

Keisha Scarville

lives and works in Brooklyn, NY - keisha.scarville@gmail.com

Selected Group and Solo Exhibitions:

2026

Where Salt Meets Black Water, Brooklyn Museum of Art (solo installation curated by Pauline Vermare)
Storytelling: Photographer Making Meaning, Wellin Museum of Art (curated by Elizabeth Shannon)
Passports, Narrativa Lisbon (solo)
Photobooks USA 2000–25, International Center of Photography (curated by David Company, Sara Ickow, and malaika newsome)

2025

2nd Bienal das Amazonias (curated by Manuela Moscoso)
Alma, Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie d'Arles (solo installation)
The Rose, CPW in Kingston (curated by Justine Kurland and Marina Chao)
To Conjure, International Center of Photography (co-curated by Elisabeth Sherman, Sara Ickow and Keisha Scarville)
Recess, CPW in Kingston (solo)
lick of tongue, rub of finger, on soft wound, Webber Gallery, Los Angeles
Passports 2012 -2025, Higher Pictures Gallery, Brooklyn, (solo)

2024

Encounters/MACK Books, Hauser & Wirth, New York

2023

The Rose, lumber room, Portland, Oregon (curated by Justine Kurland)

2022

A Picture Gallery of the Soul, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota
Hot/Slow/Step, Huxley-Parlour, London (solo)
FotoFest Biennial - If I Had a Hammer, Houston, TX (Curated by Amy Sadao)

2021

Li/mb, Higher Pictures Generation, Brooklyn, NY (solo)
SeenUnseen, LA Louver Gallery, Los Angeles (Curated by Alison Saar)
I Belong to This, Huxley – Parlour, London (Curated by Justine Kurland)
Disembodied Forms, Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space, New York, NY (Curated by Christie Neptune)

2020

We Wear the Mask, Higher Pictures Generation, Brooklyn, NY (Curated by D'Angelo Lovell Williams)
Body/Split Trick, Essex Flowers Gallery, New York, NY (Curated by Melissa Brown)
Death Becomes Her, BRIC & Greenwood, Brooklyn, NY (Curated by Harry Weil and Jennifer Gerow)
All of Them Witches, Jeffrey Deitch, LA (Curated by Dan Nadel and Laurie Simmons)

2019

Art Summit Nigeria
Bamako Encounters: African Biennale of Photography, Multiple Venues, Mali
where we came from & where we are going, Transformer Gallery, Washington D.C. (Curated by Kimi Katada)

2018

Alma, Lightwork Gallery, Syracuse, NY. (solo)
Carry Over, Smack Mellon, Brooklyn, NY. (Curated by Kalia Brooks for Africa's Out)

Placelessness of Echoes, Baxter Street at CCNY, New York, NY. (solo)

The Last Place They Thought Of, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia. (Curated by Daniella Rose King)

Elegy: Selections from Mama's Clothes, Lesley Heller, New York, NY. (solo)

Revival: Contemporary Pattern and Decoration, Longwood Art Gallery, Bronx, NY. (Curated by Rocio Aranda-Alvarado for El Museo Del Barrio)

2017

24:7, Video Display at 10 Times Square (Curated and presented by ZAZ 10TS collective)

An Unassailable and Monumental Dignity, Contact Photo Gallery, Toronto, ON. (Curated by Heather Rigg)

Liminal Space, Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, New York, NY.

The Photo Show, Lesley Heller Gallery, New York, NY.

2016

Surrogate Skin: The Biology of Objects, Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn, NY.

Unfixed Homeland, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ. (Curated by Grace Aneiza Ali)

2015

Inherited, BRIC Arts Media House, Brooklyn, NY.

2014

Addis Ababa Foto Fest, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dark Desires, Center for Sex and Culture, San Francisco, CA.

2013

BRIC Arts Media House,
Brooklyn, NY.

Timheri Transitions, Wilmer Jennings Gallery, New York, NY.

2012

The Bearden Project, Studio Museum of Harlem, New York, NY.

2011

The Black Portrait, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY

2007

The Black Madonna, MoCADA & Skylight Gallery, Brooklyn, NY.

Regarding Intimacy, Hunter College Art Gallery, New York, NY.

2001

Committed to the Image, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY.

Residences/Awards:

Author Book Award, Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie d'Arles 2026

Headlands Center for Art, Summer 2026

2026 UOVO Prize

Newswomen Club of New York Front Page Award: Photo Essay, 2024

CPW/Saltzman Prize, 2024

Women Photographers International Archive (WOPHA) Residency at El Espacio, March 2024

Paris Photo – Aperture Photobook Awards – shortlisted, 2023

Creator Labs Photo Fund, 2023

Stoneleaf Retreat, 2019

BRIC Media Arts Fellowship, 2019

BRIC Workspace Artist Residency Program, 2018

Baxter Street at CCNY Workspace Residency Program, October – December 2017

Smack Mellon, Hot Picks 2017
Rema Hort Mann Grant Emerging Artist Grant nominee 2016
Vermont Studio Center, August 2017
Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, 2016
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace, 2015-2016
Lightwork A-I-R Program, Syracuse, August 2014
Brooklyn Arts Council Regrant Program 2006
Center For Photography at Woodstock, August 2003

Books:

Passports, MACK, ©2026 - monograph
The Rose: A Circular Genealogy of Collage, edited by Justine Kurland, Sarah Miller Meigs, and Libby Werbel
Recess, CPW, ©2025 - monograph
lick of tongue, rub of finger on soft wound, MACK ©2023 - monograph
Decolonization and Diversity in Contemporary Photography: The Dodge & Burn Interviews, edited by Qiana Mestrich ©2025
Black Matrilineage, Photography, and Representation, edited by Lesly Deschler Canossi and Zoraida Lopez-Diago ©2022
Liminal Spaces: Migration and Women of the Guyanese Diaspora ©2020, edited by Grace Aneiza Ali
Last Place They Thought Of, ICA Philadelphia ©2020
Contact Sheet: Keisha Scarville, Fall 2018
MFON: Women Photographers of the African Diaspora, November 2017.
The Bearden Project, The Studio Museum of Harlem ©2012 p. 192
Committed to the Image: Contemporary Black Photographers Merrell Publishers ©2001 p. 194.

Press:

"Where Memory Finds Its Shore" ArtAfrica, August 2026
"Keisha Scarville: Where Salt Meets Black Water at Brooklyn Museum," Collector Daily, August 2026
"8 Art Books to Reframe America's 250th", Hyperallergic, July 2026
"Passport to the Soul", The Observer New Review, July 2026
"300 Ways to See a Father", Another Magazine, June 2026
"A Passport to Belonging: Keisha Scarville's Counter-Narratives On Migration", PhMuseum, April 2026
Ghost in the Machine, British Journal of Photography March 2026
"322 Ways of Looking at a Father" 4Columns, April 2025
"Keisha Scarville's Collaged Narratives" Photoworks, March 2024
"Interview with Keisha Scarville" American Suburb X, December 2023
"Keisha Scarville, Li/mb @Higher Pictures Generation" Collector Daily, January 2022
"Behind the Mask: Photographers Reflect on Black Vulnerability" Hyperallergic, February 2021.
Death As Seen by 8 Female Artists - The Cut, March 2020
"This Photographer Tells Her Parents' Story Through the Things They Left Behind" Vice Magazine, February 2019
Aperture: Prison Nation Issue #230, Spring 2018, p.107.

"Art as Caribbean Feminist Practice: A Portfolio," Small Axe Journal, 2017.
"Gathering the Work of Guyanese Artists Far from Home" Hyperallergic, September 2016. "A Guyanese Art Show Explores Images of Migration and Home-Making" Village Voice, September 2016
Oxford American, Fall 2015
Vice Magazine, 2015 (Volume 23, Issue #2 & Volume 22, Issue #10)
"Beautiful Ambiguities: The Photography of Keisha Scarville" Small Axe Journal, February 2015
Contact Sheet: Lightwork Annual, Fall 2015
Nueva Luz Photographic Journal, Fall 2013

Commissions: New York Times, San Francisco International Airport's Public Art Program

Collections:

Denver Museum of Art, George Eastman House, Yale University Art Gallery, FSU Museum of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Museum of American Art, Lightwork at Syracuse, Center for Photography at Woodstock, Detroit Institute of the Arts, Brooklyn Museum of Art, and private collections.

Visiting Professor/Adjunct Professor:

Harvard University (Fall 2024-Spring 2026), Cornell University MFA Image/Text Program (Fall 2026, Summer 2024), Parsons School of Art & Design (undergraduate and graduate level, Fall 2018 – present), New York University (Spring 2022), ICP/Bard College MFA Program (Fall 2019), International Center for Photography (2010 – 2023), Borough of Manhattan Community College (Spring 2020), Bard High School Early College (Fall 2012 – Spring 2019).

Visiting Artist/Lecturer/Talks:

Brooklyn Museum – August First Saturdays Artist Talk (conversation with Tina Campt and Pauline Vermare August 2026)
Pratt Institute (April 2026)
Brooklyn Museum - Brooklyn Talks: A Tribute to Seydou Keita (conversation with Bisa Butler, Hank Willis Thomas, moderated by curator Catherine E. McKinley – November 2025)
Yale University – visiting critic
Brooklyn Rail's The New Social Environment Series - conversation with Makeda Best (March 2025)
International Center of Photography (conversation with Carla J. Williams)
CPW (conversation with Tina Campt)
RISD (September 2024)
MassArt (September 2024)
Princeton University (February 2024 & October 2020)
Elles x Paris Photo (November 2023)
UC San Diego, Visual Arts Department (November 2023)
Denver Art Museum (September 2023)
Penumbra Foundation (April 2023)
SUNY New Paltz, School of Fine & Performing Arts (November 2020)
Syracuse University, College of Visual Performing Arts (December 2018)
Harvard University, Department of Visual and Environmental Studies (April 2019 & October 2020)

Education:

Parsons/The New School, Certificate in Creative Arts Therapy, 2010
Rochester Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Science, 1998