

KENYA (ROBINSON)

b. 1977 Landstuhl Germany
Lives and works internationally.

EDUCATION

Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Madison (ME)
Yale University, New Haven (CT), US 2011 - 2013 (MFA, Sculpture)
Los Angeles Trade Technical College, Los Angeles (CA), US 2001- 2003 (AA, Apparel Design and Production)

RESIDENCIES

2015

Triangle Arts Residency, US
Fountainhead Residency, US

2014

Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, US

2011-2013

ANALOG: Recess Activities, Inc., Online Residency, US

2010

Triangle Arts Workshop Residency, US

2009- 2010

Visiting Artist, Harvestworks, US
WorkSpace Residency, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, US

STIPENDS + GRANTS

2013

National Endowment for the Arts/ Grant for the curatorial project 'TOONSKIN'

2011

Residency Stipend, ANALOG, US

2008

Brooklyn Arts Council Re-Grant, Department of Cultural Affairs, US

AWARDS

2015

Creative Capital 'On Our Radar' (March – September 2015)

2011

Smack Mellon 'Hot Picks' Artist

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2011

Branch #47, Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn (NY), 'All Over The Place'

2010

Thomas Center Galleries, Gainesville (FL), 'HAIRPOLITIC: Pomade In America'

2008

Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn (NY), 'HAIRPOLITIC: The Pursuit of Nappiness'

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2015

Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York (NY), 'Pussy Don't Fail Me Now, Curated by Cindy Rucker (July)

2014

RUSH Arts Gallery, New York (NY), 'GIRL BYE!', Curated by Rashaad Newsome
Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York (NY), 'we seemed to be unanimously elected...', Curated by Cindy Rucker

2013

Present Company Gallery, Brooklyn (NY), 'Antithesis', Curated by Omar Lopez - Chahoud
Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn (NY), 'March On!', Curated by Dexter Wimberly

2012

RECESS Activities, Inc., New York (NY), 'Sonic Diagrams', Curated by Kenya (Robinson)
New York Photography Festival, Brooklyn (NY), 'What Do You Believe In?' Curated by Amy Smith-Stewart
C24 Gallery New York (NY), 'CAMPAIGN', Curated by Amy Smith-Stewart

2011

The Skylight Gallery-Restoration Plaza, Brooklyn (NY), 'Crown Heights Gold', Curated by Dexter Wimberly
The Kitchen, New York (NY), 'Shame The Devil', Curated by Petrushka Bazin Larsen

2010

The House of Bumble, New York (NY) 'University Model Project Emerging Artist Showcase', Curated by Forever & Today
Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn (NY), 'Brooklyn Based', Curated by Ali Evans
60 Wall Street Gallery-Deutsche Bank, New York (NY), 'There is No Looking Glass Here', Curated by Kimberli Gant
Hendershot Gallery, New York (NY), 'Digression', Curated by Jessica Elena Shaefer
Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn (NY), 'Ain't I A Woman?', Curated by Kimberli Gant
Jersey City Museum, Jersey City (NJ), 'Hair Tactics', Curated by Rocío Aranda-Alvarado
Aljira, Newark (NJ), 'Dreamtime overtones from a fantastic brown planet', Curated by Edwin Ramoran

2009

Brennan Gallery, Jersey City (NJ), 'AfricanAmericana', Curated by Kenya (Robinson)

PERFORMANCES + SPECIAL PROJECTS

2015

New York Arts Practicum, New York (NY), Mentor
Clocktower Productions, Red Hook (NY), #trashDAY, Second Sundays - Radio Streamcast (May -)
Triangle Arts Open Studios, DUMBO, (NY), 'CHEEKY LaSHAE: True or Falsetto'
University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas (USVI), '#TRASHDAY', Radio Broadcast

2014

The Bemis Center, Omaha (NE), '#WHITEMANINMYPOCKET(S)'
The Bemis Center, Omaha (NE), 'Six Thousand is A Lot', A Pilot Program and Work for Performance in collaboration with the Ready in Five Program
Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Madison (ME), 'CHEEKY LaSHAE at The Upper Field'
Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Madison (ME), 'werkTRON 062014 (or Kenya's 37th Birthday)'
Poets House, New York (NY), CHEEKY LaSHAE Presents KEVIN YOUNG MONEY
Mike Shultis Studio, Brooklyn (NY), CHEEKY LaSHAE + The Red Bath Mat

2013

Brown Studio, Brooklyn (NY), 'CHEEKY LaSHAE + The Cashmere Bouquet'
Instagram @kenya9 (online), '#WHITEMANINMYPOCKET'
ShapeShifter Lab, Brooklyn (NY), 'CHEEKY LaSHAE: Sack of Stars'

2012

Museum of Modern Art, New York (NY), 'A Study for Staircase, No. 111012' w/ Jerome Marshak
Creative Time, Rockaway Beach (NY), 'Female Prostate'
Maple Street School, Brooklyn (NY), 'Drawing Without Crayons'
RECESS Activities, Inc., New York (NY), 'spoken for'
Triangle Arts Gallery, Brooklyn (NY), 'Like A Girl Being Pretty'
C24 Gallery, New York (NY), 'MONDAY NIGHT'

2011

AD Projects, New York (NY), BLOW'
The Kitchen, New York (NY), 'YOURMAMADONTWEARNODRAWS'
New York City (NY), 'The Inflatable Mattress'
The Kitchen, New York (NY), 'kenya eats a cracker'

2010 – 2011

RECESS Activities, Inc., New York (NY), 'Type A | Plan B' w/ Becca Albee

2010

The House of Bumble, New York (NY), 'Displaced Threshold'
Wall Street Gallery - Deutsche Bank, New York (NY), 'cut to fit'
Third Streaming, New York (NY), 'The Ten Commandments' w/ Nicky Enright (aka DJ Lightbolt)
Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn (NY), 'Soul Clap(1)'
Museum of Modern Art, New York (NY), 'Sit-In or Slaying the Minotaur'
RECESS Activities, Inc., New York (NY), 'WHITEMANTALKING'
P.S.1, MoMA, New York (NY), 'Black Trash: Sacred Melodramas'
Cabinet Space, Brooklyn (NY), '(W)RAPPING'

2009

Eyebeam: Art + Technology Center, New York (NY), 'Universal Access' w/ Rashaad Newsome
Low Lives: A Series of Live Networked Performances, Brooklyn (NY) - Miami (FL) – Houston (TX), 'Dark Seeds(2)'

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2015

Huffington Post Arts + Culture: "How A 'White Man in My Pocket' Can Help You Understand Privilege" by Priscilla Frank

2013

BOMBlog: "Kenya (Robinson)" by Lee Ann Norman

2012

The New York Times: "Creative Hubris, as Ephemeral as Sea Foam" by Melena Ryzik

2011

Clutch Magazine (online): "Colorful Canvas Files| Kenya (Robinson)" by Sky Obercam
16 Miles of String (blog): "Kenya (Robinson) Eats a Cracker in The Kitchen" by Andrew Russeth
The New York Times: "The Serial Sleepover Artist" by Penelope Green

2010

The L Magazine: "The NADA Emerging Artist"
Essence Magazine (online): "10 Female Artists You Should Know About"
Deutsche Bank ArtMag (online): "There is No Looking Glass Here: The current exhibition at the Wall Gallery of Deutsche Bank"
The International Review of African American Art: "Drawing Outside the Lines" by Samantha Raglan
arcritical (online): "LES GALLS" by David Cohen
The L Magazine: "Ain't I Woman at MoCADA" by Kathleen Massara

2008

Gainesville Magazine: "Hair, Art and Culture: Kenya Robinson Transforms the Familiar Into the Thought Provoking" by Amritha Alladi

WRITING

2014

Featured Blogger - Huffington Post Arts & Culture | "Practically Magic", "Romantical", Ass, et al."

2013

Featured Blogger - Huffington Post Arts & Culture | "Shorty Wanna Be a Thug", "Blue For Black", "Crap: A Philosophy of Shit",

2012

Featured Blogger - Huffington Post Arts & Culture | "Black Love: Off the Chain", "Is That a Rectangle in your Pocket, or Are You Just Happy To See Me?", "Soul Seasoning", "The Box Marked Other", "The Crying Game", "...Bet Your Last Money", "The Unbearable Whiteness of Beyonce"

2009

Guest reBlogger – Eyebeam Art + Technology Center | "Afro-futurism: An Exploration"

2009 –Present

Founding Blogger – Kenya (Robinson) Workspace (www.KenyaRobinson.com)

PANELS + LECTURES

2015

Fashion Project, Miami (FL). "Experiments in Hair"

University of Florida, Gainesville, 'PERFORMING BLACKNESS (or Why I Carry a #WHITEMANINMYPOCKET in the Age of Post-Racial Fuckery)'

2014

Hampshire College, Amherst (MA), Artist Talk

2011

Influencer Conference, New York (NY), Panelist "Scoundrels, Scallywags: Attacking the Permission Based Society"

The Brooklyn Historical Society, Brooklyn (NY), Artist Talk with Fiona Gardner and moderated by Dexter Wimberly
"Crown Heights Gold: Unscripted"

2010

ICP at The Point, The Bronx (NY), Guest Lecturer, "Teens in Black and White: Camera and Darkroom"

SUNY Purchase College, Purchase (NY), Guest Lecturer, "Introduction to Performance Art"

2009

New York State Summer School of the Arts, Fredonia (NY), Visiting Artist Lecture Series

Long Island University, Brooklyn (NY), Guest Lecturer, "Portfolio Development"

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

2013

ArtSPACE, New Haven (CT), 'TOONSKIN'

2012

RECESS Activities, Inc., New York (NY), "Sonic Diagrams"

2010

Brennan Gallery, Jersey City (NJ), 'Vessel'

2009

Brennan Gallery, Jersey City (NJ), 'AfricanAmericana'