



Atlanta: March 21- April 3

Two Week Residency with artist Angela Davis Johnson

Sponsored by The New Freedom Project, Black Art in America, MINT Gallery

residency intent

I will be experimenting with animations, developing skills for UX designs and painting studies for the series HOTFOOT THEORIZING. In addition, I will continue to develop collaborative work in Hollerin Space.

Goals:

- create studies on paper
- experimental animation
- continue work with HOLD ON: devotions for Hotfoot living w/ Hollerin Space
- research processes for UX designs

residency schedule

Monday, March 21: Open studio hours Wed-Sun 11am-5pm.

Saturday, March 26: Open studio visit at 4:00 pm to have a first look into work in progress and then conduct a dream session by writing letters to future or past selves inspired by the animation.

Monday, March 28: Open exhibition of works on paper.

Saturday, April 2: Closing reception.



statement:

HOTFOOT: coping techniques from a diasporic dream realm centers Black rituals and traditions. My maternal great grandmother Elnora Childs had a hot foot. She was constantly relocating. In the 1940's she faced the devastating loss after signing away our family's land to a white man who promised her that oil was on the property. Afterward, she and her children were put out on the side of the road on a cold winter day. She took the remainder of their belongings from Arkansas to Mississippi. She then moved across the south in a revolving loop. Like so many Black folks during the Great Migration, she hot footed in search of safe/fertile ground to make home, only to face more discrimination and oppression. My great grandmother moved because of terror in the land. Also, she migrated out of curiosity, activating freedom by moving body and spirit. HOTFOOT is an exploration to deepen the understanding of ancestral diaspora movement. I will retrace and redefine the path of my great grandmother's hot foot movements by traveling to multiple sacred sites following a map known and unknown from Arkansas to Atlanta to my birthplace Florida. At these locations I will do repetitive movements to imagine and reimagine my great grandmother's sojourn as a form of trauma release exercises.



about the artist

Angela Davis Johnson creates works to reflect life from a Black femme experience. She descends from a line of healers, fighters, migrants, domestic workers, and creators who existed and labored in the South. Along with family stories, Davis Johnson explores dreaming, ancestral memory through body movement in tandem with her vibrant narrative paintings.

Her portraits are formed with paint, scrap paper, hollering, humming, light, and fabric. She is co-creator with muthi reed of Hollerin Space, an ongoing interactive collaboration. Her performances have taken place from front porches to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art.

Her works can be found in both private and public collections. Davis Johnson, a lifelong sojourner, has roots in the Arkansas Delta and maintains her practice in Atlanta,

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