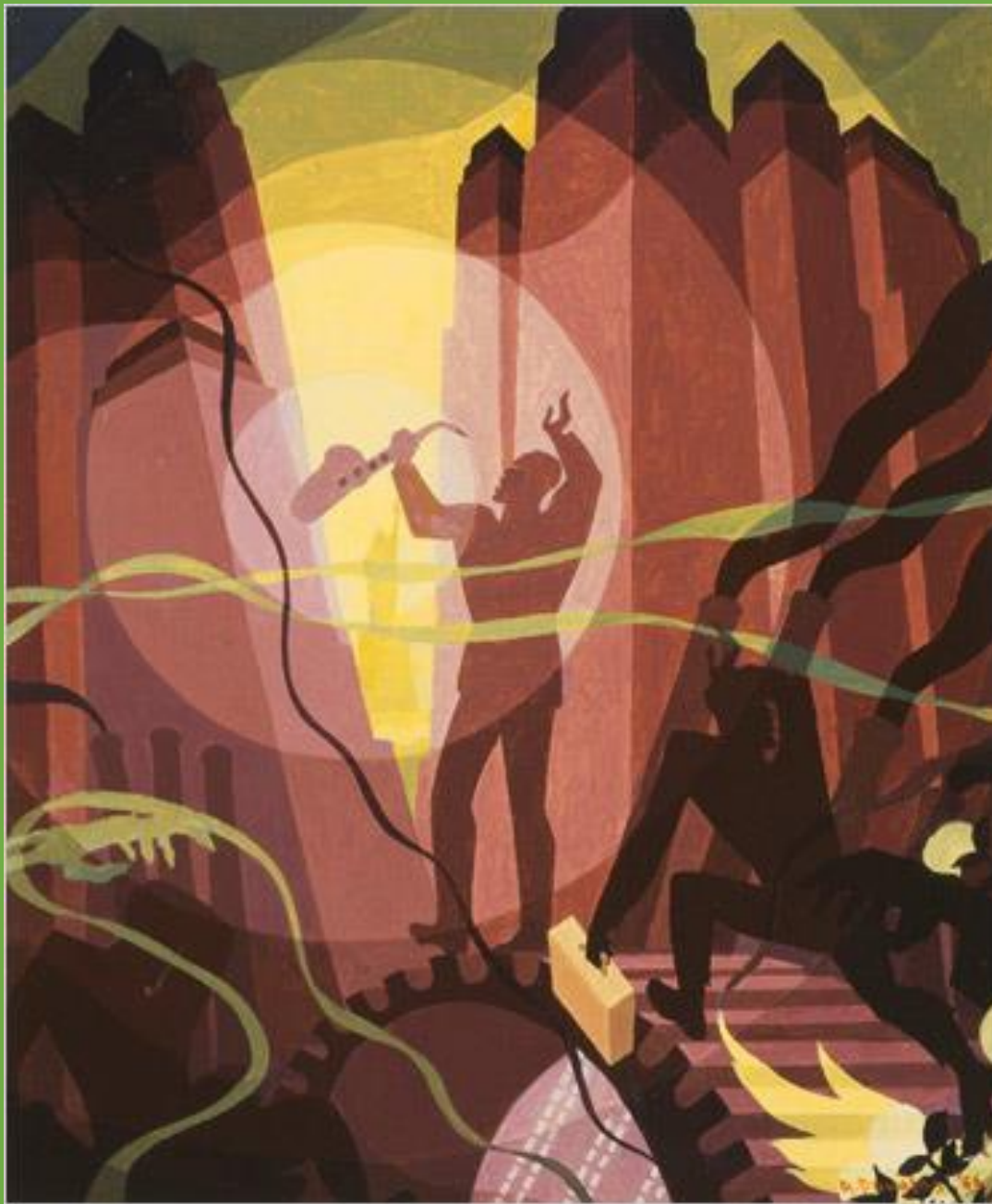


The Great Migration

How Art Reflects Life



“Aspects of Negro Life: Song of the Towers”, Aaron Douglas, 1934
nypl.getarchive.net



THE LADDER OF FORTUNE.

Industry and Morality bring solid rewards. Idle schemes and speculations yield poverty and ruin.

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1876

From *Ragged Dick; Street Life in New York with the Boot Blacks*,
Horatio Alger

Now, in the boot-blackening business, as well as in higher avocations, the same rule prevails, that energy and industry are rewarded, and indolence suffers. Dick was energetic and on the alert for business, but Johnny was the reverse. The consequence was that Dick earned probably three times as much as the other.



“Ladder for Booker T. Washington”, Martin Puryear, 1996
(images from flickr.com)

From *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: an American Slave. Written by Himself. 1845*

“I would at times feel that learning to read had been a curse rather than a blessing. It had given me a view of my wretched condition, without remedy. It opened my eyes to the horrible pit, but to no ladder upon which to get out.....

It was the everlasting thinking of my condition that tormented me. There was no getting rid of it. It was pressed upon me by every object within sight or hearing, animate or inanimate.”

From Booker T. Washington

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome.

From W.E.B. DuBois "The Talented Tenth"

I am an earnest advocate of manual training and trade teaching for black boys, and for white boys, too. I believe that next to the founding of Negro colleges the most valuable addition to Negro education since the war, has been industrial training for black boys. Nevertheless, I insist that the object of all true education is not to make men carpenters, it is to make carpenters of men.....