

think



Bias By Numbers by Shepard Fairey

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Shepard Fairey

1970-

Shepard Fairey is an American contemporary street artist, muralist, graphic designer, activist, illustrator, and entrepreneur. He may be best known for creating President Barack Obama's iconic 2008 **Hope** election poster.

The Hope poster was not Fairey's first activist experience. Topics he explores include abuse of power, environmental destruction, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, propaganda, war and peace, and economic imperialism.

Questions:

- Looking at *Bias By Numbers*, what important issue is Fairey addressing?
- Fairey has expressed, "Art is not always meant to be decorative or soothing, in fact it can create uncomfortable conversations and emotions." Do you agree or not agree?
- Fairey sells his work through prints, t-shirts, etc. Some proceeds go back to the causes he supports. Does the marketing of art change how message of the art work is received?