

KIYAN WILLIAMS

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

EDUCATION

- 2017 Columbia University, New York, NY
MFA Candidate, Visual Arts
- 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 A-I-R, Point Arena, CA
- 2016 Stanford Arts Institute Award, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, Grant

Trans Justice Funding Project Award, New York, NY, Grant

Queer Emerging Artist Residency, Destiny Arts Center, Oakland, CA
- 2015 Create Dangerously: Writing for Performance Intensive, JACK Theater, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 EMERGENYC Fellowship, Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics, New York University, NY, NY
- 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

COMMISSIONS

- 2017 Alt(e)ar, Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

SELECTED SOLO AND FEATURED PERFORMANCES

- 2017 Reflections in BlaQ, *Voice=Survival*, Visual AIDS, New York, NY

Unearthing, Project For Empty Spaces, Newark, NJ

The Observatory with Doreen Garnder, Paddles NYC, *Sexual Fragments Absent*, New York, NY

Black W/holes, The College of Staten Island, The City University of New York, Staten Island, NY

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

Unearthing, Williams College, Williamstown, MA

Unearthing, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

- 2016 Where Will 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 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017 Facilitator, Unearthing Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Project For Empty Spaces, Newark, NJ
- Facilitator, Unearthing Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Harriet's Apothecary Healing Village, Brooklyn, NY
- Facilitator, Unearthing Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Words of Fire Conference, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA
- Facilitator, Unearthing Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
- 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
- "Femmescares," Volume 2, March 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 Hari Ziyad, Artist Profile, AfroPunk, May 2017
- Sarah Burke, "Artist Profile: Kiyann Williams," KQED, 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