

Kiyan WILLIAMS

(b. 1991 in Newark, New Jersey, US)
Lives and works in New York, US

Education

2019

MFA Visual Arts, Columbia University, New York, US

2013

BA with Honors Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity Studies, Stanford University, Stanford, US

Current Group Exhibition

Whitney Biennial 2024: Even Better Than the Real Thing, curated by Chrissie Iles and Meg Onli, with Min Sun Jeon and Beatriz Cifuentes, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, US

Solo Exhibitions

2023

Between Starshine and Clay, Peres Projects, Seoul, KR

A Past That Is Future Tense, Peres Projects, Milan, IT

A Crack Beneath the Weight of It All, Altman Siegel, San Francisco, US

2022

Hammer Projects: Kiyan Williams, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, US

Un/earthing, Lyles & King, New York, US

2021

Reaching Towards Warmer Suns, The Anderson Collection, Stanford University, Palo Alto, US

2020

something else (Variations on Americana), Recess Art, New York, US

Selected Group Exhibitions

2023

Full and Pure: Body, Materiality, Gender, curated by Mara Hassan, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas, US

Heaven is a Different Kind of Thing, curated by Travis Fairclough, Unclebrother, Hancock, US

2022

Symbionts: Contemporary Artists and the Biosphere, curated by Selby Nimrod, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, US

Indisposable: Tactics for Care and Mourning, curated by Jessica A. Cooley and Ann M. Fox, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, US

Put It This Way: (Re)Visions of the Hirshhorn Collection, curated by Anne Reeve, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., US

Black Atlantic, Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York, US

52 Artists: A Feminist Milestone, curated by Amy Smith-Stewart, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, US

2021

Bodies in Conflict, curated by Matthew Kyba, Visual Arts Center of Clarington, Bowanville, Ontario, CA

How to Cook a Wolf, curated by Alison Karasyk, Center for Book Arts, New York, US

Unfinished Live, Haus der Elektronischen Künste, Basel, CH; The Shed, New York, US

The Skin I Live In, curated by Geena Brown, Lyles & King, New York, US

Land Akin, curated by Gabriel de Guzman, Smack Mellon, New York, US

Dissolution, Leslie-Lohman Museum, New York, US

Between Starshine and Clay, The Art Gallery at Westchester Community College, New York, US

2020

Listening to the Unsaid, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, US

In the Beginning: Media Art and History from the Hirshhorn's Collection, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., US

For Which It Stands, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, US

Indisposable: Structures of Support After the ADA, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, US

MONUMENTS NOW: Call and Response, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York, US
Up Close, The Shed, New York, US (online)

2019

Open Call: Group 2, The Shed, New York, US

Nobody Promised You Tomorrow: Art 50 Years After Stonewall, Brooklyn Museum, New York, US

MFA Thesis Exhibition, curated by Regine Basha, Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University Lenfest Center of the Arts, New York, US

In Practice: Other Objects, curated by Gee Wesley, SculptureCenter, New York, US

2018

The Least Orthodox Goddess, curated by Jasmine Wahj, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, US

feel that other day running underneath this one, curated by Sarah O'Keefe, Times Square Space, New York, US

Pride & Loss, curated by Zanele Muholi, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, New York, US

Columbia MFA First Year Exhibition, curated by Natalie Ball, Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University Lenfest Center of the Arts, New York, US

2017

Marlon Riggs and "No Regrets": Disclosure, Performativity, and Legacy, The 8th Floor Gallery, New York, US

Black Light, The Wattis Institute for Contemporary Art, San Francisco, US

Awards and Grants

2021

Franklin Furnace Fund, New York, US

Graham Foundation Research and Development Grant, Chicago, US

2020

Socrates Annual Fellowship, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York, US

2019

The Fountainhead Fellowship, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, US

2018

Queer Artist Fellowship, Leslie Lohman Gallery, New York, US

2017

Visual Arts Scholarship, Columbia University School of The Arts, New York, US

Residencies

2022

Smack Mellon Residency, New York, US

2021

BOFFO Residency, Fire Island, New York, US

2018

Museum Education Practicum, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, US

Collections

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., US

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, US

Grinnell College Museum of Art, Grinnell, US

Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, US

Pitzer College Art, Claremont, US

Publications

2024

Iles, Chrissie and Onli, Meg (eds.), *Whitney Biennial 2024: Even Better Than the Real Thing*, Exh. Cat., New York: Whitney Museum of American Art, 2024

2023

Williams, Kiyon, *An Accumulation of Things That Refuse to Be Discarded*, In Daniela Alvarez; Roberta Uno and Elizabeth M. Webb (eds.), *Future/Present: Arts in a Changing America*, Durham [N.C.]: Duke University Press Books, 2023

Lippard, Lucy, Smith-Stewart, Amy and Schwartz, Alexandra, *52 Artists: A Feminist Milestone*, Exh. cat., New York: Gregory R. Miller & Co., Ridgefield: The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, 2023

2022

Jones, Caroline A., Bell, Natalie and Nimrod, Selby (eds.), *Symbionts: Contemporary Artists and the Biosphere*, Exh. cat., Cambridge: MIT Press, 2022

Aquin, Stéphane, Guttman, Sandy, and Reeve, Anne (eds.), *Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: The Collection*, Exh. cat., New York: Distributed Art Publishers, 2022

Wilcox, Jess (ed.), *Monuments Now*, Exh. cat., New York: Socrates Sculpture Park, 2022

2021

Nobody Promised You Tomorrow: Art 50 Years After Stonewall, Exh. cat., Fresno: Fresno State Press, 2021

Karasyk, Alison, *How to Cook a Wolf*, Exh. cat., New York: Center for Book Arts, 2021

2019

Flint, Lucy (ed.), *In Practice: Other Objects*, Exh. cat., New York: SculptureCenter, March 2019

Selected Bibliography

2024

Small, Zachary, *The White House Has That Sinking Feeling (Thanks to an Artist)*, The New York Times, March 22, 2024

Hayden, Hugh, *Kiyan Williams Is Deep Frying the American Flag*, Interview Magazine, February 29, 2024

Hindahl, Philipp, *The Past Haunts the Present: Kiyan Williams*, Mousse Magazine, Issue 86, Winter 2024

2023

Focus: Kiyan Williams – Between Starshine and Clay, Art in Culture Magazine, November 2023

Pillon, Riccardo, *Kiyan Williams*, Émergent Magazine, Issue 10, October 2023

Alarcón, David, *Taking My Body Out of Work*, Metal Magazine, October 13, 2023

Paik, Sherry, *Six Must-See Exhibitions over Seoul Art Week*, Ocula Magazine, August 31, 2023

Sedini, Emma, *Kiyan Williams' breaded and fried flags on display in Milan*, Artribune, June 25, 2023

Spend Juneteenth Celebrating Black Artists, Cultured Magazine, June 19, 2023

Batsaki, Yota, *Seeking Histories and Futures in Soil*, Hyperallergic, May 21, 2023

Sanders, Wren, *Inside Kiyan Williams' Earthen Odes to Ancestral Power*, Them, April 21, 2023

Lordi, Emily, *The Black Artists Claiming More Space Than Ever Before*, The New York Times Style Magazine, March 24, 2023

Lancaster, Lex Morgan, *Trans Abstractions, Decomposing Figurations: Young Joon Kwak and Kiyan Williams*, Texte zur Kunst, "Trans Perspectives", No. 129, March 2023

Vaccaro, Jeanne, *The Moon is Trans: On Cultivating an Aesthetics of Reaching*, Texte zur Kunst, "Trans Perspectives", No. 129, March 2023

Wu, Jenny, *Microbes and Mushrooms Take a Star Turn in Bio Art Show at MIT*, Art in

America, February 23, 2023

Maju, Sunena V, *Can the recent revolution in BioArt revise human relationship to the planet?*, Stir World, January 30, 2023

2022

Tawe, Elisha, *Kiyan Williams Puts the American Flag in a Frying Pan*, Young Artists 2023, Cultured Magazine, December 2, 2022

Antonucci, Marica, *Kiyan Williams, Unsettling the Histories of Public Sculpture*, Monument Lab, September 26, 2022

Vogel, Wendy, *Review: Kiyan Williams*, Artforum, Vol. 61, No. 1, September 2022

Dafoe, Taylor, *Why This Artist Is Deep-Frying American Flags—and Inviting Guests to Bring Their Favorite Seasonings for the Batter*, Artnet News, June 3, 2022

Guilford, Lauren, *Pick of the Week: Kiyan Williams Hammer Museum*, Artillery Magazine, June 2, 2022

2021

Bury, Louis, *Forms That Don't Exist Yet*, BOMB Magazine, November 10, 2021

Gossett, Che, Hayward, Eva S., *Kiyan Williams: An Interview*, Transgender Studies Quarterly, Duke University Press, Vol. 7, No. 4, November 1, 2020

Ma, Sophia, *Land Akin At Smack Mellon*, Whitehot Magazine, February 2021

Lopez Cassell, Dessane, *Rashaad Newsome and Kiyan Williams Talk Art, Inspiration, and Black Magic*, Hyperallergic, January 27, 2021

2020

Bury, Louis, *Kiyan Williams Digs Into the Meaning of Soil*, Hyperallergic, November 7, 2020

2019

The Archive, Issue 67, Leslie-Lohman Museum, October 2019

Shapiro, Rebecca, *Alumni Artists Featured at the Shed in Hudson Yards*, Columbia Magazine, Summer 2019

Lescaze, Zoë, *13 Artists Reflect on the Stonewall Riots*, New York Times Style Magazine, June 27, 2019

Denby, Gene, *Some of the People New Magic*, Code Switch Podcast, NPR, June 26, 2019

Carroll, Rebecca, *Commemorating Stonewall Through the Art of Queer Millennials*, WNYC News, June 5, 2019

Small, Zachary, *Queer Artists in Their Own Words: Kiyan Williams Uses Dirt to Unearth the Exploitation of Black People in America*, Hyperallergic, June 19, 2019

2016

Rosengarten, Magnus, *It Is Necessary To Be Able To Dream*, Contemporary& Magazine, October 6, 2016