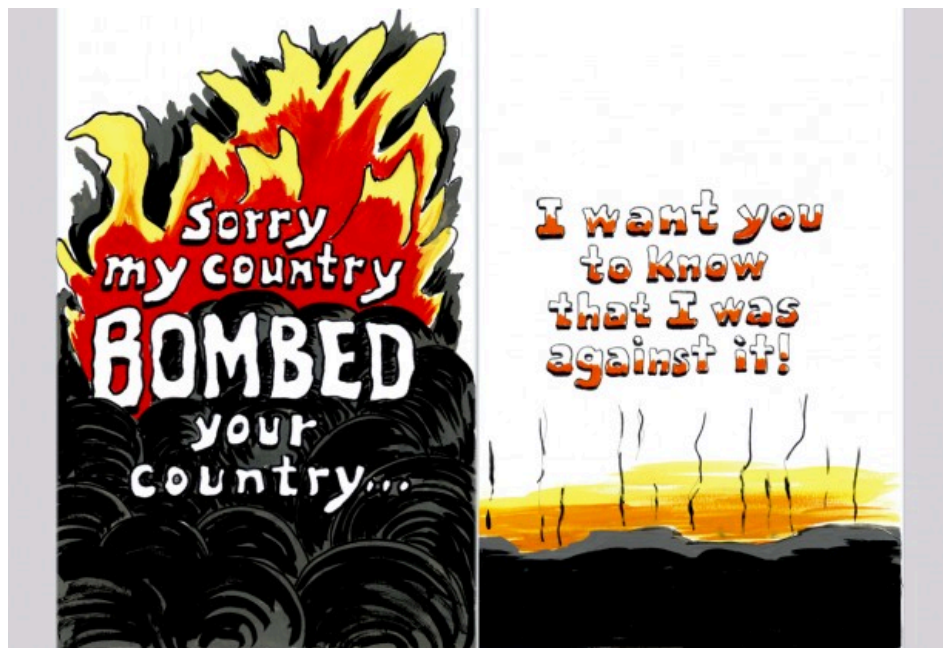


Foumberg, Jason. "What Political Art in Chicago Looks Like Today." *Chicago Magazine*, 31 March 2015.

CHICAGO

What Political Art in Chicago Looks Like Today: A round-up of provocative, activist art now on view.



From Erika Rothenberg's House of Cards.

What is political art? Surely it's not a rainbow mural painted over a crumbling neighborhood. Political art can lead viewers to a place of frustration and provocation. Maybe that's where change really begins to stir. Feeling despair? It could be a case of capitalism. Feeling unequal? You may need a dose of feminism. A jaunt around the city's art galleries reveals the issues on Chicago's mind.

A re-creation of Erika Rothenberg's 1992 House of Cards installation, which debuted at MoMA, takes aim at social ills, and it feels fresh as ever—unfortunately. Rothenberg's satirical Hallmark-style greeting cards address uncomfortable subjects like war ("Sorry my country bombed your country"), discrimination ("Thanks, boss! For your affirmative actions!"), and even the art world ("Congratulations... for being one of the few people who understand Modern art"). "The 90 hand-painted greeting cards are a compendium of every awful, ignorant thing we do to one another," wrote the artist in a statement. Other cards are aimed at rapists, pedophile priests, and homophobes. The message is clear: don't stay silent on difficult topics.

Through 4/18 at [Zolla/Lieberman Gallery](#), 325 W Huron.