

Hammer Projects: Kiyon Williams

MAY 28 – AUG 28, 2022

Between Starshine and Clay (2022) marks the first solo museum exhibition for artist **Kiyon Williams** (b. 1991, Newark, New Jersey) and is an installation that takes its name from a phrase in writer and educator Lucille Clifton's 1993 poem "won't you celebrate with me." Williams, who collects earth from familial sites and spaces that hold Black American histories, creates sculptural forms that slowly reveal traces and gestures of the body. Using dirt, sandstone, and other materials such as kanekalon hair, bricks, and wax to mold faces, limbs, and hands, Williams meditates on the notion of the "ruined" body and its potential to transcend and generate new genealogies.

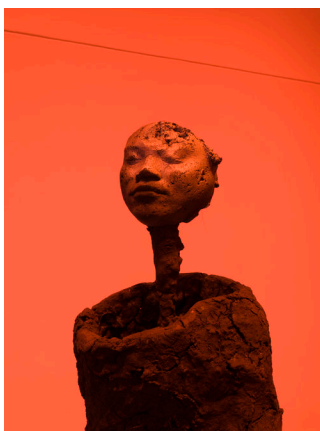
Download the Hammer's free digital guide to listen to watch a profile of Kiyon Williams.

Hammer Projects: Kiyon Williams is organized by Erin Christovale, associate curator.

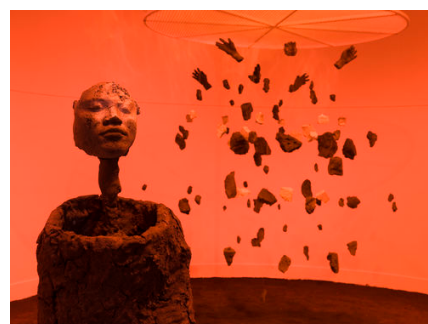
Hammer Projects are single-gallery exhibitions highlighting the work of contemporary artists from around the globe, often presenting new work at a pivotal moment of an artist's development. Ongoing since 1999, Hammer Projects is a signature series within the Hammer's exhibition program.



Hammer Projects: Kiyon Williams,
installation view



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Kiyon Williams, Sentient Ruins,
2021

Hammer Projects is presented in memory of Tom Slaughter and with support from the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. Lead funding is provided by the Hammer Collective. Generous support is also provided by Susan Bay Nimoy and Leonard Nimoy, with additional support from the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Hammer Projects: Kiyon Williams is made possible, in part, by the Pasadena Art Alliance.