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### Experiences Embodied & Remembered: Contemporary Artists Engaging Contemporary Concerns

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## **Experiences Embodied & Remembered**

Contemporary Artists Engaging Contemporary Concerns



Bridwell Library Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries Exhibition Opening & Reception February 13, 2023 5:30PM

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## Introduction

#### Experiences Embodied and Remembered Contemporary Artists Engaging Contemporary Concerns

The Elizabeth Perkins Protho Galleries, Bridwell Library February 13, 2023–May 14, 2023

Life in the twenty-first century can seem both uniquely wondrous and frightening. Unrelenting scientific and technological developments unveil the strange properties of our universe while seeming to pave the way toward a bold but—perhaps—uncertain future. Nevertheless, we continue to contend with the legacies of our collective pasts. Meanwhile, every individual must negotiate the abilities and limitations of their body and identity while navigating complex physical and social environments.

This exhibition features works by Ifeanyi Anene, Tauba Auerbach, Rick Myers, Adam Pendleton, Maria Veronica San Martin, Haein Song, Shirley Whitaker, and Sam Winston. Individual artists contend with concerns such as the experience of physical pain, our enhanced awareness of the breath amid environmental and medical challenges, and the maintenance of individual integrity within systems that choreograph our very movements. Some engage the wonder accessible through experiences of light, sound, and materiality. Others, importantly, address the legacy of racial and political violence, both past and present.

# Table of Contents

#### Featured Artists

Ifeanyi Anene	
Tauba Auerbach	5–6
Rick Myers	7–8
Adam Pendleton	9–10
Maria Veronica San Martin	11–12
Haein Song	
Shirley Whitaker	15–16
Sam Winston	17–18

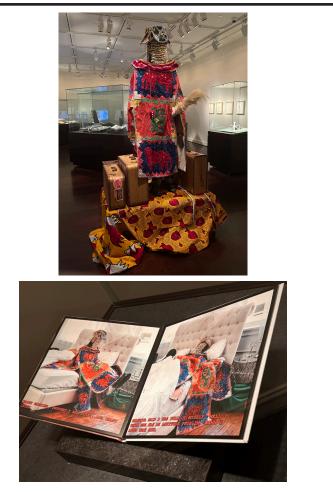


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Ifeanyi Anene (b. 1988, Lagos, Nigeria, based in Dallas, TX)

Ifeanyi Anene creates works that examine the unspoken realities in society and which may be described as a stylized medley of uplifting visual narratives, societal values, and poetry in visual form. His vibrant symbolic paintings evoke feelings of sensuality, love, unity, hope, strife, societal values, and harsh realities. Although he works predominantly in acrylic, oil, charcoal and pastel, *Chronicles of a Nigerian Immigrant* (2022) incorporates handcrafted garment design, performance, and photography in order to explore the experience of acclimating to life in the United States, and specifically Dallas.



Anene, Ifeanyi. *Chronicles of a Nigerian Immigrant*. Dallas, Ifeanyi Anene, 2022.

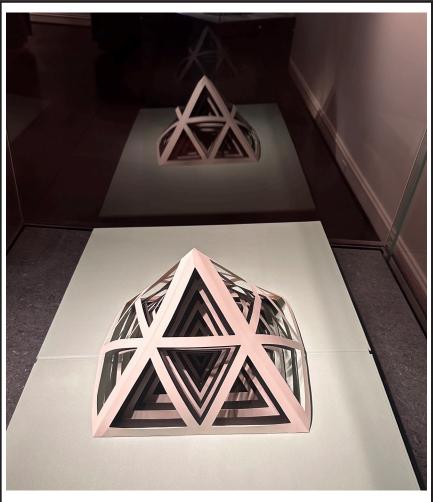
Mannequin adorned with handcrafted costume and suitcases on platform swathed in colorful fabrics.

Book featuring the artist wearing the costume in multiple locations in Dallas, documenting his experience immigrating to the area.



Tauba Auerbach (b. 1981, San Francisco, CA)

Tauba Auerbach's work explores structure from the microcosmic to the macrocosmic, spanning diverse media, including painting, sculpture weaving, glass, photography, musical instrument design and performance, as well as artists' books. This exhibition features two of their sculptural books, [2,3] (2010) and *Stab/Ghost* (2013).



Auerbach, Tauba. [2,3]. New York: Printed Matter, Inc., 2010. From an edition of 1000. [Pictured Above]

Auerbach, Tauba. *Stab/Ghost.* Paris: Three Star Books, 2013. From an edition of 10 published in Paris by Three Star Books + 3 artist proofs + 3 copies Hors Commerce. [Bottom right, p. 5]



#### Rick Myers (b. 1974 in Manchester, UK, based in Easthampton, MA)

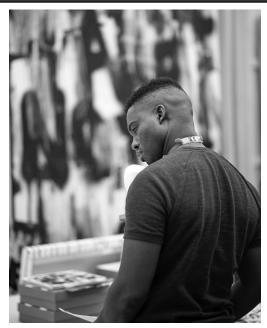
Rick Myers creates multimedia works in which video, drawing, writing, performance, and sound form a symbiotic relationship, extending the creation and experience of each work across traditional boundaries. This exhibition features the works *Faraday's Synaptic Gap* (2016), *Obstacle 3: Eye Obstacle* (2017), *Obstacle 99* (2018)—all of which feature sound and video in addition to books and images—and *Bite Marks in Paper: Archive* (2005–2018), a unique assemblage of the complete original artworks and photographs, in addition to all working studio documents and supporting materials, original notes, related unique artworks, artist books and editions produced over the two-year duration of the project.



Myers, Rick. *Faraday's Synaptic Gap.* Easthampton, Massachusetts: [Rick Myers], 2016. In conjunction with the audio work, "Fa ra days sy nap tic gap" (for headphones and Waterloo Bridge), which can be listened to while walking across Waterloo Bridge: <u>http://www.rickmyers.co.uk/fa ra days sy</u> <u>nap\_tic\_gap</u> Edition of 18.

Myers, Rick. *Obstacle 3: Eye Obstacle*. Mount Holyoke: [Rick Myers], 2017. Artist box, performance silver gelatin print, flash drive, video and sound work that was used as the light source for the exposure of the silver gelatin print. Video and sound duration: 6 seconds, Print dimensions: 9 x 14 inches. Edition of 6.

Myers, Rick. *Obstacle 99*: A. Holyoke, Massachusetts: [Rick Myers], 2018. Artist Box, Performance photograph silver gelatin print, plywood, enamel. Edition of 4, each unique.



#### Adam Pendleton (b. 1984, Richmond, VA, based in New York, NY)

In Adam Pendleton's paintings, drawings, and other works, a visual philosophy of incomplete postulates emerges, flattening the distinctions between legibility and abstraction, past and present, familiar and strange. Since 2008 he has articulated much of his work through the idea of Black Dada, an ever-evolving inquiry into the relationship between Blackness, abstraction, and the avant-garde. This exhibition features two of Pendleton's book works. The large-format *Anthology* (2018) is a limited-edition hand-sewn book of 200 drawings silkscreened on Japanese Shoji paper. The smaller-format *As Heavy as Sculpture* (2021), based on his installation of the same name at the New Museum in New York, includes language drawn from the protests against police brutality that swept the United States in 2020.



Pendleton, Adam. *Anthology*. NY: Zucker Art Books, 2018. Number 19 from an edition of 24.

Pendleton, Adam. *As Heavy as Sculpture*. New York, NY: Published by D.A.P., 2021.



#### Maria Veronica San Martin (b. 1981, Santiago, Chile, based in New York, NY)

Maria Veronica San Martin is a multidisciplinary artist and educator who explores the impacts of history, memory, and trauma through archives, artist books, installation, sculpture and performance. *In Their Memory: Human Rights Violations, Chile* (1973-1990), the work featured in this exhibition, part of San Martin's ongoing project *Moving Memorials*, is accompanied by a video provided by the artist.



San Martin, Maria Veronica. *In Their Memory: Human Rights Violations, Chile* (1973-1990). Washington, D.C: Maria Veronica San Martin, 2012. From an edition of 20.



Haein Song (b. 1979, Seoul, South Korea, based in London, UK)

Haein Song is a fellow of Designer Bookbinders and an artist working primarily with books as her medium. She uses traditional bookbinding techniques to create unique or limited-edition books, while employing a variety of printmaking methods, including linocut, drypoint, etching, cyanotype, monoprint and letterpress printing.

This exhibition features two of Song's artist's books: *Light/Folds* (2022), featuring 16 cyanotype prints of paper foldings (jong-e-jeop-ki in Korean), interlaid between 7 texts on the theme of memory, time and light; and *Pain Memory* (2019), which explores the experience of living with medically unexplained pain through drawings and text. Each work is accompanied by a series of four framed prints (2019 & 2022) drawn from the book.

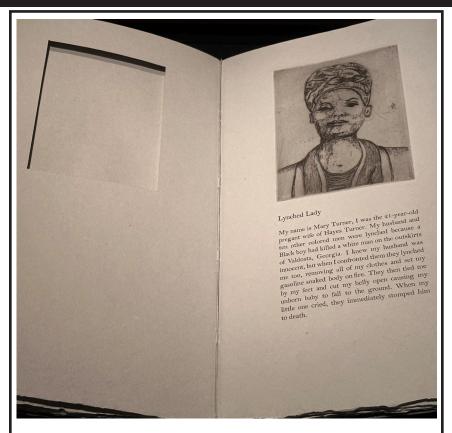


Song, Haein. *Light/Folds*. London: Arc Artist Editions, 2019. From an edition of 19.

Song, Haein. *Light/Folds*: Prints. London: printed by Haein Song, 2022. From an edition of 5.

Song, Haein. Pain Memory. London: Arc Artist Editions, 2019.

Song, Haein. *Pain Memory*: Prints. London: printed by Haein Song, 2019. 4 prints, from an edition of 5.



#### Shirley Whitaker (American)

Dr. Shirley Whitaker is a nephrologist as well as an artist who works in paint, printmaking, and book arts, emphasizing African American history as American history. The exhibition features her work *Ashes to Ashes: A Homegoing Celebration for the Unburied* (2018), a book of etchings that arose out of the first funeral ever given for victims of lynching. The funeral involved collaboration with community and additionally resulted in the video, *Ashes to Ashes*.

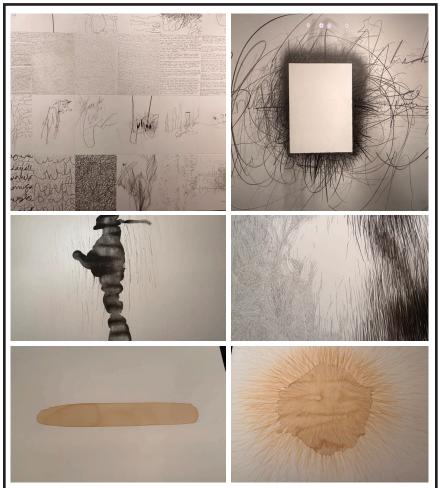


Whitaker, Shirley, Winifred Bixler, Michael Bixler, Marisha Clinton, Michael Kuch, Arthur Larson, Katie MacGregor, Winfred Rembert, Mark Tomlinson, and Mark Tuchman. *Ashes to Ashes: a Homegoing Celebration for the Unburied*. Connecticut River Valley: SAW Press, 2018. Number 25 from an edition of 50.



#### Sam Winston (b. 1978 Halifax, England, based in London, UK)

Sam Winston's practice is concerned with language not only as a carrier of messages but also as a visual form in and of itself. Initially known for his typography and artist's books he employs a variety of different approaches including drawing, performance and poetry. The works featured in this exhibition, *of painted ears and listening eyes* (2021) and *Following the Breath* (2022), respectively offer meditations on the reflective experiences of breath and music. Bridwell Library is proud to hold the archival edition of Winston's *of painted ears and listening eyes*, including all 186 original drawings for the limited-edition, prototype printing of the book (edition of 15), a copy of the prototype printing from the edition, the original drawing *Cummings to Cage - 4'33'*, and an archive of notes, correspondence, and sketches.



Winston, Sam, Rae-son Song, and Ellen Mara. De Wachter. *Following the Breath*. 1st ed. London: Arc Editions, 2022.

Winston, Sam. *of painted ears and listening eyes*. Unique archival edition. 186 original drawings, in box by Haein Song; 1 large format original drawing; archive of notes, correspondence, and sketches; Printed limited edition book, London: Arc Editions, 2021. From an edition of 15.





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