

## Folayemi (Fo) Wilson

artist/maker | educator | independent curator | writer

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### Education

2005 Masters of Fine Arts, Rhode Island School of Design, Department of Furniture Design with a concentration in Art History, Theory & Criticism

### Solo Exhibitions

2020 *The Commons Table* (blkHaUS Studios), Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois

2019 *Dark Matter: Celestial Objects of Love for These Troubled Times*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois

2016 (ongoing) *Eliza's Peculiar Cabinet of Curiosities*, Lynden Sculpture Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2014 *Nesting Chair for Charlie (Yardbird), Sun Ra and the Urban Thrush*, Terrain Exhibitions, Oak Park, Illinois

2013 *Fo Wilson: Talking in Tongues*, Wesley House Gallery, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa

2011 *Uncommon Adornments, One From Wisconsin*, Museum of Wisconsin Art, West Bend, Wisconsin

### Selected Group Exhibitions

2020 *Craft Futures 2099*, Center for Craft, Asheville, North Carolina

2019 *Making a Seat at The Table*, Center for Art in Wood, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2018 *ICON: Black Panther*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2018 *Gold*, Aspect/Ratio Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

2018 *Infinite Games 50/50*, Ogden House Contemporary, Chicago, Illinois

2017 *The Annual: An Exhibition of New Chicago Art*, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, Illinois

2017 *50 x 50 Invitational: The Subject is Chicago: People, Places. Possibilities*, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois

2016 *Framing Beauty: Intimate Visions*, Grunwald Gallery, Indiana University

2016 *Synapse*, Center for Book, Paper & Print, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2015 *Warm Kitty, Soft Kitty*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois

2015 *The Chicago 77*, The Poetry Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2014 *Offense And Dissent: Image, Conflict, Belonging*, Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Gallery, New York, New York

2014 *Wading in the Water of the Sweet Forever*, Studio 1906, Chicago, Illinois

2014 *Pulling the Gesture*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois

2013 *Hair*, Paul Robeson Galleries, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

2013 *Construction*, Averill and Bernard Leviton A+D Gallery, Columbia College Chicago

2010 *Progeny Two*, Harvey Gantt Center for African American Arts & Culture, Charlotte, North Carolina

2010 *Materiality* (juried), ARC Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

2010 *LaGrange National Biennial XXVI* (juried with printed catalog), LaGrange Art Museum, LaGrange, Georgia

2010 *Metamorphosis: The Transformation of Everyday Objects* (invitational), Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2009 *Makers Without Borders: Furniture Makers, Sculptors and the Artists Who Have Contributed to Their Creative Lives* (invitational with printed catalog), Penland Gallery, Penland School of Crafts, Penland, North Carolina

2008 *Two x Two: John Rais & Fo Wilson, Artists in Residence*, Richard & Dolly Maass Gallery, Purchase College/SUNY Purchase, New York

2007 *SumTotal* (printed catalog), Vogel Gallery, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2006 *The Scale of Things to Come* (invitational), Fuller Craft Museum, Boston Massachusetts

2006 *Texture* (juried), Arts + Literature (ALL) Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut

- 2006 *The Art of Couples* (invitational), Bannister Gallery, Rhode Island College, Rhode Island
- 2005 *Joined & Woven* (juried), Providence Art Club, Providence, Rhode Island
- 2005 Providence Fine Furnishings Show (juried), Providence Convention Center, Rhode Island
- 2005 *Time Out* (invitational), Gallery Katz, Boston Massachusetts

**Selected Awards, Commissions, Fellowships, Grants, & Residencies**

- 2019 Graham Foundation Individual Artist Grant
- 2019 Public Art Commission for Damen/Lake CTA Greenline Station
- 2019 Nomination, Joan Mitchell Painters and Sculpture Grant
- 2019 Residency Indigo Arts, Portland, Maine
- 2018 Visiting Artist, Oxbow School of Art & Artist Residency, Saugatuck, Michigan
- 2018 Djerassi Artist-in-Residence, Woodside, California
- 2018 MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, New Hampshire
- 2018 John Michael Kohler Arts/Industry Artist-in-Residence, Kohler, Wisconsin
- 2018 QDance Gathering, QDance, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2018 Columbia College Faculty Development, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- 2017 International Curatorial Workshop, Valetta University, Valetta Malta
- 2016 Graham Foundation Individual Artist Grant
- 2016 *Sounding Bronzeville*, public art commission from the Chicago Parks District & The Field Museum
- 2016 Artist-in-Residence, Pullman National Monument, Chicago Illinois
- 2016 Nomination, United States Artists (USA) Fellowship award
- 2015 3Arts Awardee, 3Arts, Chicago, Illinois
- 2013 Propeller Fund Grant, Chicago, Illinois
- 2013 Faculty Fellow, Center for Black Music Research (CBMR), Chicago, Illinois
- 2013 ACRE Artist Residency, Chicago, Illinois & Steuben, Wisconsin
- 2013 Visiting Artist, Drake University Des Moines, Iowa
- 2012 Community Arts Assistance Program (CAAP) Cultural Grant, City of Chicago, Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago Illinois
- 2012 New Works Residency, Haystack Mountain Center for Craft, Deer Isle, Maine
- 2011 Nomination, United States Artists (USA) Fellowship award
- 2008 Artist-in-Residence, Purchase College/SUNY, Purchase, New York
- 2006 Joseph Fellow, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, Snowmass Village, Colorado

**Selected Publications**

**Books & Exhibition Catalogues**

- 2020 (forthcoming) *Dark Matter: Celestial Objects of Love for These Troubled Times*, Hyde Park Art Center and Candor Press, Chicago, Illinois
- 2018 *Eliza's Peculiar Cabinet of Curiosities*. Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 2017 *Framing Beauty: Intimate Visions*, Grunwald Gallery, Indiana University
- 2017 *Due Influence*, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- 2013 *Hair*, Paul Robeson Galleries, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey
- 2013 *The Beaded Prayers Project*, Sonya Clark, Richmond, Virginia and Doha, Qatar: Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2009 *Makers Without Borders: Furniture Makers, Sculptors and the Artists Who Have Contributed to Their Creative Lives*, Penland School of Crafts, Penland, North Carolina

**Selected Reviews & Articles**

- 2020 "Questioning Value: A Review of Commons Artist Project at MCA," *New City*, Ciera Mckissick, January 10, 2020
- 2019 "Space is a Place: Fodayemi Wilson at the Hyde Park Art Center," *Sixty Inches From Center*, Tesh Silver, November 14, 2019
- 2019 "Imagining a Future Back to Itself," *Terremoto*, Jeffreen M. Hayes, October 28, 2019

- 2019 "Message of Love: A Review of Fo Wilson at Hyde Park Art Center," *New City*, Luke Fidler, May 9, 2019
- 2018 *Immersive, Afrofuturist exhibition Opens at HPAC*, *Hyde Park Herald*, April 3, 2019.
- 2016 Designed Objects Issue, *New City*, November 18 - 30, 2016.
- 2016 "Art City: Using Objects to Explore, Reimagine a Slave's World," Shelleen Greene, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, August 12, 2016.
- 2015 "Onward Fo!," Anita Bateman, *The International Review of African American Art*, June 12, 2015.
- 2015 "Sara's Story in her Own Words and a Message for Today's Video Girls," Margaret Rose Vendryes, *The International Review of African American Art*, June 12, 2015
- 2015 "Performing Tables," Caroline Picard, *ArtSlant*, March 25, 2015.
- 2012 "Profile: Fo Wilson," Liz Glass, *Art Practical*, March 9, 2012.
- 2011 "The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft," Kate Smith, *The Journal of Modern Craft*, Vol. 4, Issue 3, November 2011.
- 2011 "Progeny II-On Art, Family Race & Culture," Frank Martin, *The Daily Serving*, January 2011.
- 2010 "Data Processing," Christy DeSmith, *American Craft* magazine, December/January.
- 2010 "When Handmade Meets Digital, Sparks Fly," Cate McQuaid, *The Boston Globe*, June 20.
- 2010 "Craft Goes Digital," Bill Van Siclen, *The Providence Journal*, July 11.

### **Selected Professional Positions and Activities**

- 2018 (ongoing) American Craft Council Board of Trustees
- 2016 Rhode Island School of Design Board of Trustees, Academic & Student Affairs Committee, Providence Rhode Island
- 2015 (ongoing) Editorial Board member, *Textile: The Journal of Cloth and Culture*, Routledge, New York and London
- 2015 Founding Board member, Sylvia Harris Citizen Designer Award with the AIGA and World Studio, New York
- 2015 Art of Rehearsal Coach, Links Hall, Chicago, Illinois
- 2012 Juror, Wisconsin Visual Artists Annual Juried Exhibition, Lyndon Sculpture Garden
- 2011 Co-juror, Milwaukee Fine Furnishings Show, Harley-Davidson Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 2011 Juror, Associated Artists of Pittsburg 101st Juried exhibition, Society of Contemporary Craft
- 2010 Interviews for graduate students from the Harvard Extension School as a part of their "Introduction to Museum Studies" course.
- 2008 Peer Reviewer for *2009 FATE in Review*, a publication of the organization Foundations in Art: Theory and Education.
- 2005-2008. Public Arts Panel Member, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts

### **Selected Artist Writings**

- 2015 "Jefferson Pinder: The Evidence of Things Not Seen," *The New [New] Corpse*. Chicago, IL: Green Lantern Press.
- 2014 "It's All Wrong Tom," *Tom Loeser: It Could have been Kindling*. West Bend, WI: Museum of Wisconsin Art.
- 2014 *The Baartman Diaries*, foreword by Carla Williams, Chicago: Studio W Editions.
- 2013 "Seeing Black and the Color of Form and Domestic Bodies," in *Diasporic Women's Writings of the Black Atlantic: (En)Gendering Literature and Performance*. Emilia Marie Duran-Almarza and Esther Alvarez-Lopez, editors. New York: Routledge.
- 2013 "A 'Remix' of Diva Cool at 33 1/2 RPM," *International Review of African American Art*, Vol. 24, No.2.
- 2011 "Seeing Black and the Color of Representation," *NKA: Journal of Contemporary African Art*, Vol. 2011, No. 29, Fall/Winter 2011.
- 2010 *The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft*. Brockton: Fuller Museum of Craft.
- 2005 *Bodies of Evidence: Contemporary Perspectives*. RISD Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence Rhode Island.
- 2002 "The Short Century: Independence and Liberation Movements in Africa, 1945-1994", P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center and MOMA; *International Review of African American Art*, Vol. 18, No. 4.