

## KIYAN WILLIAMS

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Works in Newark and New York City

### EDUCATION

- 2019 Columbia University, New York, NY  
MFA Candidate, Visual Arts
- 2016 Stanford University, Stanford, CA  
BA with honors, Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity

### COMMISSIONS

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

### SELECTED SOLO AND FEATURED PERFORMANCES

- 2017 Reflections in BlaQ (WIP), Center for Performance Research, New York, NY
- Reflections in BlaQ (WIP), *Voice=Survival*, Visual AIDS, New York, NY
- Unearthing, Project For Empty Spaces, Newark, NJ
- The Observatory with Doreen Garner, 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 Unearthng (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 Guest Lecturer, Black Studies and the Black Radical Tradition Reading Group, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- Guest Lecturer, Intersectional Feminism and Performance Course, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY
- Facilitator, Unearthng Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Columbia University, New York, NY
- Facilitator, Unearthng Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Project For Empty Spaces, Newark, NJ
- Facilitator, Unearthng Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Harriet's Apothecary Healing Village, Brooklyn, NY
- Facilitator, Unearthng Movement and Storytelling Workshop, Words of Fire Conference, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA
- Facilitator, Unearthng 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 Sexuality," The Feminist Wire, Mar 2013

#### **SELECTED PRESS AND MEDIA**

2017 Meghan Allen, Artist Profile, BuzzFeed News, June 2017

Maya Harder Montaya, "Posture X Paper Celebrates the Gender-Fluid Future," Paper Magazine and Posture Magazine, June 2017

Hari Ziyad, Artist Profile, AfroPunk, May 2017

Sarah Burke, Artist Profile," 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**

2017 Organizer and moderator, Revolution '67 Film Screening and Discussion, Gallery Aferro, Newark, NJ

Panelist, Marlon Riggs & "No Regret": Disclosure, Performativity, & Legacy, In Conversation with Ni'Ja Whitson and Dr. Tavia Nyong'o, The 8th Floor,  
New York, York

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

#### **RESIDENCIES / FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS**

2017 New Jersey Council on The Arts Award, Trenton, NJ

Davis-Putter Scholarship, New York, NY,

Astraea Foundation Global Arts Fund, New York, NY,

This Will Take Time A-I-R, Point Arena, CA

- 2016 Stanford Arts Institute Award, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA,  
Trans Justice Funding Project Award, New York, NY,  
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, Palo Alto, CA
- 2009 Gates Millennium Scholarship, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle Washington