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High-res images available here.

THE HALSEY INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
PRESENTS A VIRTUAL PROJECT FOR FALL 2020,
DIS/PLACEMENTS: REVISITATIONS OF HOME

Online beginning August 28, 2020
Tentative gallery dates: September 17 – December 12, 2020

CHARLESTON, SC – The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston will present a virtual exhibition entitled Dis/placements: Revisitations of Home beginning on Friday, August 28, 2020. There is a tentative gallery opening date of Thursday, September 17 with limited public hours in response to COVID-19 precautions. The Halsey Institute’s modified gallery hours will be Thursdays and Fridays 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and by appointment Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. The galleries will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays. The Halsey Institute’s galleries are open to the public and admission is free.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Dis/placements features ten artists whose works deal with issues of displacement from their ancestral homeland in various capacities. The artists have been drawn from the exhibition history of the Halsey Institute. Each artist was asked to submit works that speak most directly to their reminiscences of home. Artists were paired with writers who have offered their own reflections on the work and its relationship to the concepts of home and displacement. When taken together, this collection of work provides an opportunity to consider the traits and aspects that are both similar and jarringly disparate—from Asia to Africa, to Europe and the Middle East.

Ideas of home have taken on new meaning in this fraught moment of pandemic. For many, home has become a place to cocoon where hours run into days, weeks, and months. For people less fortunate, home can represent insecurity and be charged with fear; and for those on the frontlines of COVID-19 it may be a place newly tenuous, frequented for momentary respite at best.
As a formative dimension of the human condition, focus on home is a constant in the arts at scales from the family residence to the neighborhood to the homeland. Homelands are central to our collective imagining of our place in the world. For most of us most of the time, they can be taken for granted, celebrated periodically, before receding to form the backdrop against which life plays out. Made inaccessible or, worse, lost, they can be mythologized as places to be coveted, spied from afar, encountered, experienced, perhaps recovered if only ephemerally.

Over the course of fall 2020, Dis/placements: Revisitations of Home will consider these themes. The core of the project exists virtually, functioning as an online platform designed to reach greater audiences and encourage community participation. Throughout the fall, content will be added to this site to further enrich the project, including virtual conversations between artist-writer pairs, educational packets designed for classroom or in-home use, interactive phone and mapping activities, and responsive projects from students at the College of Charleston. We believe these community participation elements, in addition to the commissioned responsive art pieces, will create a rich tableau of connectedness in these times of social distance.

The project is funded in part by The Henry & Sylvia Yaschik Foundation. This program is sponsored by South Carolina Humanities, a not for-profit organization; inspiring, engaging and enriching South Carolinians with programs on literature, history, culture and heritage.

ARTIST AND RESPONDENT PAIRINGS

Shimon Attie | Dr. Dale Rosengarten, curator, Special Collections, College of Charleston

Riccarda de Eccher | Bryan Granger, director of exhibitions and public programs, Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, College of Charleston

Lonnie Holley | Dr. Theodore Rosengarten, Zucker/Goldberg Chair of Holocaust Studies, College of Charleston, and National Book Award-winning author

Yaakov Israel | Dr. Mark Long, academic liaison for the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, and political science faculty at the College of Charleston

Hung Liu | Katie Hirsch, curator and director of strategic partnerships, Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, College of Charleston

Jiha Moon | Lilly Wei, New York-based art critic and independent curator

Dr. Fahamu Pecou | Ruth Rambo, a life-long advocate of the arts, young adults, seniors, and minorities
EVENTS DURING DIS/PLACEMENTS

A series of events throughout the fall will be announced on the Dis/placements website including artist/respondent conversations, film screenings, story times with the Charleston County Public Library (CCPL), curator Q&As, and the debut of responsive works of dance, theatre, music, and creative writing by College of Charleston students. All ten artist/respondent conversations, the CCPL story times, and curator events will take place on the Halsey Institute’s Facebook page in addition to being posted on the Dis/placements website. All programs are free and will be open to the public.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SHIMON ATTIE
Born in Los Angeles, California (1957)
Lives and works in New York City

Shimon Attie’s work reflects on the relationship between place, memory, and identity. His artistic practice includes creating site-specific installations in public places, accompanying art photographs, immersive multiple-channel video and mixed-media installations for museums and galleries, and new media works. Attie earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley in 1980 and an MA from Antioch University in 1982. He earned his MFA from San Francisco State University in 1991. Since that time, Attie has received more than 25 commissions to create new works of art in more than ten countries around the world.

Attie’s work can be found in the collections of museums around the world, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France; and the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Israel, among many others.

He has received multiple honors including fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts (1993), Stiftung Kunstfonds (1993), the Pollock-Krasner Foundation (1998), the American Academy in Rome (The Rome Prize) (2001), and the John S. Guggenheim Memorial Foundation (2008). In 2013-2014, Attie was awarded the Lee Krasner Lifetime Achievement Award.

Shimon Attie’s work was featured at the City Gallery at Waterfront Park in Charleston in 2005 in The History of
Another, co-organized by the Halsey Institute.

RICCARDA DE ECCHER
Born in Bolzano, Italy
Lives and works in Long Island, New York

Riccarda de Eccher grew up in Udine, Italy. She started painting primarily watercolors later in her life. Her love of mountains has made them the subject of her work.

Her work has been featured at the Casa Cavazzini Museo d’Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Udine, Italy; Galleria d’Arte Moderna Enrico de Cillia, Treppo Carnico, Italy; Gallery ArtCube, Paris, France; and the Sala delle Esposizioni, Bolzano, Italy, among others. De Eccher’s most recent exhibit, in December 2019, was at the Centro Trevi, Via Cappuccini in Bolzano, Italy. In 2019, she was featured at the Biennale Porto Vecchio in Trieste, Italy and at Alfred Van Loen Gallery in Huntington, NY. De Eccher has also published several books of short stories featuring her paintings.

Riccarda de Eccher’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2017 in Montagna.

LONNIE HOLLEY
Born in Birmingham, Alabama (1950)
Lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia

Since 1979, Holley has devoted his life to the practice of improvisational creativity. His work incorporates natural and man-made objects, already imbued with cultural and artistic associations, into narrative sculptures that commemorate places, people, and events.


Holley is also a prolific and eclectic musician and has toured internationally for many years. He has been making and recording music privately since the early 1980s, performing and collaborating with groups such as Deerhunter, War on Drugs, Animal Collective, and Bon Iver. Holley’s latest EP National Freedom was released July 2020.

Lonnie Holley’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2015 in Something to Take My Place. A catalogue by the same title was published by the Halsey Institute in 2015.
YAAKOV ISRAEL
Born in Jerusalem (1974)
Lives and works in Jerusalem

Yaakov Israel earned a BFA in Photography at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem in 2002. Israel focuses on long-term independent projects, which reflect on the way the religious, social, and political affect and create his personal reality. His gaze is constantly investigating the Israeli identity as perceived through architecture, landscape, and the country’s diverse population.

Israel’s photographs are in the collections of The Knesset, Jerusalem, Israel; Haifa Museum of Art, Israel; The Open Museum of Photography at Tel-Hai, Israel; and the Ashdod Art Museum, Israel. He is the recipient awards such as the PHotoESPAÑA Descubrimientos PHE12 Award (2012) and two grants from The Israel Lottery Council for Culture & Arts (2014 and 2018), among others.

Yaakov Israel’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2014 in *The Quest for the Man on the White Donkey*.

HUNGG LIU
Born in Changchun, China (1948)
Lives and works in Oakland, California

Hung Liu grew up in China under the Maoist regime. Initially trained in the Socialist Realist style, Liu earned her BFA at Beijing Teachers College in 1975 before studying mural painting as a graduate student at the Central Academy of Fine Art in Beijing, where she earned her Graduate Degree (equivalent to an MFA) in 1981. Liu immigrated to the United States in 1984 to attend the University of California, San Diego, where she earned her MFA in 1986. She is Professor Emerita at Mills College in Oakland, California. Liu’s work combines historical photographs with traditional Chinese iconography, assigning contemporary narratives and identities to historical moments.

Liu’s work has been exhibited extensively and collected by museums around the globe, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, CA; the Los Angeles County Museum, CA; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. She has received such honors as two Painting Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts (1989 and 1991), the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant (1998), among many others.

Hung Liu’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 1998 in *WashingTown Blues*.

JIHA MOON
Born in Daegu, Korea (1973)
Lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia

Jiha Moon’s gestural paintings, mixed media, ceramic sculpture, and installations explore fluid identities and the global movement of people and their cultures. Moon earned a BFA from Korea University in 1996 and an MFA from Ewha University in Seoul in 1999. After immigrating to the United States, she earned an MA (2001) and MFA (2002) from the University of Iowa.

Moon’s works can be found in the collections of Asia Society, New York, NY; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; The Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.; Weatherspoon Museum of Art, Greensboro, NC; and The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA. She has received such awards as the Museum of Contemporary Art Georgia Working Artist Project (2012-2013), the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant (2011), and the Artadia Award (2016), among other honors.

Jiha Moon’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2015 in *Double Welcome, Most Everyone’s Mad Here*. A catalogue by the same title was published by the Halsey Institute in 2017.

FAHAMU PECOU
Born in Brooklyn, New York (1975)
Lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Fahamu Pecou is an interdisciplinary artist and scholar whose work combines observations on hip-hop, fine art, and popular culture. Pecou’s work seeks to provide a crucial intervention in contemporary representations of Black masculinity. He earned his BFA at the Atlanta College of Art in 1997 and a Ph.D. from Emory University in 2018.

Pecou’s work is featured in many collections including that of Smithsonian National Museum of African American Art and Culture, Washington, D.C.; Societe Generale, Paris, France; Nasher Museum at Duke University, Durham, NC; Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR; Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA; The Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art at The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL; and The High Museum of Art, Clark Atlanta University Art Collection, and Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, all in Atlanta, GA. Pecou is the recipient of many awards and grants including the Artadia Award (2009), Working Artist Fellowship from the Museum of Contemporary Art Georgia (2013), and the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Award (2016). He was recently named the inaugural Artist-in-Residence for the Atlanta Beltline (2020).

Fahamu Pecou’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2016 in *DO or DIE: Affect, Ritual, Resistance*. The catalogue *Fahamu Pecou: Visible Man* was published by the Halsey Institute in 2017.
HAMID RAHAMIAN  
Born in Tehran, Iran (1968)  
Lives and works in New York, New York

Hamid Rahmanian was raised and educated in Tehran, Iran. Rahmanian earned a BFA from Tehran University in 1990 and went on to work in Tehran for many years as a celebrated graphic designer. Rahmanian moved to the United States and earned an MFA in Computer Animation from Pratt Institute, New York in 1997. He established his own production company, Fictionville Studio, in 1998. Rahmanian’s work intertwines reality and fantasy to reflect on what it means to be an immigrant in a global narrative that defies borders.

Rahmanian’s narrative and documentary films have premiered at Venice, Sundance, Toronto, Tribeca, and IDFA film festivals. He has won numerous international awards and his films have been televised on international networks, including PBS, Sundance Channel, IFC, Channel 4, BBC, DR2, and Al Jazeera. Rahmanian’s films have gained international recognition for their socially conscious storylines. He was the recipient of a Film Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation in 2014. In addition to his films, Rahmanian has created multiple books including undertaking the immense task of illustrating and commissioning a new translation and adaptation of the tenth-century Persian epic poem the Shahnameh by Ferdowsi, entitled Shahnameh: The Epic of the Persian Kings.

Hamid Rahmanian’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2011 in Multiverse.

TANJA SOFTIĆ  
Born in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia (present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina) (1966)  
Lives and works in Richmond, Virginia

Tanja Softić works across the media of printmaking, drawing, photography, and book arts to explore questions of cultural belonging, hybridity, and memory. Softić earned a BFA from the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of Sarajevo in 1988 and her MFA in Printmaking from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia in 1992. She is currently Professor of Art and Chair of the Department of Art & Art History at the University of Richmond.

Softić’s work is included in numerous collections in the United States and abroad, among them New York Public Library, New York, NY; Library of Congress Print Department, Washington, D.C.; and New South Wales Gallery of Art, Sydney, Australia. She is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts/Southern Arts Federation Visual Artist Fellowship (1996), Painting Fellowship from the Virginia Commission for the Arts (2004), and a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (2009), among other awards and honors.

Tanja Softić’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2011 in Migrant Universe. A catalogue by the same title was produced in 2011.
RENNÉE STOUT
Born in Junction City, Kansas (1958)
Lives and works in Washington, D.C.

Renée Stout grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and earned her BFA from Carnegie Mellon University in 1980. Originally trained as a painter, she moved to Washington, D.C. in 1985 where she began to explore the spiritual roots of her African American heritage through her work. In 1993, Stout became the first American artist to exhibit in the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African Art.

Stout’s work is included in such collections as the Afrika Museum, Berg en Dal, Netherlands; the Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland; the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; the San Francisco Museum of Fine Art, CA; the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, all in Washington, D.C. Stout is a recipient awards such as the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Award (1991 & 1999), Anonymous Was A Woman Award (1999), the Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant (2005), and the Women’s Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Award (2018), among many others.

Renée Stout’s work was featured at the Halsey Institute in 2013 in Tales of the Conjure Woman. A catalogue by the same title was published by the Halsey Institute in 2015.

COVID-19 GALLERY HOURS POLICIES

In accordance with the College of Charleston’s COVID-19 precautions, all gallery visitors and Halsey Institute staff will be required to wear a cloth face covering while on the College of Charleston campus, including inside the Halsey Institute’s galleries.

The staff member at the reception desk will welcome guests from behind a Plexiglas barrier. There will be a maximum of 30 persons inside the gallery spaces at any one time. We ask that visitors and the small groups they attend the galleries with remain six feet away from other guests and groups. Any exhibition information will be printed large format on the walls to allow for proper distancing between visitors. Our Biblioteca reference library and the Joanna Foundation Video Cavern will remain closed until at least January 2021.

ABOUT THE HALSEY INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston provides a multidisciplinary laboratory for the production, presentation, interpretation, and dissemination of ideas by innovative visual artists from around the world. As a non-collecting museum, we create meaningful interactions between adventurous artists and
diverse communities within a context that emphasizes the historical, social, and cultural importance of the art of our time.

Location: The Marion and Wayland H. Cato Jr. Center for the Arts, College of Charleston
161 Calhoun Street, 1st Floor (corner of St. Philip & Calhoun Streets), Charleston, SC 29401
Parking: Available at metered spaces on surrounding streets and in the St. Philip and George Street Garages
For more information, call 843.953.4422, visit halsey.cofc.edu, or e-mail halsey@cofc.edu
Social media accounts: Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

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