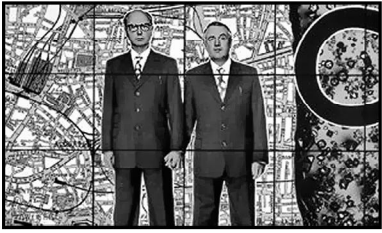


**THEORY.ORG.UK TRADING CARD**



**Gilbert & George**

Global artists, born 1942-3. Bored by the pretensions of 'radical' art that was inaccessible to many people, Gilbert & George invented themselves as a 'living sculpture'. Produced many huge photo-collage works, all of which pursue their aims: to shatter taboos, to bring pleasure, to communicate clearly, to overcome barriers. Opposed to distinctions between genders, Gilbert & George are sexual radicals in smart suits.


For more, see [www.theory.org.uk/art](http://www.theory.org.uk/art) [Card 10 of 12]

**STRENGTHS:** Clear and consistent challenging messages

**WEAKNESSES:** Sometimes mistaken for eccentric conservatives

**SPECIAL SKILLS:** Slipping radical ideas into culture

**THEORY.ORG.UK TRADING CARD**



**bell hooks**

African-American feminist, born 1952. Brilliant, poetic, often autobiographical and rather postmodern, bell hooks made her name with *Ain't I A Woman* (1981), challenging the white elitism within feminism. Equal rights for all. Her critiques are accessible, sometimes theoretical, always engaged with popular culture. Her jolly new book *Feminism is for Everybody* (2000) makes nice case for 'passionate politics' now.

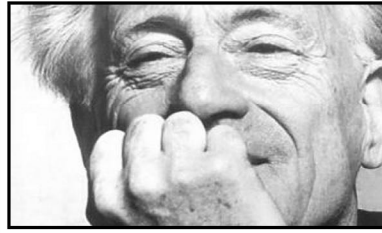
For more, see [www.theory.org.uk](http://www.theory.org.uk) [Card 11 of 12]

**STRENGTHS:** Prolific, exuberant and innovative writing

**WEAKNESSES:** Dared to criticise Madonna!

**SPECIAL SKILLS:** Seeking justice and equality for all groups

**THEORY.ORG.UK TRADING CARD**



**Henri Lefebvre**

French sociologist, 1905-1991. Took Marx's theory of economic exploitation and widened it to a general account of alienation in everyday life. Argued that modern capitalist society encouraged abstraction and atomisation of the self through bourgeois rationalisation and discrete parcelling of experience. Critical awareness to counter this could come from pop culture, philosophy, folklore, & other diverse sources.

For more, see [www.theory.org.uk](http://www.theory.org.uk) [Card 12 of 12]

**STRENGTHS:** Wide range of interests; revolutionary force

**WEAKNESSES:** Failed to credit female partners as co-authors

**SPECIAL SKILLS:** Major chronicler of effects of modernisation

