

The Luminary's Summer Exhibition opens with



BLACK QUANTUM FUTURISM

commissioned by counterpublic

04.15.23 – 07.15.23

THELUMINARY.COM

2701 CHEROKEE ST
ST. LOUIS, MO 63118

(about) THE EXHIBITION

Black Quantum Futurism (BQF) is a multidisciplinary collaboration between Camae Ayewa and Rasheedah Phillips exploring the intersections of futurism, creative media, DIY-aesthetics, and activism in marginalized communities through an alternative temporal lens. This vision and practice derives its facets, tenets, and qualities from quantum physics and Black/African cultural traditions of reality, time, and space. For Counterpublic 2023, Black Quantum Futurism's framework Space-Time Liberation (STL) explores tools and mechanisms for how residents and community members of St. Louis can reclaim home, land, space, time, and memory in their neighborhoods, and the pathways for repair and justice that are both forward-reaching and backward-reaching simultaneously—correcting the past and reshaping futures where justice and equity are fundamental and inalienable aspects of our shared reality.

The acronym CF:STL Lab takes on the triple meaning of St. Louis, Space-Time Liberation, and Slower-Than-Light. CF:STL Lab will provide a temporary convening space-time for housing advocates, artists, organizers, tenants, and other people impacted by housing insecurity and land injustice and/or interested in co-creating strategies to address its impacts. CF:STL Lab is self-activated with interactive activities and tools developed by BQF and

the luminary is pleased to announce its summer exhibition, commissioned for counterpublic 2023 by black quantum futurism: community futures: space-time liberation lab (cf:stl lab), a three-month-long afrofuturist housing and land justice lab at the luminary.

collaborators, and activated by planned programming developed in collaboration with local community members and organizations on the topics of spatial and temporal reparations, housing futures, land justice, tenant power and collective responsibility, land sovereignty, solidarity economies, and other related topics. With these projects, BQF invites community members to participate in the reclamation, liberation, and reparation of space and time (i.e., histories, presents, and futures) within their communities. These spaces and times are personal and communal, global and universal. The shrine, lab, and associated elements of CF:STL will be activated across the three-month exhibition as space-times for visioning and testing of strategies for community sustainability, healing, and housing and land justice.

In parallel to this project for Counterpublic 2023, Black Quantum Futurism will present SLOWER-THAN-LIGHT SHRINE: IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD, a public monument and portal paying homage to liberation seekers who traversed the Underground Railroad in St. Louis, on view at La Rose Room.

The exhibition is curated by Counterpublic's Executive Director James McAnally and is supported by The Luminary's Artistic Director Kalaija Mallery.

(about) BLACK QUANTUM FUTURISM

Black Quantum Futurism (BQF) is an interdisciplinary creative practice between Camae Ayewa (Moor Mother) and Rasheedah Phillips that weaves quantum physics and Afrodiasporic concepts of time, space, ritual, text, and sound. BQF has created a number of community-based projects, performances, experimental music projects, installations, workshops, books, short films, zines, including the Community Futures Lab, Black Woman Temporal Portal, Time Zone Protocols, and Black Time Belt projects. BQF is a 2022 Creative Capital Fellow, 2020 Arts at CERN Artists-in-Residence, 2021 Knight Art + Tech Fellow, 2018 Velocity Fund Grantee, 2018 Solitude x ZKM Web Resident, 2017 Center for Emerging Visual Artists Fellow, 2017 Pew Fellow, and 2016 A Blade of Grass Fellow. BQF has presented, exhibited, and performed at documenta fifteen, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Serpentine Gallery, Village of Art and Humanities, Manifesta 13 Biennial, ApexArt NYC, MoMA PS1, ICA London, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and more.

(about) COUNTER-PUBLIC

Counterpublic is a civic exhibition that weaves contemporary art into the life of St. Louis for three months every three years in order to reimagine civic infrastructures toward generational change. Counterpublic's second edition will run from April 15 to July 15, 2023.

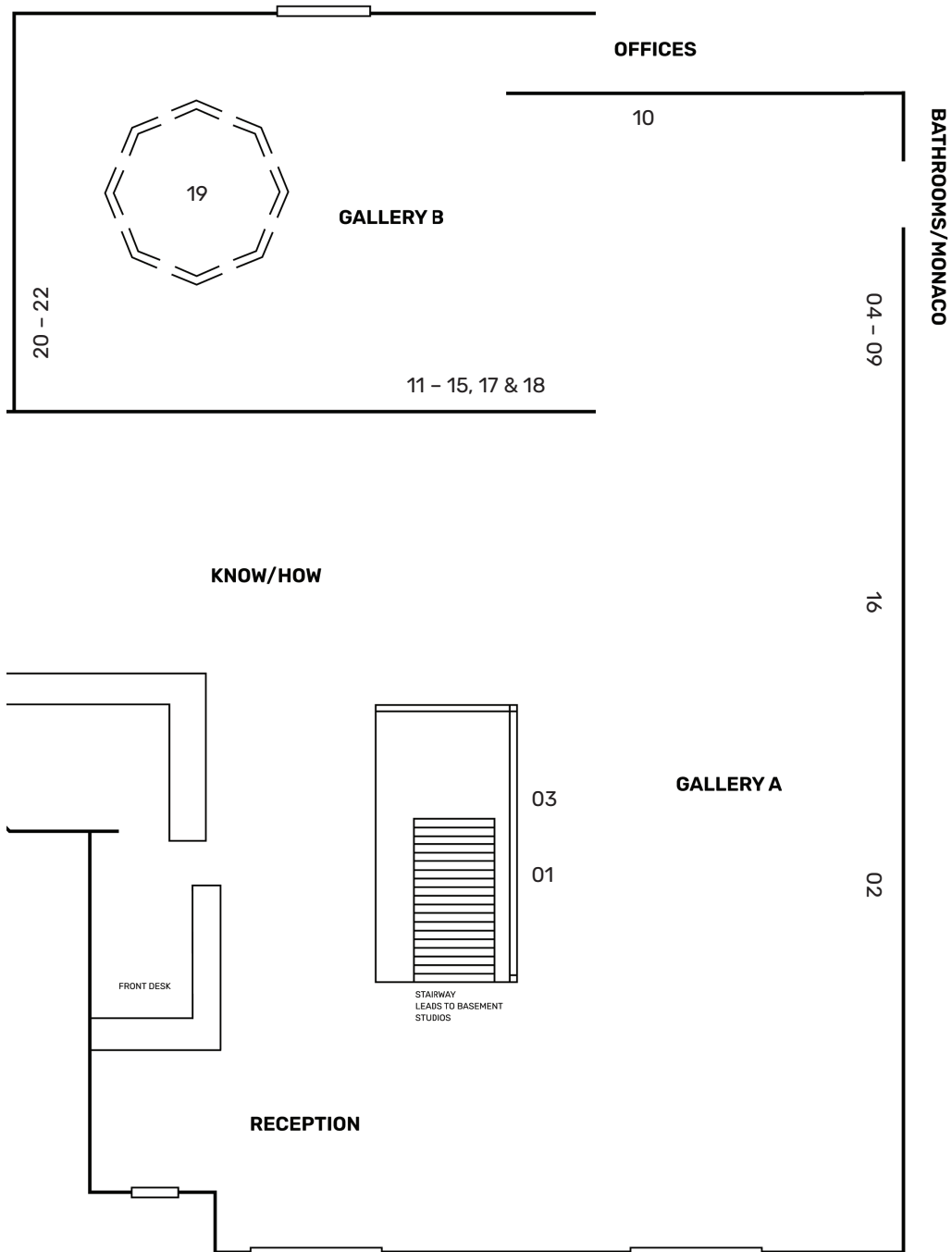
Counterpublic 2023 brings together thirty new artist commissions focused on public memory and reparative futures—how our history is told, held, and healed, and how our future is envisioned collectively toward new liberated lifeways. The three-month exhibition includes active education, research, residencies, performances, publications, public projects, and commissions. www.counterpublic.org

THANK YOU

The Luminary would like to extend our gratitude to Jessi Mueller for her exhibition design and strategic pivoting; to Marianne Laury for install direction and execution; to Carmen Ribaud and Tara Phelan for

installation assist; to Kevin Harris for AV/Tech design and install; to Emma Hawkins for our gallery guide; to Kellen Wright for making it all come together.





01) KINDRED TEMPORAL LIBRARY

Kindred Temporal Library is an archive of books, films, tarot & oracle decks, and other materials holding the themes of community, time, temporality, prophecy, speculation, foresight, the past, and Black womanist future(s). The library is named for Octavia Butler's novel Kindred, and first appeared at BQF's Time Camp 001 (2017). Please do not remove books from the Lab.

02) DIY TIME ZONE

A collective, nonlinear time zone - map out the future, the now, or the past! What are some upcoming events in your community that you want to share, or a past event that has had an impact on you? What are the intersecting events that make up the present? You can also respond to one of the prompts on the sticky notes and post them to the board.

03) CF: STL ZINE & RESOURCE LIBRARY

Please do not take zines out of the Lab. Feel free to take the resource materials, flyers, and activity sheets!

FUTURE MAPPING

IPAD 1

04) DOT'S HOME

05) STEAL ESTATE

06) COMMUNITY FUTURES LAB WEBSITE

IPAD 2

07) THE BLACK TIME BELT WEBSITE

08) TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS WEBSITE

09) BLACK WOMAN TEMPORAL NETWORK WEBSITE

10) ORAL FUTURES BOOTH

Participate in a quantum time capsule by sharing your oral histories and oral futures. Record a hope or wish for the future of St. Louis or wherever you call home, share a favorite memory

of your community or neighborhood, or tell the story of your housing journey.

MEMORY STATION

MONITOR 1

11) FIELDWORKS/A BLADE OF GRASS

5 min 11 secs, edited and produced by RAVA Films (2017)

From May 2016-April 2017, Black Quantum Futurism operated Community Futures Lab at 2204 Ridge Avenue in the North Philadelphia neighborhood currently known as Sharswood. Community Futures Lab was a pop-up community space, gallery, resource and zine library, workshop space, recording booth, and time capsule for oral futures in the North Philadelphia neighborhood of Brewerytown-Sharswood and documenting the redevelopment happening there in partnership with local residents, community activists, and business owners.

12) SHARSWOOD EXPERIMENTS - 2016, SHOT AND EDITED BY RASHEEDAH PHILLIPS

13) RISE-HOME STORIES MINE

MINE is an animated series that explores the difficult and worthwhile fight for the community you love. When the sudden disappearance of water -- their main life source -- threatens to upend a vibrant utopia, an intrepid teen named Blaze must save their community before it's too late.

14) TEMPORAL PORTAL TV EP. 1: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME EPILOGUE - 2019, SHOT AND EDITED BY D1LO DEMILLE

An interactive, open access archive of the temporal technologies Black women, non-binary, gender nonconforming folks, and girls have developed to ensure our quantum future(s) and uncover our ancestral space-time configurations for survival in the present.

MONITOR 2

15) MMERE DANE: BLACK TIME BELT

Mmere Dane: Black Time Belt maps several historic all-Black towns and Freedom Colonies across the United States pre-and post-Civil war -- many destroyed by displacement, development, racist violence, and environmental injustice. Mmere Dane: Black Time Belt functions as a Black Quantum Futurist archive of alternative past-present-future(s) where the towns form a network of Black temporal zones--or a Black Time Belt--protecting these communities from the impacts of temporal-spatial oppression and destructive linear progressive timelines.

16) TIME ZONE PROTOCOLS

Time Zone Protocols (TZP) is a space-time for rewriting the protocols of time, rezoning the time zones, and unmapping the imperialist global time colonization project utilizing Black Quantum Futurism tools and practices.

17) ALL TIME IS LOCAL - 2019, 5MINS

Like politics and the weather, all time is local. Considering time's intimate relationship to space and locality, this text, video, and object series continues the work of BQF in recovering and amplifying historical memory of autonomous Black communal space-times in North Philly, meditating on the complex, contested temporal and spatial legacies of historical, liberatory Black futurist projects based primarily in North Philly, such as Progress Aerospace Enterprises, Zion Gardens, and Berean Institute.

18) BLACK SPACE AGENCY TRAINING VIDEO - 2018, 4.09MINS

On the occasion of the 50 year anniversary of the enactment of the United States Fair Housing Act, Black Space Agency explores the chronopolitical imaginaries of the Civil Rights and Black Liberation movements during the space race, particularly as

it unfolded in North Philadelphia in 1968. The series follows the pattern of entanglements in the fight for affordable and fair housing, displacement/space/land grabs, and gentrification for a better understanding of its present day implications on Black spatial-temporal autonomy.

STL SHRINE TIME LOOP

19) SLOWER-THAN-LIGHT SHRINE (NON-LOCALITY 2)

20) RESURRECTION OF POTTERS FIELDS (THAT WHICH CANNOT BE) - SHOT AND EDITED BY BOB SWEENEY

A ritual durational performance in honor of Potters Fields. A potter's field is a segregated burial site for poor, unknown, or unclaimed people, and were frequently used to bury free and enslaved Black people in the US through the twentieth century.

21) BLACK BODIES AS CONDUCTORS OF GRAVITY - 2016, SHOT AND EDITED BY D1LO DEMILLE

A short on theoretical and conceptual practices of Black Quantum Futurism

22) TIME TRAVEL EXPERIMENTS - 2017, SHOT AND EDITED BY BOB SWEENEY

Do-it-yourself time travel experiments from an embedded time travel manual in the speculative fiction book Recurrence Plot (and Other Time Travel Tales), written and published by Rasheedah Phillips. Depicted time travel experiments employ the concept of Black Grandmother Paradoxes, which emphasize matrilineal or matrix-curvature timelines that are feminine and communally-generated, where the future emerges into the past by way of omens, prophecies, and symbols, while the past is a space of open possibility, speculation, and active revision by multiple generations of people situated in the relative future.