ARTHIST 283-01 / AAAS 227-01: MODERN & CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN AMERICAN ART

Richard J. Powell

Tuesdays
1:45pm - 4:15pm

Smith Warehouse, Bay 10, A266
Left: Poster for the HBO documentary *Black Art: In the Absence of Light* (USA, 2021; directed by Sam Pollard).

Right: Pamela Joyner in her San Francisco home, alongside paintings by Frank Bowling, Alma Thomas, and a floor installation by Glenn Ligon. From *Architectural Digest*, October 2021.
The cover and several pages from S/2 x Drake's curated exhibition, *I Like It Like This*, on view at Sotheby's, New York, 2015.
Culminating Class Assignment for Modern & Contemporary African American Art: 

59th Venice Biennale Preview

On the occasion of the forthcoming 59th Venice Biennale – historically significant for the selection of four contemporary artists of African descent to represent their countries’ official art pavilions – the course will augment its assigned readings and class discussions with four, end-of-the-semester, group presentations by students on Biennale artists Sonia Boyce (UK), Stan Douglas (Canada), Simone Leigh (USA), and Zineb Sedira (France).
Clockwise from above center: Sonia Boyce (UK), Simone Leigh (USA), Zineb Sedira (France), & Stan Douglas (Canada).
Tuesday, January 18: Discussion of *Black Art*, “Introduction: The Dark Center” & “Chapter One: Art, Culture and ‘the Soul of Black Folk’” pp. 6-47.

Wednesday, January 19: Add/ Drop ends.

Tuesday, January 25: Discussion of *Black Art*, “Chapter Two: Enter and Exit the ‘New Negro,’” pp. 48-72.

Tuesday, February 1: Discussion of *Black Art*, “Chapter Three: The Cult of the People,” pp. 73-94.

Tuesday, February 8: Midterm exam.
Tuesday, February 15: Discussion of the end-of-the-semester group assignment: Venice Biennale Previews: Sonia Boyce, Stan Douglas, Simone Leigh, & Zineb Sedira. The 4 groups responsible for the PowerPoint presentations and the dates for each presentation will be selected.


Tuesday, March 1: Discussion of Black Art, “Chapter Five: Black is a Color,” pp. 133-177.

Friday, March 4: Spring Recess begins.

Monday, March 14: Classes resume.


Tuesday, April 5: Venice Biennale Previews: Presentations (Part One).

Tuesday, April 12: Venice Biennale Previews: Presentations (Part Two).

Sonia Boyce, *She Ain’t Holding Them Up, She’s Holding On (Some English Rose)*, 1986. Pastel and gouache on paper, 218 x 99 cm.
Tuesday, April 19: Final exam review.

Wednesday, April 20: Undergraduate classes end.

Thursday, April 28 (9am -12noon): Final exam.
Beyoncé is Black Art, too!!!!