“The Jury” was painted by John Morgan in 1861 at the Assizes held at County Hall, Market Square, Aylesbury.

While this list is focused on “contemporary” democratic theory, there are some titles I included that explicate, rationally reconstruct, or comment upon Athenian democracy (e.g., Finley or Ober) or works of canonical political philosophers in the Liberal tradition (e.g., Lloyd on Hobbes, Cohen on Rousseau, or Waldron on Locke). And while this compilation revolves around “theory,” issues concerning democratic praxis of course arise as well (by design, default, or implication). I plan on composing a separate list focused on democratic praxis proper in historical, empirical, and comparative terms. I have related bibliographies on “constitutionalism,” “global distributive justice,” “human rights,” “international law,” and “philosophy of law and legal theory” chock full of titles that bear directly or indirectly on the prominent or pressing themes, questions, and issues of democratic theory.


Jacob Lawrence, “The 1920s...The Migrants Arrive and Cast Their Ballots,” (1974)