

ABOUT ACRE

Founded in 2010, ACRE is a non-profit organization based in Chicago designed to support emerging artists develop, discuss and present their artistic practices. Artists Jarvis Boyland, William Camargo, Emilio Rojas and Darryl DeAngelo Terrell participated in ACRE's 2017 summer residency.

To learn more about ACRE visit: www.arcreresidency.org

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to the ACRE Residency and Blanc Gallery staff and volunteers that made this exhibition possible.

INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS

July 13 - August 24, 2018

Jarvis Boyland • William Camargo • Emilio Rojas
Darryl DeAngelo Terrell • Titus Wonsey

Curated By Felicia Mings



Artists'
Cooperative
Residency &
Exhibitions



Cover Photo: William Camargo, *Hermanas*, 2017
Exhibition design and graphic design by Ashley King



INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS

ARTISTS

Jarvis Boyland navigates intersectional black identity through portraiture. Based on photographic images that Boyland reconfigures to create compositions, his paintings focus on queer men of color within intimate spaces, sensitively highlighting the nuances of these complex interpersonal relationships, identities, and locales. Born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee Boyland gained his BFA from the University of Memphis.

Boyland's paintings aim to question what it means for the black body to be in repose—leisurely, even limp. His paintings *Hold Still* and *Study of a figure in recline* are interested in the domestic space as the foundation of social ideologies, and the black home in particular as an incubator that molds the facade of black masculinity.

William Camargo is a Chicax, Latinx visual artist, educator and organizer raised in Anaheim, California and now residing in Chicago. His work is inspired from his family's immigration from Mexico and his working class upbringing in a Mexican/American barrio, touching issues of assimilation, identity, gentrification and immigration through photography. In his most recent work, he uses his rasquache aesthetics to bring awareness to issues of gentrification as a

Intimate Encounters is a group exhibition of photography, video, painting and sculpture that affectionately probes domestic space and in turn domestic life of African American and Latinx communities, with an emphasis on the position and prowess of women, mothers and immigrant families.

social justice issue that has plagued many communities of color across Chicago and the United States. Camargo received his B.F.A from California State University, Fullerton.

Camargo's photograph *Hermanas* and his series *Mexican, American Paisa Nation* reflect on both troubling and mundane aspects of life for immigrants and communities of color. In *Mexican, American Paisa Nation #1* Camargo's father is posed in his collection of baseball caps that have come to replace his sombreros so that he will be less of a target to cries of "go back to your country." While *Mexican, American Paisa Nation #2* shows Camargo's mother wearing aprons from Mexico that she rarely puts on since entering the low wage workforce in the United States.

Darryl DeAngelo Terrell is a BLK queer lens-based artist, digital curator, and teaching artist currently based in Chicago. He is also a recent MFA graduate from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he studied Photography. Terrell's work is centered on the philosophy of "For Us By Us" also known as F.U.B.U. He is interested in how his work can add to a larger conversation about blackness, and its many intersectionalities. His work explores the

displacement of black and brown people, femme identity, strength, the black family structure, sexuality, gender, safe spaces, and personal stories, all while keeping in mind the accessibility of art.

Malkia, Swahili for queens is a portrait series of the Matriarchs in the Phillips/Milner Family. Interested in documenting the structure of a black family, the series began with a found image of Terrell's grandma Gertrude and evolved to documenting female relatives, young and old, in the spaces that they rule, to reflect on the role of black women in their families and communities.

Emilio Rojas is a multidisciplinary artist based in Chicago, working primarily with the body in performance, using film, video, photography, installation, public interventions and sculpture. Rojas utilizes his body in a political and critical way, as an instrument to unearth removed traumas, embodied forms of decolonization, migration and poetics of space. His research based practice is heavily influenced by queer archives, border politics, botanical colonialism, and defaced monuments. Rojas holds a MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Performance department and a BFA from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Film, Video and Integrated Media. Galeria Jose de la Fuente in Santander, Spain and Galleriapiu in Bologna, Italy represents his work.

m(Other)s is a series of videos of immigrant women, both documented and undocumented, holding their first generation children based on the hidden mother photographs common from the advent of photography up until the 1920s. This standard practice required the

mother to hold the child still, due to the slow exposure times of up to 30 seconds, and in the interest of foregrounding the child the mother was covered and rendered invisible. The political and social situations of women in the mid 1800s are similar to the invisibility of the labor of immigrant women today. Most of whom cannot vote, and often work in some form domestic labor.

Titus Wonsey is a Chicago based interdisciplinary artist and musician that often makes collaborative work. Known for making exercise videos with familial collaborators, Wonsey also utilizes home objects in his sculptural work and does live improvisational performance. Wonsey gained his BFA from the University of Illinois at Chicago and his MFA from Northwestern University.

Keeping is about the front room. The things that we preserve, our relationships to those things and the effectiveness of our preservation methods.

CURATOR

Felicia Mings is the Academic Curator in the Department of Academic Engagement and Research at the Art Institute of Chicago. At the core of Mings' practice is a focus on the intersections between curatorship, community-based arts education, and contemporary art of Africa and the African diaspora. As a Canadian-born and US-based curator and educator Mings earned her MA in Visual and Critical Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and her Honors BA in Art and Art History from the University of Toronto and Sheridan College.