6. NARRATIVE PAINTING PROJECT

Read TIME section in NOTES ON PAINTING ELEMENTS

Make a narrative painting. Create the sense that something has happened, is happening, or is about to happen. Which points do you want to represent? (Look at Leon Golub.) How literal do you want to be? How dramatic? How subtle? (Look at Sue Coe.) Is there such a thing as a common history/experience today? Can you rely on a common mythology? Do we have symbols or images that we can "read"? With how broad an audience do you want to communicate? Does the breadth of audience affect decisions you make about your narrative? (Look at Keith Haring.)

EXAMPLE-
Matt Jones did a wonderful narrative series on education. He carefully orchestrated the shape of the canvas, scale of images, distortion of space, color and light for dramatic effect. The best in the series were the most pared down; you can say a lot with a little if you present it correctly.