

Kendra Jayne Patrick

Antonio Darden

WAKE

at **INDEPENDENT** 14.5. - 17.5.2026, Pier 36, New York, NY

Kendra Jayne Patrick
presents

Antonio Darden

b. 1983, Atlanta, GA
Lives and works in Atlanta, GA

At Independent 2026, Antonio Darden will bring together artworks illuminating his ongoing fascination with the Black Church. Works spanning multiple mediums pay funny, trippy homage to certain gospel stars, all of whom are known for a very particular stage presence: Mama Burks and her hair; Mr. Cleveland keenly working the congregation; Mr. Kee and his choral command; a classic choir scene in a classic Black film. Alongside Mr. Vandross, a church skeptic, readying his Glastonbury performance and a ne'er-do-well surveilling the situation. Combined, they materialize the lore and allure of the monumental cultural setting that frames Black spiritual expression.

About the Artist

It is enervating to exist as a multi-racial man in the American south. In 1978, Antonio Darden's West Indian mother entered the United States by way of New York. She relinquished her Caribbean/East Indian heritage and adopted a pseudonym. Darden's mother met his African-American father at a funeral, fell in love, and relocated to North Carolina. His mother adopted a drawl, learned to cook Soul Food, and in 1990 persuaded her family to relocate farther south. Eventually, the family settled in Atlanta.

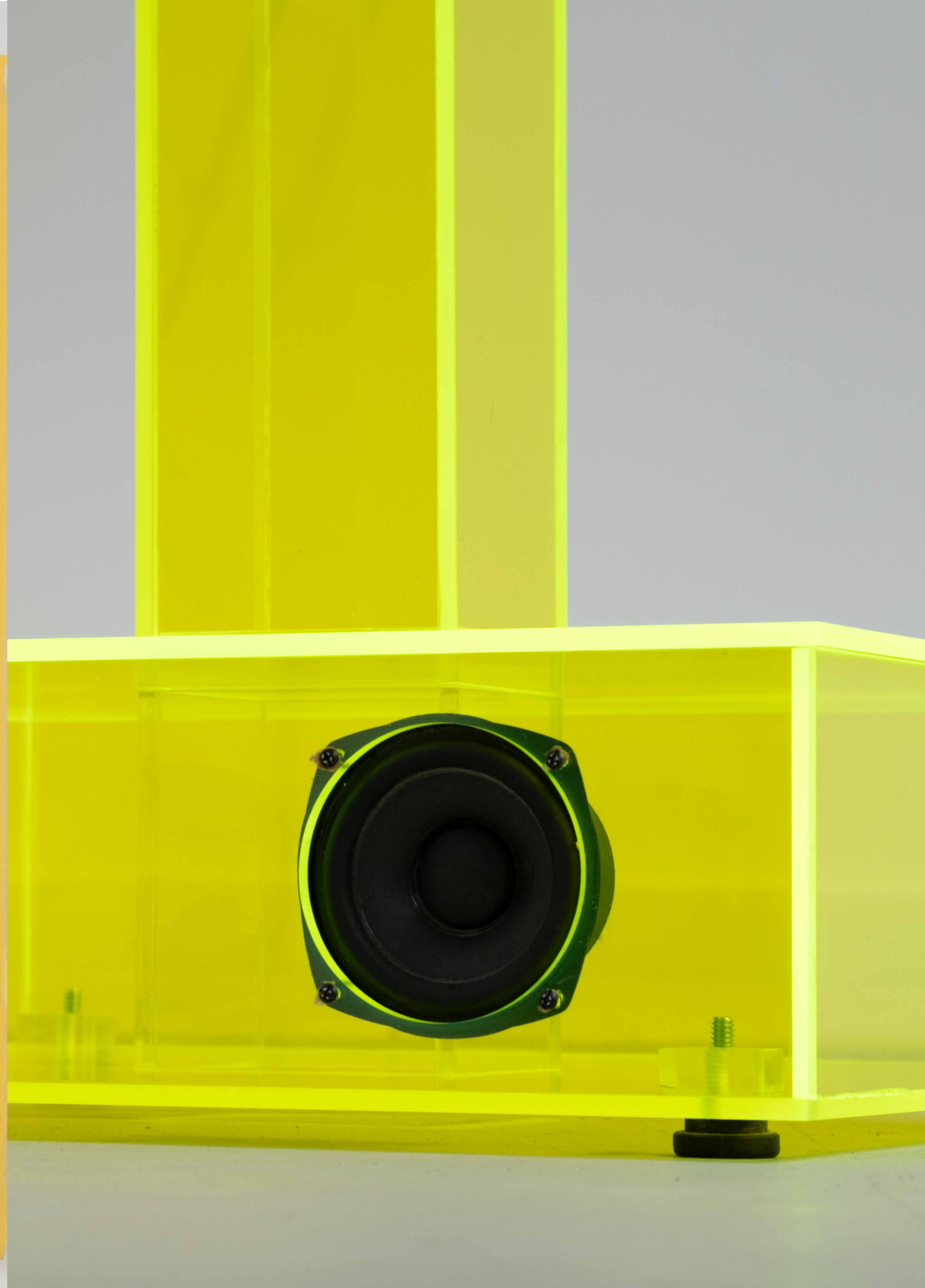
Darden's art spans disciplines and ideologies, influenced by pop culture, Black traditions, comedy, and stark political realities, inflected with satire and sincerity. He makes sculptural, video, and performance works, often bringing them together in absurdist experiential installations.

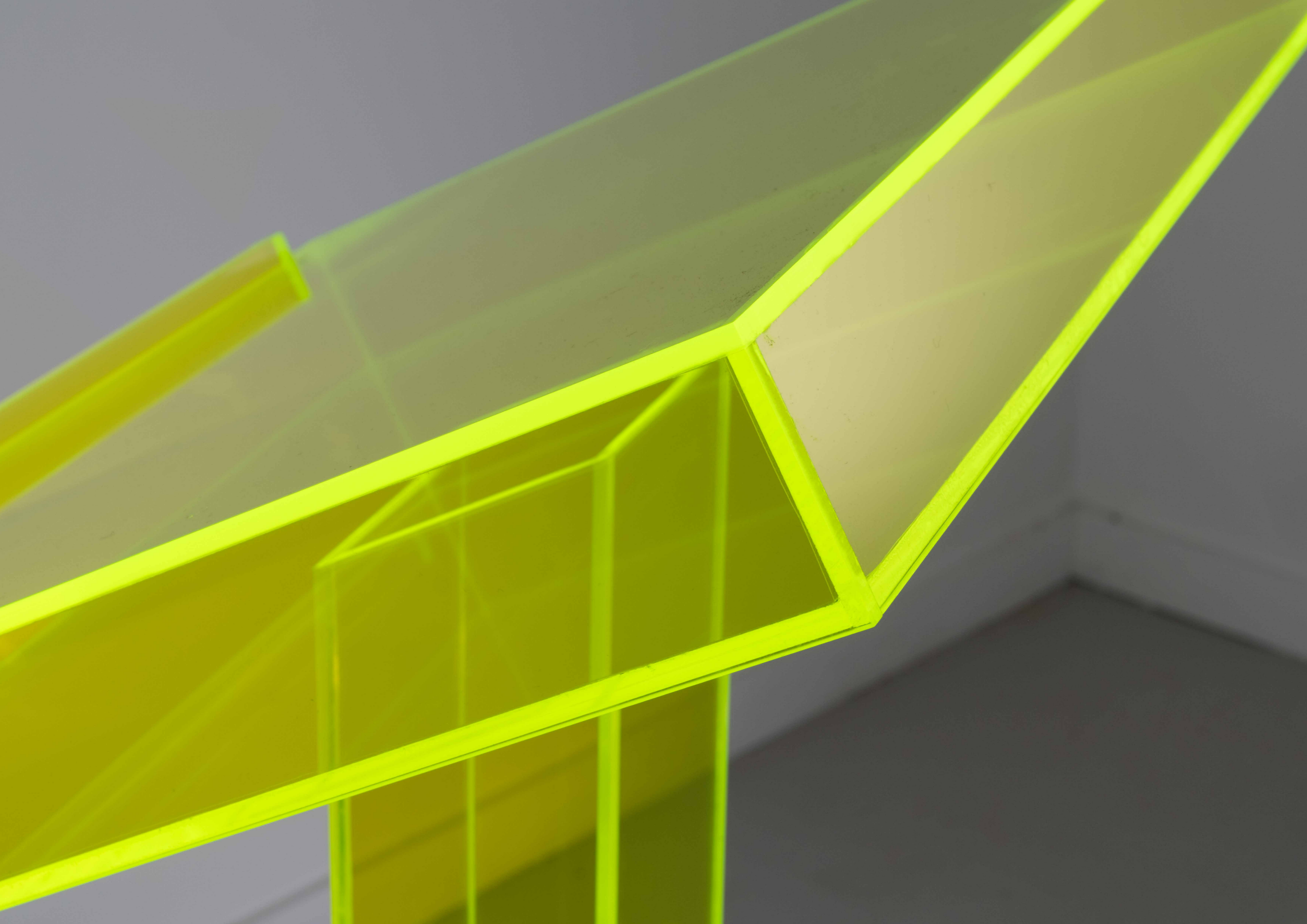
Darden earned his BFA in Sculpture from Georgia State University and his MFA in Sculpture from the Milton Avery School of Graduate Studies at Bard College. His work has been exhibited in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Mexico.



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Sang James (BOJ), 2022
Mixed media: plexiglass, speakers, pastel on paper, mp3 audio recording by artist
Dimensions variable
USD 11'000











right and previous page
Untitled (Mosie Rose #2), 2026
Three-frame lenticular animation on plexiglass
20 × 26 × 2 1/2 in. / 51 × 66 × 6 cm
edition of 1
USD 4'000



Fed, 2025
Video loop (3840 × 2160px), monitor, mini blinds
20 × 24 × 5 in. / 51 × 61 × 12 cm
edition of 1
USD 6'000



Untitled (Monitoring Spirit), 2026
Single channel video loop (3840 × 2160 px), monitor, mount
Dimensions variable
edition of 1
4'800 USD



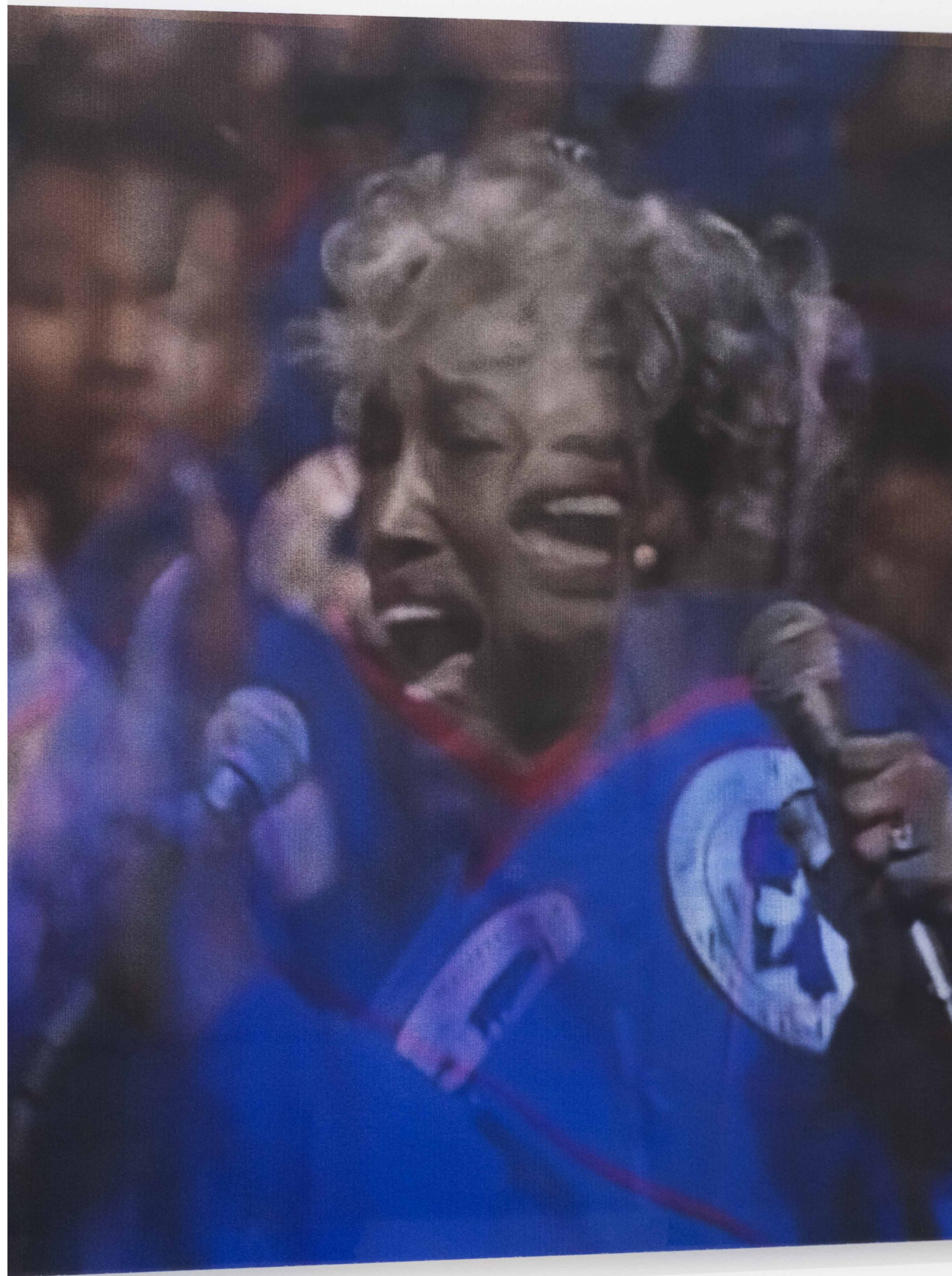
Untitled (JPK), 2021
Poplar wood, acrylic paint, brass chain, cast plastic,
archival pigment print, plexiglass
30 x 24 x 3in. / 76 x 61 x 8 cm
6'000 USD



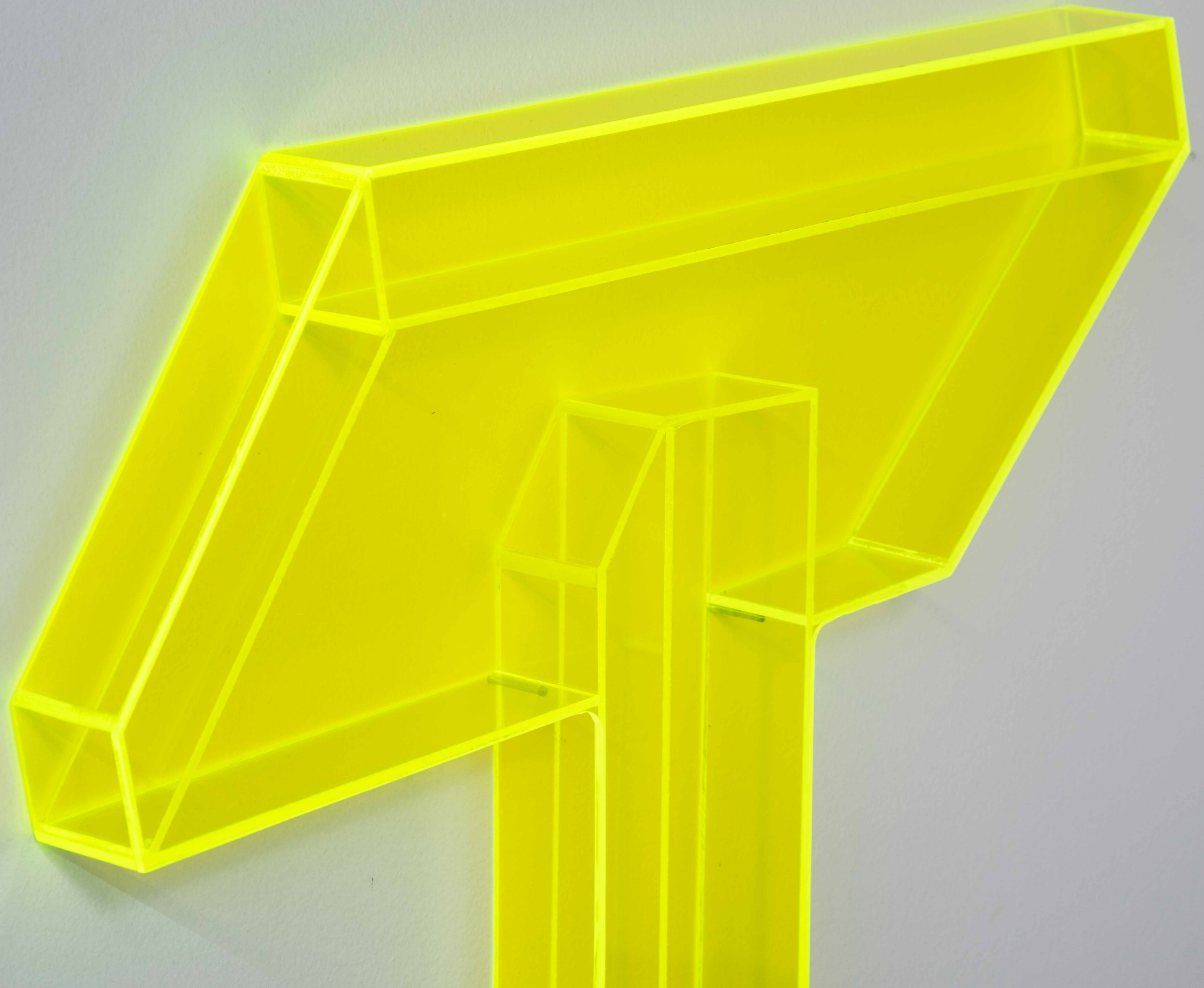
previous page
Untitled (Mosie Rose #3), 2026
Three-frame lenticular animation on plexiglass
20 × 26 × 2 1/2 in. / 51 × 66 × 6 cm

right and following pages
Untitled (Mosie Rose #1), 2026
Three-frame lenticular animation on plexiglass
20 × 26 × 2 1/2 in. / 51 × 66 × 6 cm

each an edition of 1
USD 4'000









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BOJ Jr., 2026
Plexiglass, graphite on paper
Dimensions variable
7'000 USD

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Antonio Darden

b. 1983
Lives and works in Atlanta, GA

Education

Sculpture - Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, NY

BFA Sculpture - Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

The Art Officials (AO), Art Installation and Performative Collaborative, Atlanta, GA

Solo and Two-person Exhibitions

- 2026 Solo Presentation, Gallery Kendra Jayne Patrick, Independent, New York, NY
- 2025 *EYES LIKE FIRE*, Neue Welt, Nashville, TN
Little Ricky, Temporary Studios, Atlanta, GA
- 2024 ENIGGMA, Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA (with FRKO)
- 2023 *My Body as a topic coming around again* - Collaboration with choreographer Rebecca Pappas, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2022 *10-13Day and Night Projects*, Atlanta, GA
RICO, The End Project Space, Atlanta, GA
- 2021 *I am: A creative repair*, Woodruff Park, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 *We Made It: YouTube We Like*, Sumptuary, Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA (AO)
- 2012 *Last show, I promise (performance)* ACA/SCAD Sculpture Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2010 *All Gold Everything*, Studioplex 143, Atlanta, GA (AO)

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2026 *Fade*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY
That's What They Said, Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens, GA [forthcoming]
Media Swamp: New Media in the South, TSA: Greenville, SC [forthcoming]
TAC: MONUMENT, curated by Stuart Horodner & Scott Ingram, Lexington, KY [forthcoming]
- 2025 *Atlanta Art Fair*, Day & Night Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Rubberneckin', Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Double Take, Bard Exhibition Center/UBS Gallery, Red Hook, NY

- 2025 *THE END: First Five Years*, Westobou Gallery, Augusta, GA
Edge Award Finalist Exhibition, Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2024 *...an Atlanta Biennial...*, Temporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA
The sea swept the sandcastles away..., curated by Daniel Fuller, March Gallery, New York, NY
- 2023 *Offerings*, curated by Jacob O'Kelley, Atlanta, GA 2023 Carolina Roots, Art Space, Raleigh, NC
Southern Voices/Global Visions, Lake City, SC
Southern Prize and State Fellows Exhibition, Hilliard Art Museum, Univ. of Louisiana, Lafayette, LA
- 2023 *Art Fields: 2023*, Lake City, SC
Southern Prize and State Fellows Exhibition, Gately Gallery, FMU, Florence, SC
- 2022 *Southern Prize and State Fellows Exhibition*, The Bo Bartlett Center, Columbus, GA
- 2022 *Gathered V*, Museum of Contemporary Art GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2018 *WAP Apprentice Show*, Museum of Contemporary Art GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2016 *Gray Space*, Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 *Start Something*, Robert Woodruff Library, Atlanta University Center, Atlanta, GA
Prosthesis, Atlanta Beltline, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 *Walthall Fellowship Exhibition*, Zuckerman Museum, Kennesaw, GA & Gallery 72, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 *Culture Shock: Adios Frida and Diego*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

Select Grants (€) Awards

- 2027 Nominee, US Artist Fellowship, United States Artists
- 2026 Joseph Hartog Fund for Independent Study Grant, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
- 2024 Edge Award Finalist, Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2022 Georgia Fellow - Southern Prize, South Arts, Atlanta, GA
- 2022 Juror's Choice - Gathered V, Museum of Contemporary Art GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Art on the Beltline Grant Recipient, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Forward Arts Prize Finalist, Swan Coach House Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 Walthall Fellowship, WR, Atlanta, GA 2012 Idea Capital Grant Recipient, Atlanta, GA

Select Residencies & Conferences

- 2026 MacDowell Fellowship, Peterborough, NH
- 2025 Visiting Artist, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN
- 2025 Visiting Artist Critic, Stoveworks, Chattanooga, TN
- 2024 Presenter, Poetic Record: Photography in a Transformed World. Symposium organized by Deana Lawson, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- 2022 Hambidge Art Center, Rabun Gap, GA
- 2019 Juror, Public Art on MLK Corridor, Office of Cultural Affairs, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Panelist, Portalism: Contemporary Southeastern Art, MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 Ossabaw Island Artist Residency, WR, Ossabaw Island, GA

Select Publications

- Reyes, Noah, "In Conversation with Antonio Darden."/November 13, 2025 (burnaway.org)
- Genis, Leia, "Three exhibits confront the troubled past..."/August 21, 2025 (artsatl.org)
- Seidel, Madeleine, "The sea swept the sandcastles away..."/February 8, 2024 (burnaway.org)
- Steinhauer, Jillian, "The sea swept the sandcastles away..." *New York Times*, January 24, 2024
- Maa, Gerald, "Just Is," *The Georgia Review*, Athens: The University of Georgia, Winter 2023, pp. cover, ...
- New American Paintings*, South 166 (2023)
- Renault, Gillian Anne. Antonio Darden named South Arts fellow for Georgia, draws on tragedy for his art/September 6, 2022 (artsatl.org)
- Feaster, Felicia. Irreverence is a strategy for examining loss in artist Antonio Darden's solo show/July 19, 2022 (ajc.com)
- Mintz, Donna. Review: MOCA GA's "Gathered V".../February 24, 2022 (artsatl.com)
- Fox, Catherine. Festival Review: FLUX 2010/October 2, 2010 (artscriticatl.com)
- Blankenship, Jessica. "All Gold Everything drops..." /May 7, 2010 (clatl.com)