



University Art Museum Presents *ACE: art on sports, promise, and selfhood* Public Programs, Fall 2019

On view through December 7, 2019



Installation view, *ACE: art on sports, promise, and selfhood*, 2019, University Art Museum, University at Albany. Foreground: Radamés “Juni” Figueroa, *Tropical readymade landscape*, 2019; Background: Ashley Teamer, *Wake Up in the Sky*, 2019; *Touch the Moon*, 2019; and *Black Whole*, 2019

ALBANY, NY (August 19, 2019) —The University Art Museum at the University at Albany is pleased to present an extensive series of public programs to accompany the exhibition *ACE: art on sports, promise, and selfhood*. All programs are presented in the University Art Museum unless otherwise noted. Programs are free and open to the public. Free parking in campus visitor lots on Saturdays.

Artists’ Reception: Friday, September 13, 5 – 7 pm

ACE Exhibition Tours

Every Wednesday at noon, July 3 – December 4.

ACE Artist Residencies and Talks

Exhibiting artists Radamés “Juni” Figueroa, Baseera Khan, and Ashley Teamer will engage UAlbany students, faculty, and staff through cross-departmental conversations, workshops, class visits, performances, and exhibition tours. As part of their two-day residency each artist will speak about their work followed by a Q&A.

Talk by Artist-in-Residence Radamés “Juni” Figueroa

Tuesday, September 24, 4:30 pm

Talk by Exhibiting Artist Ronny Quevedo

Tuesday, October 8, 4:30 pm

Performance and Talk by Artist-in-Residence Baseera Khan

Tuesday, October 22, 4:30 pm

Talk by Artist-in-Residence Ashley Teamer

Tuesday, November 12, 4:30 pm

These events will take place at the University Art Museum and are free and open to the public. Supported by a UAlbany Strategic Allocation of Resources (StAR) grant. For additional Artist Residency programming, check our website: www.albany.edu/museum

Radamés “Juni” Figueroa was born in 1982 in Bayamón, Puerto Rico. He lives and works in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Figueroa *tropicalizes* indoor spaces and architecture by combining organic and existing materials. For ACE, he includes a series of works that come with instructions on how to combine discarded, used sports equipment with plants as a way to give objects another life and to harness ideas of aspiration and growth.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Rompiendo en Frío*, Itd los angeles, Los Angeles, California (2016); *Radamés "Juni" Figueroa*, Edel Essanti Gallery, London, United Kingdom (2015); and *Naguabo Rainbow, Daguao Enchumbao, Fango Fireflies*, SculptureCenter, Long Island City, New York; (2014). Group exhibitions including *SITELines Casa Tomada*, SITE Santa Fe Biennial, Santa Fe, New Mexico (2018); *Mutations*, High Line, New York, New York (2017-18); and the Whitney Biennial, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York (2014).

Figueroa received a BFA from The School of Plastic Arts and Design of Puerto Rico, San Juan (2007) and in 2013 completed the Beta-Local Program in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Baseera Khan was born in 1981 in Denton, Texas. She lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Khan is a multimedia artist whose practice examines identity and aspects of self-censorship among people who are marginalized. *Braidrage* is a sixteen-foot rock-climbing wall constructed in the Museum comprised of parts of the artist's body cast in black and brown resin and accompanied by a floor-to-ceiling braid interwoven with gold and silver chains. Khan activates the sculptural wall work by scaling it with black climber's chalk applied to her body.

Recent and upcoming solo exhibitions include *Baseera Khan*, Simone Subal Gallery, New York, New York (2019); *iamuslima*, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado (2017-18); Moudy Art Gallery, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas; and Participant Inc, New York, New York (2014). Group exhibitions include *Free to Be*, Jenkins Johnson Projects, Brooklyn, New York (2019); *How to see in the dark*, Cuchifritos, New York, New York; *The Value of Sanctuary*, The Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, New York, New York; and *Long, Winding Journeys: Contemporary Art and the Islamic Tradition*, Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, New York (all 2018). Khan has performed at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York; the Queens Museum, Queens, New York; and *ArtPop Montreal International Music Festival*, Canada (all 2017).

Khan is an alumna of Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, Maine (2014) and received an MFA at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (2012) and a BFA from the University of North Texas, Denton, Texas (2005).

Ronny Quevedo was born in 1981 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. He lives and works in Bronx, New York. For ACE, Quevedo created a site-specific wall work in vinyl titled *La Gran Patria (for Alberto Spencer)* (2019), that speaks to identity as a place of multiple starting points or origins. He takes this idea of multiplicity and reworks it through notions of mapping, space, globes, and playing fields.

Solo exhibitions include *The Sixth Man*, James Fuentes Gallery, New York, New York (2019) and *Ulama, Ule, Olé*, Carol Jazzar Gallery, Miami, Florida (2013). Recent group exhibitions include *Pacha, Llacta, Wasichay: Indigenous Space, Modern Architecture, New Art*, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York; *The World's Game: Fútbol and Contemporary Art*, Perez Art Museum, Miami, Florida (all 2018); *EAF17*, Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens, New York; and *no hay medio tiempo / there is no halftime*, Queens Museum, Queens, New York (both 2017). He is a recipient of the 2017 Blade of Grass Fellowship for Socially Engaged Art and the 2016 Queens Museum/Jerome Foundation Fellowship for Emerging Artists.

Quevedo received an MFA from the Yale School of Art, New Haven, Connecticut (2013) and a BFA from The Cooper Union, New York, New York (2003).

Ashley Teamer was born in 1999 in New Orleans, Louisiana. She lives and works in New Orleans, Louisiana. Teamer created an homage to Women's National Basketball Association superheroes and the legacy of the basketball team her grandmother founded and coached for thirty years, the Dillard Bleu Devils, at Dillard University, a historically black college in New Orleans. Teamer's multi-layered photo-based collages and paintings are as dynamic as the women depicted.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Talk of the Town*, Larrie, New York, New York (2019) and *SneakerBoy Dreams*, 4th Ward Project Space, Chicago, Illinois (2017). Recent group exhibitions include *Alternative*

Mappings, Residency Arts, Los Angeles, California (2019); *Women on Womxn*, Gochi Gallery Los Angeles LGBT Center, Los Angeles, California; and *black is a color*, Antenna Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana (both 2018). Teamer is the 2019 Monroe Fellow at the New Orleans Center for the Gulf South School of Liberal Arts, Tulane, New Orleans (2019); and the recipient of the New Orleans Film Festival Emerging Voices Mentee and the Santo Foundation Artist award and Antenna Platforms grant (2018).

Teamer received a BFA in painting and sculpture from Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts (2013).

ACE Conversations and Workshops

A series of informal discussions about relevant topics in the field of art and sports with faculty, staff, and students across the disciplines.

REACH Aspiration/Opportunity Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday, September 17, 4:30 pm

REBOUND Struggle/Perseverance Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday, November 19, 4:30 pm

RISK Change/Activism Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday, December 3, 4:30 pm

Supported by a UAlbany Strategic Allocation of Resources (StAR) grant. Free and open to the public.

Airball Workshop with Artist Tomm Roeschlein

Tuesday, October 1, 4:30 pm

Artist **Tomm Roeschlein** (b. 1986, Indiana) presents *Airball*, a piece exploring the connections between the fundamentals of athletic movement and the choreography of modern dance. The event will start as a workshop, with participants engaging in blending these disciplines and will culminate in a performance of the game *Airball*. The museum will become the court, and the audience will be encouraged to interact with the participants. By engaging participants with new steps and phrases through this hybrid of dance and athletic instruction, the game of *Airball* will come to life.

Roeschlein is a Filipino American photographer and artist. He lives and works in Hudson, New York. His work focuses on communities and the individuals that make them up. He has exhibited in *Baba Yaga* at Grand Buffet, Hudson, New York (2019) and *Incident Report*, Hudson, New York (2018).

The Creative Life: A Conversation Series at UAlbany

Created and produced by the University Art Museum, New York State Writers Institute (NYSWI), and UAlbany Performing Arts Center (PAC) in collaboration with WAMC Public Radio, this original series features leading figures from a variety of artistic disciplines in conversation about their creative inspirations, their craft, and their careers. "Roundtable" host Joe Donahue conducts live on-stage interviews followed by a Q&A with the audience.

Pre-event Performance and Reception with Renowned High-wire Artist Philippe Petit

Short video-introduction, re-enactment performance, and conversation with Paul Grondahl, Director New York State Writers Institute.

Thursday, October 3, 6 pm

University Art Museum

Creative Life Conversation with Philippe Petit and WAMC's Joe Donahue

Conversation followed by a Q&A and book signing.

Thursday, October 3, 7 pm

Performing Arts Center

The Creative Life Conversation with Rapper and MC Rakim and WAMC's Joe Donahue

Conversation followed by an informal reception and book signing.

Monday, October 28, 7 pm

Performing Arts Center Main Theater

Philippe Petit has performed on the high-wire more than eighty times around the world; he is also a magician, street juggler, visual artist, builder, lecturer, writer, and subject of the Academy Award-winning documentary *Man on Wire* (2008) and the feature film *The Walk* (2015). He is the author and illustrator of several books, including *Why Knot: How to Tie More than Sixty Ingenious, Useful, Beautiful, Lifesaving, and Secure Knots!* (2013) and *Creativity: The Perfect Crime* (2014), a manifesto about the creative process.

Translated and introduced by novelist Paul Auster, Petit's new book, *On the High Wire* (2019), was first published in French in 1972 when the author was only 23 years old. In advance praise, Marcel Marceau called the book, "fascinating to read" and said, "You will learn about the man, his work, his passion, his tenacity and lucidity." Werner Herzog said, "This is a book of instructions to those who will dare one day the impossible."

Rakim, is "near-universally acknowledged as one of the greatest MCs—perhaps the greatest—of all time within the hip-hop community" (Steve Huey, AllMusic.com). His new memoir, *Sweat The Technique: Revelations On Creativity from the Lyrical Genius*, described as "part memoir, part writing guide," follows his career from his beginnings as a teenage rapper in Wyandanch, Long Island and offers insight into how he thinks about words, music, writing, and rhyming as it teaches writers of all levels how to hone their craft. Rakim began his career as the emcee of the rap duo Eric B. & Rakim, "the most influential DJ/MC combo in contemporary pop music, period" (Tom Terrell, NPR).

Major support for The Creative Life is provided by The University at Albany Foundation, The John D. Picotte Family Foundation and Stewart's Shops/Dake Family. Additional support is provided from the College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Intercultural Student Engagement, and University Auxiliary Services (UAS).

Art Lab

Saturdays, 1 - 3 pm

Art Lab is a Saturday afternoon program that offers free hands-on, interactive art projects to students, community members, artists, and non-artists of all ages. Each Art Lab project, taught by practicing artist Christine Snyder (MFA '16), is based on the work of artists included in *ACE*.

Magazine Resist Printmaking - September 7

Magazine Portrait Collage - October 5

Felt Banner - November 2

Magazine Resist Printmaking - November 16

Yoga at the Museum

Saturdays, noon – 1 pm

You are a living, breathing work of art. Naturally, you should do yoga in an art museum! Yoga Care: The Capital Region's Traveling Yoga Studio will hold classes at the Museum. These classes are suited for all levels of yoga practitioners from the brand-new beginner to the seasoned yogi. Yoga Care will supply some yoga mats and props, please bring a mat if you have one. Donations for yoga are welcome but not mandatory.

For dates and times, check our website: www.albany.edu/museum

ACE features over a dozen emerging and internationally recognized artists who use sports and athletic culture to explore how youth, gender, race, promise, and identity are intertwined with athleticism. The exhibition looks at sports' unique ability to shape one's identity, define broader cultural codes and rituals, and engender community. While there have been several exhibitions that address similar themes, *ACE* will focus on topics specifically relevant to the university campus.

Widely ranging in identity and beliefs, the artists in *ACE* reflect the diverse demographic of our student and academic body. Foregrounding non-conforming persons, women, and artists of color, the exhibition sets out to address themes of aspiration, rivalry, commodification, and reach from a multiplicity of perspectives. The participating artists include **Kevin Beasley, Petra Cortright, Darío Escobar, Radamés "Juni" Figueroa, Baseera Khan, Ari Marcopoulos, Catherine Opie, Sondra Perry, Paul Pfeiffer, Howardena Pindell, Cheryl Pope, Ronny Quevedo, Ashley Teamer, Hank Willis Thomas, and Wendy White.**

Support for the University Art Museum exhibition and programs is provided by the Office of the President, Office of the Provost, The University at Albany Foundation, UAlbany Strategic Allocation of Resources Fund, University Auxiliary Services and generous support from John '83 and Jennifer Troiano.



Baseera Khan, *BRAIDRAGE*, 2017-19, indoor rock-climbing wall made from 99 unique poured dyed resin casts of the corners of the artist's body. Embedded with wearable Cuban chains, hair, and hypothermia blankets. Courtesy of the artist and Simone Subal Gallery, New York

Museum Summer Hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 11 am – 4 pm.

Museum Hours: (after August 26) Tuesday 10 am – 7 pm; Wednesday through Friday, 10 am – 5 pm; Saturday noon – 4 pm. Closed Thanksgiving weekend.

Contact: Naomi Lewis, Exhibition and Outreach Coordinator, nlewis@albany.edu



About the University at Albany:

A comprehensive public research university, the University at Albany offers more than 120 undergraduate majors and minors and 125 master's, doctoral, and graduate certificate programs. UAlbany is a leader among all New York State colleges and universities in such diverse fields as atmospheric and environmental sciences, business, engineering and applied sciences, informatics, public administration social welfare, and sociology taught by an extensive roster of faculty experts. It also offers expanded academic and research opportunities for students through an affiliation with Albany Law School. With a curriculum enhanced by 600 study-abroad opportunities, UAlbany launches great careers.

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