

KIYAN WILLIAMS

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Born in 1991 in Newark, NJ
Lives and works in San Francisco

EDUCATION

2016 Stanford University, Stanford, CA
BA with honors, Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

RESIDENCIES / FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS

2017 Astraea Foundation Global Arts Fund, New York, NY, Grant

This Will Take Time AIR, Point Arena, CA (4 weeks)

2016 Stanford Arts Institute, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, Grant

Trans Justice Funding Project, New York, NY, Grant

Queer Emerging Artist Residency, Destiny Arts Center, Oakland, CA (4 months)

2015 Create Dangerously: Writing for Performance Intensive, JACK Theater, Brooklyn, NY (10 Weeks)

2014 EMERGENYC Fellowship, Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics, New York University, NY, NY (3 months)

2013 Community Arts Fellowship, Stanford University's Haas Center for Public Service and the Institute for Diversity in the Arts Artist Grant, Palo Alto, CA

2011 Gilder Lehrman History Fellowship, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Columbia University, NY, NY

2009 Gates Millennium Scholarship, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle Washington

SELECTED SOLO AND FEATURED PERFORMANCES

2017 Unearthing, Project For Empty Spaces, Newark, NJ

Black W/holes, The Wattis Institute for Contemporary Art, Black Light Exhibition, San Francisco, CA

Unearthing, The College of Staten Island - The City University of New York, Staten Island, NY

Unearthing, Williams College, Williamstown, MA

Alt(e)ar, Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Unearthing, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

2016 Where Do The Poor Go, New York, NY

That Pretty Nigga Bitch (work-in-progress), The Moon Show, DE-CONSTRUKT, Brooklyn, NY

Unearthing (excerpt), HOT! Festival, Dixon Place, New York, NY

That Pretty Nigga Bitch (work-in-progress), LAVA, Brooklyn, NY

- The Messiah Complex by Nia Witherspoon, Performer, BRIC, Brooklyn, NY
- And She Would Stand Like That by Harrison Rivers, Performer, The Drama League, New York, NY
- Ask For What You Need, New Half Full: An Exhibition of Queer Performance, Qulture Collective, Oakland, CA
- Unearthing (excerpt), Qulture Collective, Oakland, CA
- Growing Pains, Queer Exceptionality: The News Queers Performance Series, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 Growing Pains, JACK Theater, Brooklyn, NY
- Untitled, Squirts: New Voices in Queer Performance, La Mama Experimental Theater Club, New York, New York
- Get-Free Cypher, Solidarity with Baltimore Public Demonstration, Union Square, New York, New York
- Get-Free Cypher, The Movement for Black Lives Matter National Convening Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio
- 2014 Unearthing (excerpt), Raw Honey, La Mama Experimental Theater Club, New York, New York
- Trash and Treasure, New York, New York
- Shade Compositions by Rashaad Newsome, Performer, Steirischer Herbst Festival, Orpheum Theater, Graz, Austria
- Knot by Rashaad Newsome, Performer, Killer Heels: The Art of the High-Heeled Shoe, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 The Symphonic Body, by Ann Carlson, Performance Studies International Conference, Bing Concert Hall, Stanford, CA
- 2012 Shade Compositions by Rashaad Newsome, Performer, SFMOMA, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 Motion Hymnary by Aleta Hayes, Performer, Roble Studio, Stanford University, Stanford, CA
- SELECTED WORKSHOPS, PANELS, PRESENTATIONS**
- 2016 Facilitator, Moving Through Embodied Trauma: A Black Femme Healing Cypher, Harriet's Apothecary Soul Fire Farm Healing Village, Grafton, New York
- Facilitator, Moving Through Embodied Trauma: A Black Femme Healing Cypher, Harriet's Apothecary Healing Village, Brooklyn, New York
- Facilitator, Moving Through Embodied Trauma, Harriet's Apothecary Healing Village, Brooklyn, New York
- 2015 Facilitator, Transforming Pain Into Power: A Black Femme Healing Cypher, Harriet's Apothecary Healing Village, Brooklyn, New York
- Panelist, Reimagining Gender: On AfroFuturism, Abolition, and Liberation, AfroFuturism Conference, The New School University, New York, NY
- Facilitator, Art and Black Queer Liberation, FIERCE!, New York, NY
- Panelist, The Future of Genderqueer, Philadelphia Trans-Health Conference Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 Facilitator, Built From Bricks: DIY Zine Making, LGBT Youth Summit, Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, NJ
- 2013 Thesis Presentation, Desire(ing) In Dangerous Times: Black, Queer, and Coming of Age, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Facilitator, Art and Activism: Performing Queer People of Color Resistance, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Facilitator, Performing Black Queer Diaspora, Queer Latino Youth Conference, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

SELECTED TEXT AND PUBLICATIONS

2017 "A Eulogy for Science Park High," Medium, Feb 2017

2016 "Why Black People Must Hold On To Our Dreams," Black Lives Matter Black Futures Month, The Huffington Post, Feb 2016

2013 "A Declaration: Towards a New Politics of Black Women's Sexuality," The Feminist Wire, Mar 2013

2012 "For My Sistah(s): A Black Feminist Queer Consciousness-Raising Book List," The Feminist Wire, April 2012

2011 "Criminal Fashions: The Hermeneutics of Hip Hop Fashion," The Feminist Wire, Dec 2011

SELECTED PRESS AND INTERVIEWS

2017 Sarah Burke, "Artist Profile: Kiyon Williams," KQED Public Media, Feb 2017

2016 Magnus Rosengarten, "It Is Necessary To Be Able To Dream, Contemporary& Magazine," Oct 2016

2014 Darnell Moore, "Growing Up Gender-Nonconforming Amid Scolding, Awkward Silences," National Public Radio, Dec 2014

CURATORIAL AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMING WORK

2014 Curator, Rebellious Literatures: Our Voices, Our Stories Performance Exhibition and Artist Panel, Gallery Aferro, Newark, NJ

2012 Public Performance Programmer, 2nd Annual Bed-Stuy Pride, The Audre Lorde Project, Brooklyn, NY

2011 Art and Public Programming Coordinator, Queer Newark: Our Voices, Our Histories Conference, Organizer, Rutgers University-Newark, Newark, NJ

WORK EXPERIENCE

2014-15 Hetrick-Martin Institute, New Media and Online Communication Coordinator, New York, NY

2012 Rashaad Newsome Studio, Studio Assistant and Grant Writer, New York, NY