

SIMONE LEIGH

Born in Chicago to Jamaican parents, 1968
Lives and works in Brooklyn, New York

Education

1990 BA in Art, minor in Philosophy, Earlham College, Richmond, IN

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2016 *Hammer Projects: Simone Leigh*, The Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA
The Waiting Room, New Museum, New York, NY
Simone Leigh: I ran to the rock to hide my face the rock cried out no hiding place, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, KS
- 2015 *Moulting*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
Crop Rotation, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, KY
- 2014 *Free People's Medical Clinic*, commissioned by Creative Time, Stuyvesant Mansion, Brooklyn, NY
Gone South, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, organized by Stuart Horodner, Atlanta, GA
Simone Leigh and Wolfgang Paalen, Gallery Wendi Norris, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 *I Always Face You Even When It Seems Otherwise*, Tiwani Contemporary, organized by Bisi Silva, with catalogue, London, UK
- 2012 *What's Her Face*, Gavlak Gallery, West Palm Beach, FL
jam packed and jelly tight, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
You Don't Know Where Her Mouth Has Been, The Kitchen, New York, NY, curated by Rashida Bumbray
- 2010 *Divine Horsemen*, with Chitra Ganesh, Mason Gross Galleries, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, curated by Latoya Ruby Frazier
- 2009 *The Gods Must Be Crazy*, for In Practice, Sculpture Center, Queens, NY
Queen Bee, G Fine Art Project Room, Washington, D.C.
- 2008 Rush Arts Gallery Project Space, New York, NY
- 2005 Momenta Art Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2016 *In the Power of your Care*, The 8th Floor, New York, NY
The Mendieta Project, Arizona State University Art Museum, co-curated by Heather Sealy Lineberry and Julio Cesar Morales, Tempe, AZ
The Grace Jones Project, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA
Unconventional Clay: Engaged in Change, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO
- 2015 *Greater New York*, MoMa PS1
Ten Year Anniversary, Gavlak Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Collaborative Archives: Connective Histories, Leroy Neiman

- 2014 Gallery, curated by Katherine Cohn and Işın Önol
As We Were Saying, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY, with catalogue
The Shape of Things, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, NY
but that joke isn't funny anymore..., Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
Dak'art 2014: The 11th Biennial of Contemporary African Art organized by Elise Atangana, Abdelkader Damani and Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi, Dakar Senegal
Black in the Abstract, Part 2: Hard Edges/Soft Curves, January 25, 2013 – March 23, 2014, Contemporary Art Museum Houston, organized by Valerie Cassel Oliver, Houston, TX
- 2013 *Double Fortune, Double Trouble: Art for Twins among the Yoruba*, Fowler Museum at UCLA, organized by Marla Berns and Henry Drewal, curator, Los Angeles, CA
approximately infinite universe, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, organized by Jill Dawsey, La Jolla, CA
Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art, Contemporary Art Museum in Houston, Houston, TX, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY, and The Walker Art Center, organized by Valerie Cassel Oliver, with catalogue
FUN HOUSE, Richard Gray Gallery, New York, NY
March On! Brooklyn Academy of Music, organized by Dexter Wimberly, New York, NY
- 2012 *Cleopatra's Family Jewels*, Family Business, New York, NY
Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art, The Contemporary Art Museum in Houston, Houston, TX organized by Valerie Cassel Oliver
Pose/Re-Pose: Figurative Works Then and Now, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, GA, organized by Isolde Brielmaier and Melissa Messina
The Whitney Biennial, special screening of digital video "Breakdown," The Whitney Museum, New York, NY
Unevenness, The National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe, curated by Raphael Chikukwa
In the Making, Roberts & Tilton, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 *The Bearden Project*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
Evidence of Accumilation, AIR exhibition, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
15 x 15, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY
SPACE. About a Dream, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna, curated by Catherine Hug
The February Show, Ogilvy & Mather, New York, curated by Jun Lee and Heather Hart
- 2010 *Else*, Jack Tilton Gallery, New York, curated by Derrick Adams
Digression, Hendershot Gallery, New York
Wide Sargasso Sea, Deutsche Bank, curated by Kimberli Gant
Comedy and Tragedy, Marvelli Gallery, curated by David Hunt
Bunny Redux, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburg, PA, curated by Eric Shiner

Hair Tactics, Jersey City Museum, Jersey City, NJ, curated by Rocio Aranda, Alvarado
ves·sel, Brennan Gallery, Jersey City, NJ, curated by Kenya (Robinson)

2009 *30 seconds off an inch*, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY, curated by Naomi Beckwith
Rockstone and Bootheel: Contemporary West Indian Art, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT, curated by Kristina Newman-Scott and Yona Backer
Herd Thinner, Charest-Weinberg Gallery, Miami, FL
The Pleasure of Hating, Lisa Cooley Gallery, New York NY, curated by David Hunt
AIM 29, Bronx Museum, Bronx, NY, curated by Micaela Giovannotti
Locus, MCLA Gallery 51, North Adams, MA curated by Lauren Wolk
Pulse, Taller Boricua, New York NY, curated by Curated by Fernando Salicrup and Christine Licata

2008 *The Future As Disruption*, The Kitchen, New York NY, curated by Rashida Bumbray and Matthew Lyons
Intransit, Moti Hasson Gallery, curated by Omar Lopez-Chadoud
The B-Sides, ALIRA a Center for Contemporary Art, curated by Edwin Ramoran
Archeologies of Wonder, Real Art Ways, Hartford, CT, curated by Kristina Newman-Scott
Ethnographies of the Future Remixed, Tides Foundation, New York, NY, curated by Sara Reisman
Scratching The Surface VOL 1, L'appartement22, Rabat, Morocco and AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa, curated by Gabi Ngcobo and Mwenya Kabwe
Ethnographies of the Future, Rotunda Gallery, Brooklyn, NY curated by Sara Reisman

2007 *Material Culture*, Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Bronx, NY, curated by Juanita Lonzos
Red Badge of Courage, Newark Council for the Arts, Newark, NJ, curated by Omar Lopez-Chahoud
Done by the Forces of Nature, City of College of New York, New York, NY curated by Roberto Visani
Visual Jury, Fine Art Work Center, Provincetown, MA
Defensive Mechanisms (part of INTERSECTIONS), Henry Street Settlement, Abrons Art Center, New York, NY curated by Martin Dust

2006 *Wild Girls*, EXIT ART, curated by Jodi Hanel, Sarah Ryhanen, and Juana Gallo.
Henry Street Settlement, Abrons Art Center, New York, NY, AIR exhibition
Brooklyn Divas, Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn, New York
Figures of Thinking: Convergences in Contemporary Cultures, curated by Vicky Clark and Sandhini Poddar, various venues including The Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL, Richard

- E. Peeler Art Center, De Pauw University, Greencastle, IN
 Western Gallery, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA,
 The Mc Dounough Museum of Art, Youngstown, OH, Tufts University Gallery,
 Medford MA and the Joel and Lila Harnett Museum of Art, University of Richmond,
 Richmond, VA, (with catalogue)
- 2005 *"From the Studio: Wish You Were Here..."*, Co-dependent: Artists, Artist/Curators, & Curators Select Artists @ The Living Room, Miami, FL, curated by Franklin Sirmans
Remnants and Relics: Reinterpretations in African American Art, Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, Queens, NY (with catalogue) curated by Heng-Gil Han
 The Cathedral of St. John the Divine and LeRoy Neiman Gallery, Columbia University, New York, NY, curated by Bruce W. Ferguson and Milena Honigsberg
 James E Lewis Museum of Art, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD)
 Watershed Kiln Gods, Gallery 1448, Baltimore, MD) (with catalogue)
- 2004 *Art Downtown: Connecting Collections*, for the Deutsche Bank, New York, NY
 Steuben Gallery, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
 Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore MD
- 2003 Skylight gallery, Bedford Styvesant Restoration Corporation, Brooklyn, NY and The Nathan Cummings Foundation, New York, NY
- 2002 The Center for African American Art and NOEL gallery, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2001 *Unspeakable*, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, NY, curated by Lea K. Green
- 2000 *SMIRK, Women, Art and Humor*, Firehouse Gallery, Hempstead, NY, curated by Debra Wacks (with catalogue)

Awards/Residencies/Internships/Grants

- 2016 A Blade of Grass Fellowship for Socially Engaged Art
 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship award
- 2013 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Award
 Asiko Art School, Dakar, Senegal
- 2012 The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Michael Richards award for Visual Arts
 The Creative Capital Grant
 The International Art Programme, Center for Contemporary Art Lagos, Nigeria
- 2011 The Joan Mitchell Foundation grant for painters and sculptors
 The Worth Residency in Bovina, NY
- 2010 – 11 Artist in Residence, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
- 2009 New York Foundation of the Arts fellowship in Sculpture
 Art Matters Grant
 Bronx Museum AIM program

2008 - 09 Artist in Residence, Hunter College, New York, NY
2007 - 08 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Workspace grant
Visiting Artist, School of Visual Arts Computer Art MFA program
2007 Astraea Foundation Visual Arts grant
2006 Artist In Residence, Henry Street Settlement, New York, NY
2005 Wheeler Foundation grant
Artist in Residence, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
2001 Kiln God fellowship, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts,
Watershed, ME
2000 Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME

Bibliography

"25 Most Collectible: Midcareer Artists on the Rise," Art & Auction, September 2015.

"Exhibition | Simone Leigh: Haunting Race and Gender at Jack Tilton, New York," CFile, May 6, 2015.

Cotter, Holland. "10 Galleries to Visit on the Upper East Side," The New York Times, April 16, 2015. (featured show)

Grimes, William. "Distinct Prisms in an Ever-Shifting Kaleidoscope," The New York Times, April 16, 2015. (artist profile)

Harris, Jane. "Moulting," The Believer, March 31, 2015.

Simmons, William. "Simone Leigh," Artforum, March 2, 2015.

Kramer, Elizabeth. "African, Personal History Infuses Artist's Work," The Courier-Journal, February 16, 2015.

Cotter, Holland. "Time-Traveling to a Corner of the African-American Past: 'Funk, God, Jazz & Medicine,' Black Heritage in Brooklyn," The New York Times, October 7 2014.

Bass, Chloe. "Funk, Medicine, and Questions of the Future," Hyperallergic, October 6, 2014.

Rhodes-Pitts, Sharifa, "Freed but not Free," Creative Time, October 2014.

Chamblin, Victoria. "Simone Leigh, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center," Artforum, May 2014

Lax, Thomas, "Simone Leigh - Gone South," The Studio Museum in Harlem Magazine, 2014

Hellman, Amanda H. "ASIKO IN DAKAR, A History - and a Future - for Alternative Arts Education in Africa," ART PAPERS, May/June 2014

Berlangero, Tom. "Simone Leigh's Metaphors of Interiority at the ACAC," BURNAWAY, April 2014

Gaines, Malik. "Simone Leigh," Bomb Magazine, Spring 2014

Raoli, Martha. "Present Tense Future Perfect," The Miami Rail, Spring 2014

Watson, Elizabeth A. "Approximately Infinite Universe," International Review of African American Art, February 2014

Brooks, Kalia. "Simone Leigh: Quiet As Its Kept," ARC Magazine, Issue 08, November 2013

Brooks, Katherine. "'Radical Presence' Surveys Black Performance Artists from the 1960's to Today,"

Huffington Post, October 9, 2013

McKinley, Catherine. "It's All About The Cow," Virginia Quarterly Review, Fall 2013

Tedford, Matthew Harrison. "Visiting Artist Profile: Simone Leigh," Art Practical, April 21, 2013

Schwendener, Martha, ed. "Everyone Wants To Be Sunaltern," by Simone Leigh, Brooklyn Rail, February 2013

Frater, Sally. "Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art," Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Artforum, December 2012

Benway, Nova. "Chitra Ganesh, Simone Leigh," Modern Painters, September 2012

"Simone Leigh," Goings On About Town: Art, The New Yorker, February 27th, 2012

A. Cross, Una-Kariim. "The Surrealist Art of Simone Leigh," EBONY Magazine, March 5, 2012

Kley, Elisabeth. "Simone Leigh: Mouthing Off," artnet, January 27, 2012

Caruth, Nicole. "Simone Leigh and the Fruits of Her Labor," Art21, January 20, 2012

"You Don't Know Where Her Mouth Has Been," TimeOut, February 23-March 7, 2012

McClure, Diane. "You Don't Know Where Her Mouth Has Been," Highsnobette, February 1, 2012

"The Whitney Biennial Catalog," Whitney Museum of American Art, 2012

Cotter, Holland. "A Griot for a Global Village," The New York Times, December 8, 2011

"Going on about Town: Studio Museum in Harlem," The New Yorker, September 12, 2011

Catton, Pia. "Uptown, Turning Over a New Motif," *the Wall Street Journal*, July 12, 2011

Nasab, Homa. "Chitra Ganesh & Simone Leigh on 'Divine Horsemen,'" *ArtINFO*, January 6, 2011

Cotter, Holland. "Else," *The New York Times*, September 24, 2010

McMillan, Uri. "Studio Visit." *STUDIO Magazine: The Studio Museum of Harlem*, Fall 2009

Latimer, Quinn. "Introducing: Simone Leigh," *Modern Painters*, November, 2008

Gennocchio, Benjamin. "Collective Strangeness in Hartford," *The New York Times*, December 21, 2008

Rosenberg, Karen. "The Future As Disruption," *The New York Times*, August 1, 2008

Chamberlain, Colby. "The Future As Disruption," *ARTFORUM.com*, July, 2008

Barliant, Claire. "New York Summer Group Shows," *Artinfo.com*, July 10 2008

Halter, Ed. "Futures Exchange," *Rhizome*, July 7, 2008

"SUPERNATURE," *Small Axe: A Caribbean Platform for Criticism*, Issue 28, February, 2008

Green, Penelope. "The Artist's Kitchen, Recycled and Curated," *The New York Times*, June 14, 2007

Sangweni, Yolanda. "SIMONE LEIGH, REBEL SOUL," *TRACE Magazine*, Issue #66, October 2006

Utter, Douglas Max. "The Thinkers," *ANGLE: A Journal of Arts and Culture*, Issue 29, 2006

"Wild Girls," *Flavorpill*, issue 327, September 12, 2006

Risemberg, Rafael. "Women Gone Wild, The Next Generation of Provocative Female Artists," *New York Blade*, July 31, 2006

New York 1 News interview with Stephanie Simon at Wild Girls exhibit aired on June 23, 2006

Heyoka Magazine, Volume 4, May 2006

Willis-Kennedy, Deborah and Carla Williams, ed. "They Called Her Hottentot: The Art, Science and Fiction of Sarah Baartman," February 2006

"Goings On About Town: Art," *The New Yorker*, January 17, 2005

Maine, Stephan. "Dateline Brooklyn," *ARTnet Magazine*, 2005

"In the Realm of the senses: Lisa DiLillo and Simone Leigh," Flavorpill, issue 241, January 6, 2005

Green, Penelope. "Brooklyn Artist Who Prefers To Show Others' Work," The New York Times, 2004

Streifeld, L.P. "Freedom of Exclusion: The Rise of the Female Spirit in Contemporary Art," NYArts Magazine, December 2001

Parks, Steve. "Some Laughing Matters, Women's Art exhibit: More than funny, girl," Newsday, March 2001

Frizzell, Deborah. "Bawdy Burlesque, Raucous Ribaldry," NYArts Magazine, April 2001

Conferences/Panels/Symposia

- 2014 Public Lecture: San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
- 2013 Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Columbia University, New York, NY
"GET READY FOR THE MARVELOUS: BLACK SURREALISM IN DAKAR, FORT-DEFRANCE, HAVANA, JOHANNESBURG, NEW YORK CITY, PARIS, PORT-AU-PRINCE, 1932-2013" Conference, Performa Institute, New York, NY
NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development organized by Adrienne Edwards
- 2012 Ancient to Future: Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts and Simone Leigh, a conversation with Claire Barliant, LIVE at the NYPL, New York Public Library
Radical Freedom: Feminist Collaborations and Hybrid Aesthetics, Simone Leigh and Chitra Ganesh, Center for The Humanities, CUNY Graduate Center
BREAKDOWN, artist talk and video screening, with Liz Magic Laser, Brooklyn Museum
Rhode Island School of Design, Visiting Artist Lecture, Providence, RI
New York University, Visiting Artist Lecture, New York, NY
- 2011 Panelist - "In Honor of Monique Wittig," The Kessler Conversation between Chitra Ganesh, Simone Leigh, and moderated by Dean Daderko
- 2010 Panelist - Venus 2010: They called Her "Hottentot", An Interdisciplinary Symposium at Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, organized by Deborah Willis in conjunction with the publication of Venus 2010
- 2007 Supernatural, artist talk at Fine Art Work Center, Provincetown, MS
Mining History, Contemporary Art, The African American Museum in Philadelphia and the Tyler School of Art, moderated by Sophie Sanders
- 2005 Unparalleled salon, with Carrie Yamaoka, curated by Martha Southgate, Stacey D'Erasmus and Bliss Broyard

- 2001 Symposium for the creation of the David Driskell Center on Africa and The Americas, panel on the Art of the African Diaspora, University of Maryland, College Park, moderated by Carla Peterson Women's Caucus for Art Conference, Chicago, Il, "Body Language: Image and Art", moderated by Marianne Woods
- 2000 "Slave Markets, Lynched Bodies and Hottentot Vessels: The Black Female Body in 19th and 20th Century Art", Feminist Art and Art History Conference, Barnard College, New York, NY, moderated by Adrienne Childs