

Leilah Babirye (Ugandan, born 1985) lives and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. The artist's practice includes using found or discarded objects to speak to topics concerned with human rights and identity. Speaking of her process, she explains, "Through the act of burning, nailing and assembling, I aim to address the realities of being gay in the context of Uganda and Africa in general. Recently, my working process has been fueled by a need to find a language to respond to the recent passing of the anti-homosexuality bill in Uganda."

Babirye earned her BA in Art History and Sculpture from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. The artist has been a part of numerous group and solo exhibitions at the following institutions: Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK; Gordon Robichaux, New York, N.Y.; Rebecca Camacho Presents, San Francisco, CA; The Aldrich, Ridgefield, CT; Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Beverly Hills, CA; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, TX, among others. Most recently, Babirye was the Artist in Residence at Center for Contemporary Ceramics, California State University Long Beach, CA.

The works below represent recent sculptures created by the artist. Commenting on the meaning behind her work, she notes, "Both the space and the titles are important to me because the work is basically a reflection on where I come from in the Buganda Kingdom and on creating a queer community."



Namasole Nababinge, Mother of King Nakibinge from the Kuchu Royal Family of Buganda, 2021 Wood, wax, aluminum, nails, bolts, nuts and washers
98 3/8 x 26 3/8 x 23 5/8 in.



Namasole Wannyana, Mother of King Kimera from the Kuchu Royal Family of Buganda, 2021 Ceramic, wire, metal electrical conduit, bicycle tire inner tubes and found objects 107 ½ x 33 1/8 x 33 1/8 in.



Torkwase Dyson (American, born 1973) was born in Chicago and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. In her own words, the artist describes herself "... as a painter working across multiple mediums to explore the continuity between ecology, infrastructure, and architecture."

The artist has been included in group exhibitions at the Smithsonian National Museum of Art; Washington, D.C.; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N.Y.; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, N.Y. Dyson has also had solo shows at the Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery, Bennington College, Vermont; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine; Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Chicago, among others.

Most recently, the artist presented *Liquid a Place* at Pace Gallery, London, UK.

I Belong to the Distance, 2019 aims to explore special constructs as "demarcations of both confinement and expression." This work was on

view at the Sharjah Biennial 14: 'Leaving the Echo Chamber' and commissioned by the Sharjah Art Foundation. Dyson, along with Zachary Fabri and Andres L. Hernandez make up the performance collective Dark Adaptive. Fabri creates the movements of the performance; Hernandez scores the presentation and Dyson constructs the sculptural component. Dark Adaptive performed at the Sharjah Biennial 14 in 2019.



Nautical Dusk, 2018 Installation View



I Belong to the Distance, 2019 Wood, metal, granite Dimensions variable



February James (American) was born in Washington, D.C. and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. The artist earned her BFA at the Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA. Previously a makeup artist, James pivoted careers and began painting soon after her move to California.

Her portraits seek to depict a person's essence more so than their actual physical appearance. Most of her portraits use intense color as a way to create the aforementioned essence. While the included works are done in oil pastel, which is her primary medium, the artist also works with watercolor, acrylic and charcoal.

Solo exhibitions that have featured James include, Tilton Gallery, New York, N.Y.; Wiliding Cran Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; and Luce Gallery, Turin, Italy. Currently, the artist is a part of *Juggernaut* at The Pit, Los Angeles, CA (January 15-February 26, 2022). This exhibition focuses on a person's place in the world, which is a common theme for James as well. February James is featured in the permanent collection of The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, N.Y.



We All Have Choices, 2020 Oil, oil pastel, watercolor and acrylic on linen 40 x 32 in.



We Didn't Talk Anymore After That Year, 2021 Acrylic, oil pastel, spray paint, charcoal, and graphite on canvas 50 x 70 in.



Karyn Olivier (Trinidad and Tobago, born 1968) is a multidisciplinary artist based in Philadelphia, PA. She earned her BA at Dartmouth College in Psychology and MFA at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Ceramics. She is currently a Professor at Temple University's Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Philadelphia, PA.

Olivier often creates large scale sculptures and has been included in public art installations. The artist was commissioned in 2017 by Monument Lab and Philadelphia's Mural Arts to create *The Battle is Joined*, Vernon Park, Philadelphia, PA. Additionally, in 2019, Olivier was commissioned by Stenton House,

Philadelphia, PA to create the Dinah Memorial. The artist is scheduled to complete a commission for the Bethel Burying Ground Memorial, Philadelphia, PA in 2022.

Recent solo exhibitions include At The Intersection of Two Faults, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, N.Y.; Everything That's Alive Moves, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. It's not over 'til it's over, 2004 was featured in Olivier's show at ICA Philadelphia in 2020, which aimed to explore the artist's scale and use of public memory. A common thread throughout the work of Olivier is her use of common or ordinary objects, which is expressed in Doubleslide, 2006.

In 2022, Olivier will be featured in a group exhibition at ICA Watershed, Boston, MA.



It's not over 'til it's over, 2004 Mixed media 14 x 24 ft (diameter)



Doubleslide, 2006 Steel 84 x 300 x 24 in.



Kameelah Janan Rasheed (American, born 1985) is a writer, educator and artist who lives and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. She earned her BA in Public Policy from Pomona College and MA in Secondary Social Studies Education from Stanford University. From 2006 to 2007, Rasheed was an Amy Biehl U.S. Fulbright Scholar at the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa.

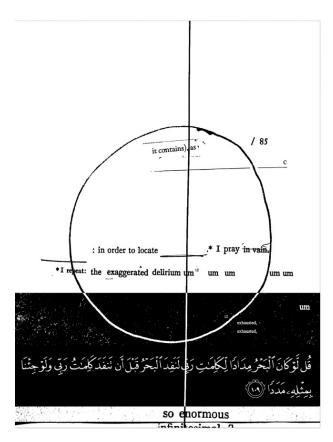
A portion of Rasheed's artist statement reads, "A learner, I grapple with the poetics-pleasures-politics of Black knowledge production, information technologies, [un]learning, and belief formation. I am interested in the rituals and technologies we use to generate and share knowledge."

Rasheed has exhibited at the New Museum, New York, N.Y.; Queens Museum, New York, N.Y.; Brooklyn Museum, New York, N.Y.; Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, PA; and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, N.Y., among others.

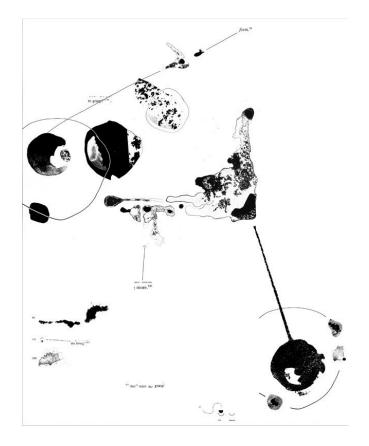
Additionally, the artist has been a part of various public installations, some including Public Art Fund, New York, N.Y.; For Freedoms x

Time Square Art, New York, N.Y.; and Moody Center for the Arts, Houston TX.

The artist's work often incorporates some form of text in an effort to find the connections between the past, present and future.



Borges, Musa, and Khidir, 2020 Matted print (Black in on paper) 50 x 40 in.



They Reject the Grasp, 2020 Matted print (Black in on paper) 50 x 40in.



Kennedy Yanko (American, born 1988) is a sculptor, painter and installation artist from St. Louis, MO. The artist currently works in Bushwick, Brooklyn, N.Y. at her studio of ten years. Yanko, who at this moment in her career primarily works with metal and paint skin, is known for repurposing materials.

Her paint skin and metal combinations often evoke an interwoven relationship between the malleable paint skin and rigid metal. Yanko began working with metal as another medium after an apprenticeship at an iron-working factory in N.Y.C.

Yanko has shown at Tilton Gallery, New York, N.Y.; Marco Poggiali Gallery, Milan, Italy; Vielmetter Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA; Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, IL; and Denny Dimin Gallery, New York, N.Y.

She is included in the collections of Rubell Museum, Miami, FL; Espacio Tacuari, Buenas Aires, Argentina; and The Bunker Artspace, West Palm Beach, FL. In 2021, Yanko was the Artist in Residence at the Rubell Museum, Miami, FL and created her largest works to date.

Occupied, 2019 was included in a solo show (*Highly Worked*) of the artist at Denny Dimin Gallery, New York, N.Y. Crow, 2020 was a part of a solo show at Marco Poggiali Gallery, Milan, Italy titled *Because it's in my Blood*.





Occupied, 2019 Copper, paint 9.25 x 11 x 9 in.

Crow, 2020 Paint skin, copper 67 x 51 x 25 in.