The Arts of Life in America:

Unemployment, Radical Protest, Speed

Date

1932

Primary Maker

Thomas Hart Benton

Medium

Tempera on board

Description

This painting, painted with tempera on board, underscores much of the political and social issues of the day. There are illustrations from the left to the right of a woman driving a car, a locomotive, industrialization, wage strikers and the gunmen firing at them dominate the scene. The bright red, green, and yellow colors, paired with the suggestion of movement, infuses the painting with energy.

Dimensions

Overall, Frame: 32 1/4 x 176 3/8 in. (81.9 x 448 cm) 32 x 176 1/2 in. (81.3 x 448.3 cm)