

I chose Theaster Gates and Tania Bruguera.

### **1. Theaster Gates**

Theaster Gates is renowned for his ability to transform urban decay into spaces of renewal and community engagement. His projects, such as The Dorchester Projects in Chicago, involve the rehabilitation of abandoned buildings, turning them into cultural spaces and places for local gatherings. Gates's work centers on the intersection of art, urban regeneration, and community involvement, addressing the challenges posed by gentrification while also offering potential solutions.

### **2. Tania Bruguera**

Tania Bruguera's art is deeply rooted in the politics of public space, activism, and participation. Her installations, such as Tatlin's Whisper and The Francis Effect, involve direct public engagement, where the audience is invited to become a part of the artwork itself. Bruguera's work interrogates power structures, raising questions about the role of art in societal change, especially in the context of urban transformation.

By using construction site pictograms to engage with the transformation happening around Losæter, I aim to mirror Gates's approach of revitalizing overlooked spaces. Both works embrace the challenge of urban change while advocating for inclusivity and sustainability in the face of gentrification.

These two artists' works offer valuable insights into the ways in which public spaces can be reimagined and transformed through art. Their engagement with urban environments and communities mirrors my approach to using the spaces of Bjørvika and Losæter as active sites for discussion and transformation.

**images:**

1. Theaster Gates – Dorchester Projects, Image source: Theaster Gates – Dorchester Art and Housing Collaborative, accessed at [theastergates.com](http://theastergates.com).

-The Dorchester Projects involve the renovation of abandoned buildings in Chicago's South Side, transforming them into cultural spaces that foster community interaction and artistic expression.



2. Tania Bruguera – Tatlin's Whisper #5, Image source: Tania Bruguera, "Tatlin's Whisper #5," Tate Images, accessed at [tate.org.uk](http://tate.org.uk).

-"Tatlin's Whisper #5" is a performance piece that invites public participation, addressing themes of freedom of expression and the role of art in societal change.

