Are you talking to me?

About the uncomfortable conversation between artworks and communities

In this paper I will start with several well-known examples of art works in public space to analyze the way art tries to communicate with a community. What we now call Community Art is in my view only the ultimate and elaborated attempt of reaching a public and setting up a form of communication. But from the start up to the present day questions on who the work of art is supposed to be addressing, what it is saying, if and how that is understood and what is being answered to it by its viewers have remained unanswered. I will end with two contemporary examples of projects that come up with surprising solutions to these dilemma's.

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