

701 Center for Contemporary Art in Columbia, SC, Offers Work by John Sims

701 Center for Contemporary Art in Columbia, SC, is presenting a solo exhibition of works by John Sims, 701 CCA's Artist in Residence, *AfroDixia: A Righteous Confiscation*, on view through June 25, 2021.

Sims' activism goes all the way back to his college days. After graduating from Antioch College, he returned as special assistant to the Dean of Faculty, where he created and organized the Cross Cultural Field Program (CCFP) and African American Cultural Week (AACW), a program of 26 events celebrating the African American experience, featuring Henry Threadgill, R.L. Burnside, Karen Williams and many others. That annual event became the AACW Blues and Gospel Fest and celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2016.

The CCFP, an academic service learning program, took a diverse group of students to the South to learn about African American culture by visiting areas in Charleston, Sea Islands, and rural Georgia. The program received strong support from both Coretta Scott King and congressman John Lewis and was covered by *The New York Times*, going on to become a vital part of Antioch College's history of creating innovative curricula. These two projects later inspired the creative cultural activism that has come to be a foundational component of JohnSimsProjects.

Sims has given lectures and presented his exhibitions not only nationally but internationally in countries such as Hungary, Spain, Slovenia, Israel and Argentina. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*,



Work by John Sims

Washington Post, *CNN*, *NBC News*, *The Guardian*, *The Root*, *ThinkProgress*, *Al Jazeera*, *Guernica*, *Art in America*, *Transition*, *Sculpture*, *FiberArts*, *Science News* and the science journal *Nature*. He has written for major publications such as *CNN*, *Al Jazeera*, *The Huffington Post*, *Guernica Magazine*, *The Rumpus* and *The Grio*.

John Sims, a Detroit native, is an interdisciplinary conceptual artist who creates multimedia projects spanning the areas of mathematics, art, text, performance and political-media activism. His main projects are informed by the vocabulary of mathematical structure, the politics of sacred symbols and poetic reflections. With his roots in Sarasota, FL, Sims' work is heavily influenced by the South. He is particularly inspired by the 1990s protest against the Confederate flag flying over South Carolina's capitol. He will be staying here in Columbia, SC, during his residency with 701 CCA.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Michaela Pilar Brown, Executive Director 701 CCA at 803/319-9949 or visit (www.701cca.org).

USC Lancaster in Lancaster, SC, Features Works by Alex Osborn



Work by Alex Osborn

USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center in Lancaster, SC, announces a summer Contemporary Artist-in-Residence program continuing through Aug. 31, 2021, featuring Catawba artist Alex Osborn.

Osborn will demonstrate his work with photography, digital collage, and drawing, creating an evolving art installation in the Center's Five Points Gallery.

Working both remotely and on-site at the Center, Osborn's virtual residency will feature artist talks and interviews, and will give viewers an inside look at his work-in-progress. During each program, the audience will have the chance to interact with Osborn and ask questions about his artistic process and creations. By the end of summer, Osborn plans to have five digitally-created pieces of artwork that show Catawba heritage and culture through a contemporary lens.

"I want people to reflect on their own identities and understand that Native American culture and artwork, especially Catawba culture and art, isn't only in the past," said Osborn. "We create it today and will continue to impact society and the community around us."

Osborn will cover a variety of topics in his presentations, including traditional

Catawba artforms, artistic mediums he works with, identity through art, cultural documentation, contemporary art in Catawba and Native American culture today, and more.

Osborn will demonstrate and discuss his work on select Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through August. Other residency dates include June 17-19, July 8-10, and July 29-31.

On Aug. 12 from 6-8pm, viewers can join the artist for a talk and demonstration about the exhibit installation. If the current health situation continues to improve, there will be two opportunities on Aug. 27 and 28 from 10am-4pm, where the public can tentatively see a live installation of murals in-person in the galleries.

Artist-in-Residence events can be viewed live via Facebook or Zoom, using the registration links that will be provided on the Center's social media pages.

This work is supported by a RISE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of South Carolina.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Native American Studies Center at 803/313-7172, or visit (www.sc.edu/Lancaster/NAS) or (www.facebook.com/nativeamericanstudies).



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So you're the Marketing Director of a visual arts organization, art museum, arts center, arts council or artist guild and you're wondering why you never see the exhibits presented at your facility included here. Maybe you're the owner of a commercial art gallery and you've never seen your exhibits included with others presented in your area. You might even be an individual artist who is having an exhibit in a non-profit space or commercial space and you don't see your exhibits included. My question to you is - How long will you put up with that before you ask someone, "Why that is the case?" If you're not included - it's your fault.