The Black Embodiments Studio

A hybrid arts writing residency and public lecture series dedicated to building discourse around contemporary black artists within and beyond Seattle

blackembodiments.org

ARTS WRITING RESIDENCY

Training interdisciplinary cohorts of graduate students to develop flexible and creative writing practices & addressing need for critical arts writers capable of reading race & aesthetics together

• See black art
• Read arts writing
• Meet with makers
• Write

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Featuring artists, curators, and writers whose work exemplifies creative and rigorous engagements with black aesthetics

- Sampada Aranke
- Elizabeth Mputu
- Claire Tancons
- Taylor Renee Aldridge
- shawné michaelain holloway
- Danny Giles
- Kameelah Janan Rasheed
- Will Rawls

ARCHIVAL INITIATIVE

Distribution of lecture series and graduate student writing

- YouTube
- A Year in Black Art

IMPACT

• Serving underresourced graduate students throughout UW
• Diversifying graduate training
• Community engagement
• Strengthening commitments of Jacob Lawrence Gallery
• Situating UW as regional leader in arts critical discourse

NEXT STEPS

• Enhance visibility within and beyond UW
• Integrate School of Art + Art History + Design students
• Consider moving from 2-credit to 5-credit seminar

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Focusing on his recent and current works in stop-motion animation, Rawls will share thoughts on movement, stillness, and disjunctive time in the process of choreographing cinema. Further concerns are how genre, fantasy, and DIY play provide useful frictions in representations of performing bodies.

Will Rawls, based in Brooklyn, NY, is a choreographer working in multiple time-based media. His work has appeared at the MoMA and MoMA PS1; MCA, Chicago; Danspace Project; New Museum of Contemporary Art; Issue Project Room; Portland Institute for Contemporary Art; Walker Arts Center. At Danspace Project, he co-curated Lost and Found, comprised of performances and artist projects focused on the intergenerational impact of HIV/AIDS on dancers, women, and people of color. His writing has been published by Artforum International, the Hammer Museum, the Museum of Modern Art. He is a recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Robert Rauschenberg Residency and a Foundation for Contemporary Arts grant. He teaches and lectures widely in university, community and festival contexts.