

ROOT DIVISION PRESENTS: 2ND SATURDAY SERIES MARCH 2018



Let Me Be A Witness

CURATED BY: Stacey Goodman

Second Saturday Reception: March 10, 2018, 7:00 to 10:00 pm

Exhibition Dates: February 22 - March 17, 2018

Gallery Hours: Wednesday-Saturday, 2-6 pm (or by appointment)

LOCATION: 1131 Mission St., SF, CA 94103

Image: Rohan DaCosta, *Voyeur*, 2017, Digital print

Let Me Be A Witness surveys sixteen artists whose practices reflect a wide array of what curator Stacey Goodman calls, “witness art.” Drawing inspiration from the traditional response of African-American church-goers’ call to testify, the work exhibited in *Let Me Be A Witness* reflects and reframes the concerns that emerge in response to contemporary, socio-political events.

With the rise of social media, the act of witnessing has become a catalyst for social change by utilizing technology to transform passive observers into engaged activists. Many of the works presented are research-based and documentary in nature, each attempting to unearth a new layer of objective truth and incite observer participation.

Let Me Be A Witness questions what takes place when an action or a statement transforms from invisible to visible through the process of making events or narratives known that may otherwise have remained silent or unseen. By avoiding propagandistic techniques and emphasizing nuance within the artwork, this exhibition introduces viewers to the social and factual context of various subject matters, while providing the context for further investigation.

Participating Artists:

Glenna Cole Allee
Amy Balkin
Francis Baker
Shannon Carey
Rohan DaCosta
Cheryl Derricotte
Rodney Ewing
Lauren Hartman

Clint Imboden
Guo Mong
Katie Revilla
William Rhodes
Trina Michelle Robinson
Brandon Tauszik
Cathy Yuan
Xia Zhang

Let Me Be A Witness is free, open to the public, and includes a **Creative Station** - all ages art activities hosted in our classroom during the *2nd Saturday opening reception*.

ABOUT ROOT DIVISION

Root Division is a visual arts non-profit in San Francisco that connects creativity and community through a dynamic ecosystem of arts education, exhibitions, and studios. Root Division's mission is to empower artists, foster community service, inspire youth, and enrich the Bay Area through engagement in the visual arts. The organization is a launching pad for artists, a stepping-stone for educators and students, and a bridge for the general public to become involved in the arts.

Root Division is supported in part by a plethora of individual donors and by grants from National Endowment for the Arts/ Art Works, San Francisco Arts Commission: Community Investments, Grants for the Arts, Drusie Davis Family Fund, Violet World Foundation, Winifred Johnson Clive Foundation, The Morton Foundation, Zellerbach Family Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation, Bill Graham Memorial Fund, and Art4Moore.

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