GRAY

2044 W Carroll Ave
Chicago, IL 60612
+1 312 642 8877

1018 Madison Ave, 2nd Fl
New York, NY 10075
+1 212 472 8787

# THEASTER GATES

Born in Chicago, Illinois, 1973. Lives and works in Chicago, Illinois.

## EDUCATION

2006 M.S., Urban Planning, Ceramics, Religious Studies, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

1998 M.A., Fine Arts, Religious Studies, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

1996 B.S., Urban Planning, Ceramics, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Chawan Cabinet*, Prada Home, Milan, Italy
*Theaster Gates: Glorious Robe*, Hoosoo Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
*Dave: All My Relations*, Gagosian, New York, New York
*Theaster Gates: And Other Paintings*, White Cube, Paris, France

2025 *Theaster Gates: OH, YOU'VE GOT TO COME BACK TO THE CITY*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (2026)
*Theaster Gates: Unto Thee*, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2026)
*The Ever-Present Hand*, Albuquerque Foundation, Sintra, Portugal
*1965: Malcolm in Winter: A Translation Exercise*, White Cube, Bermondsey, United Kingdom
*Theaster Gates, Billy Sings Amazing Grace*, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, Canada
*Theaster Gates: The Glorious Robe*, Hosoo Gallery, Kyoto, Japan

2024 *Le chant du centre*, LUMA Arles, Arles, France
*When Clouds Roll Away: Reflection and Restoration from the Johnson Archive*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, IL
*Theaster Gates: The Gift and The Renege*, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, Texas
*Afro-Mingei*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
*Black Mystic*, Gagosian, Le Bourget, Paris, France
*Wonder Working Power*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia

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*Hold Me, Hold Me, Hold Me*, White Cube New York, New York, New York

2023 *A Monument to Listening*, Tom Lee Park, Memphis, Tennessee
*Min | Mon*, LUMA Arles, Arles, France

2022 *Afro Mingei*, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas
*Vestment*, Gagosian, New York, New York
*Young Lords and Their Traces*, New Museum, New York, New York [cat.] (2023)
*Monument in Waiting*, Drexel University, Philadelphia
*ASHEN*, Gagosian, Basel, Switzerland
*Serpentine Pavilion 2022: Black Chapel*, Serpentine, London, United Kingdom
*Theaster Gates: Public Notice*, Frederick Kiesler Foundation, Vienna
*Theaster Gates: Vessels*, Benaki Museum of Greek Culture, Athens
*No More Dark Days*, White Cube West Palm Beach, Florida
*The Listening House*, 2022 Aichi Triennale, Tokoname, Japan

2021 *A Clay Sermon*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, United Kingdom (2022)
*Theaster Gates: Slight Intervention #5*, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom
*Oh, The Wind Oh, The Wind*, White Cube Mason's Yard, London, United Kingdom
*Theaster Gates: How to Sell Hardware*, Gray Warehouse, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
*Theaster Gates: Light of Progress*, Artspace, New Haven, Connecticut
*Theaster Gates: Bad Neon*, TANK No. 3, TANK Shanghai, Shanghai, China
*China Cabinet*, Prada Rong Zhai, Shanghai, China

2020 *Breathing*, Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida (2021)
*Future Histories: Theaster Gates and Cauleen Smith*, SFMOMA, San Francisco, California (2021)
*Black Vessel*, Gagosian, New York, New York
*Theaster Gates: The Black Image Corporation*, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, Georgia

2019 *Black Chapel*, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
*Black Image Corporation*, 180 The Strand, London, United Kingdom
*Line Drawing for Shirt and Cloak*, Regen Projects, Los Angeles, California
*Assembly Hall*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2020)
*Every Square Needs a Circle*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois [cat.]
*Facsimile Cabinet of Women Origin Stories*, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
*Amalgam*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France; traveled to Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom (2020)
*Theaster Gates: Selected Works*, Gagosian, Paris, France

2018 *The Black Image Corporation*, Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy (2019) [cat.]; traveled to Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany (2019)
*Theaster Gates: Black Madonna*, Kunstmuseum Basel, Basel, Switzerland [cat.];

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traveled to the Sprengel Museum Hannover, Hannover, Germany
*2018 Nasher Prize Laureate*, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas

2017 *The Black Charismatic*, IHME Contemporary Art Festival, Helsinki, Finland
*Tarry Skies and Psalms for Now*, White Cube Hong Kong
*The Minor Arts*, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
*But To Be A Poor Race*, Regen Projects, Los Angeles, California

2016 *Heavy Sketches,* Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
*How to Build a House Museum,* Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada
*True Value,* Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy [cat.]
*Theaster Gates: Black Archive,* Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz, Austria [cat.]

2015 *Sanctum*, Temple Church, Bristol, England
*Freedom of Assembly,* White Cube London, United Kingdom

2014 *Theaster Gates: The Black Monastic*, Museu de Arte Contemporânea de Serralves, Porto, Portugal [cat.]

2013 *Accumulated Affects of Migration*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, Illinois
*Theaster Gates: A Way of Working*, The Vera List Center for Arts and Politics, New York, New York
*My Back, My Wheel and My Will*, White Cube Hong Kong; traveled to White Cube São Paulo, Brazil
*13th Ballad*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
*To Make the Thing that Makes the Things*, Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2012 *Soul Manufacturing Corporation*, Locust Projects, Miami, Florida
*My Labor Is My Protest*, White Cube Bermondsey, London, United Kingdom [cat.]

2011 *Theaster Gates: The Listening Room*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington (2012)
*An Epitaph for Civil Rights*, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, California (2012)
*Theaster Gates*, Arts Club London, London, England (2012)
*An Epitaph for Civil Rights and Other Domesticated Structures*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, Illinois

2010 *Bones Dry and Other Parables From the North*, Bruno David Gallery and the Pulitzer Museum of Art, St. Louis, Missouri [cat.]
*To Speculate Darkly: Theaster Gates and Dave the Potter*, Chipstone Foundation, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin [cat.]

2009 *On Another Note: Extractions from the Chicago Jazz Archive Collection*, DOVA Temporary, Chicago, Illinois
*Holiness in Three Parts*, Boots Contemporary Art Space, St. Louis, Missouri

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*Temple Exercises,* Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
*Erogenous Wonder, An Installation*, Salvage One, Chicago, Illinois

2008 *Dinner Intervention, Culture Community #1 meets Culture Community #2*, Chicago, Illinois
*Yamaguchi in Residence*, Experimental Station, Chicago, Illinois

2007 *Plate Convergence*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois
*Life After Qualls,* South Side Community Arts Center, Chicago, Illinois
*Recreation of the Candy "Stow"*, Chicago, Illinois
*Un-housed, Gentrification and the constant need for Space*, Architecture and Design Conference, Chicago, Illinois

2005 *The American Negro; Too good to be True*, St. George Cathedral, Cape Town, South Africa
*Mississippi Houses*, Inax Ceramic Museum, Tokoname, Japan
*Theaster Gates*, Yakimono Ceramics Exhibition, Tokoname, Japan

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Beyond Materialism*, Walker Design Triennial, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2027)
*Revelation: A Journey in Abstraction*, National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington D.C. [cat.]
*Views of Vexation of Spirit*, Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, Portugal

2025 *A Kin to Clay*, Tinworks Art, Bozeman, Montana
*Inequalities*, The Triennale Milano International Exhibition, Milan, Italy
*Apparitions*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
*resonance*, Anthony Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
*Here, There: New Perspectives from the Illinois State Museum Collection,* Illinois State Museum, Urbana, Illinois; traveled to Schingoethe Center Museum at Aurora University, Aurora, Illinois (2026)

2024 *Arte Povera*, Bourse de Commerce, Pinault Collection, Paris, France (2025)
*Frieze Sculpture 2024*, Frieze, Regent's Park, London, United Kingdom
*Edges of Ailey*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York (2025) [cat.]
*The Black Home as Public Art,* The University of Texas at Austin, School of Architecture, Austin, Texas
*Social Abstraction*, Gagosian, Beverly Hills, California
*Has My Place Forgotten Me?*, Kistefos Museum, Jevnaker, Norway
*Contemporary Expression and the World of Individual Expression*, Ueshima Museum, Tokyo, Japan
*The Vinyl Factory — Reverb*, 180 Studios, London, United Kingdom [cat.]
*When You See Me: Visibility in Contemporary Art/History*, Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas (2025)

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*Translations: Afro-Asian Poetics*, The Institutum, Singapore

2023 *Forms*, Gagosian and Jeffrey Deitch, Miami, Florida

*Chopped & Screwed*, White Cube New York, New York

*Everybody Talks About the Weather*, Fondazione Prada, Venice

*Sharjah Biennial 15*, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

*GRAY at 60*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois [cat.]; traveled to Richard Gray Gallery, New York, New York

*Laboratory of the Future*, Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice, Italy

2022 *Monochrome Multitudes*, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2023)

*Citing Black Geographies*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois [cat.]; traveled to Richard Gray Gallery, New York, New York

*Hear Me Now: The Black Potters of Old Edgefield*, South Carolina, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York

*Aichi Triennale: Still Alive*, Japan

*A Movement in Every Direction: Legacies of the Great Migration*, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, Mississippi [cat.]; traveled to Baltimore Art Museum, Baltimore, Maryland (2023); California African American Museum, Los Angeles, California (2024); Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, California (2024); and the Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois (2025)

*This Tender, Fragile Thing*, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, New York

*Working Thought: Art, Labor, and the American Economy,* Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

*Hawai'i Triennial 2022*, Hawai'i Contemporary, Honolulu, Hawai'i

*Ruins and Fragments,* Gagosian, Athens, Greece

*From Moment to Movement: Picturing Protest in the Kramlich Collection*, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, California

*Reimagining: New Perspectives*, UBS Art Gallery, New York, New York

*A Site of Struggle: American Art against Anti-Black Violence*, The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

*FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art*, Cleveland, Ohio

*Les Souffles des Ancêtres* (The Breath of the Ancestors), Congo Biennale, National Museum of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kinshasa, DRC

2021 *Social Works*, Gagosian, New York, New York

*The Dirty South: Contemporary Art, Material Culture, and the Sonic Impulse*, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia [cat.]; traveled to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas (2022)

*Promise, Witness, Remembrance*, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky

*An Ideal Landscape*, Gagosian, New York, New York

*Lost and Looking*, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana

*Grief and Grievance: Art and Mourning in America*, New Museum, New York, New York

2020 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy of Arts, London, United Kingdom (2021)

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*Field of Dreams*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York (2021)
*Transparent Things*, Goldsmiths Centre for Contemporary Art, University of London, London, United Kingdom
*American Pastoral,* Gagosian, London, United Kingdom
*Blanc sur Blanc*, Gagosian, Paris, France

2019 *Meridians*, Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami, Florida
*Streams of Consciousness*, Bamako Encounters, Bamako, Mali (2020)
*Where the Oceans Meet*, Museum of Art and Design, Miami Dade College, Miami, Florida (2020)
*…and other such stories*, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago, Illinois (2020)
*Mask: In Present-Day Art*, Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau, Switzerland (2020)
*An Exhibition for Notre-Dame*, Gagosian, Paris, France
*Continuing Abstraction*, Gagosian, Basel, Switzerland
*La Source,* Fondation Carmignac, Paris, France
*Matter and Place*, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara, Jakarta, Indonesia
*A Time Capsule Continued*, Parkett Exhibition Space, Zurich, Switzerland
*Five Ways In: Themes from the Collection*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2021)
*Transitions and Transformations*, NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, Florida (2021)

2018 *MONUMENTality*, Getty Research Institute, Getty Center, Los Angeles, California (2019)
*Days of Reading*, Plug In ICA, Winnipeg, Canada
*OVERRIDE | A Billboard Project*, EXPO Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
*New Materialism*, Bonniers Konsthall, Stockholm, Sweden
*Remembering Tomorrow: Artworks and Archives*, White Cube Hong Kong
*She sees the shadows*, MOSTYN, Wales, United Kingdom
*Memory Palace*, White Cube London, United Kingdom
*Afro-Atlantic Histories*, Instituto Tomie Ohtake, São Paulo, Brazil [cat.]
*Jason Moran*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
*Travelers: Stepping into the Unknown*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan

2017 *Solidary & Solitary: The Pamela J. Joyner & Alfred J. Giuffrida Collection*, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, Louisiana (2018)
*Forests Clouds*, 7th Moscow International Biennale of Contemporary Art, New Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia (2018)
*Dimensions of Black*, Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, California
*(X) A Fantasy*, David Roberts Art Foundation, London, United Kingdom
*An Incomplete History of Protest: Selections from the Whitney's Collection, 1940–2017*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
*The Legacy of Lynching: Confronting Racial Terror in America*, Brooklyn Museum, New York, New York
*Simple Passion, Complex Vision: The Darryl Atwell Collection*, Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture, Charlotte, North Carolina (2018)

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*Urban Planning: Contemporary Art and the City 1967–2017*, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri

*Colori,* Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy

*Cosmopolis #1: Collective Intelligence*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France

2016 *Question the Wall Itself*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2017) [cat.]

*In Context: Africans in America*, Goodman Gallery & Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

*Whoville,* The Peninsula Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

*On Space and Place: Contemporary Art from Chicago, Los Angeles, Mexico City and Vancouver*, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, Illinois

*Southern Accent: Seeking the American South in Contemporary Art*, Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, North Carolina [cat.]; traveled to the Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky (2017)

*Good Dreams, Bad Dreams – American Mythologies*, Aïshti Foundation, Antelias, Lebanon (2017) [cat.]

*Seeing Round Corners*, Turner Contemporary, Margate, United Kingdom

*YOU GO TO MY HEAD*, Galerie Templon, Brussels, Belgium

*Non-fiction*, The Underground Museum, Los Angeles, California (2017)

2015 *SALTWATER: A Theory of Thought Forms*, 14th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey [cat.]

*All the World's Futures*, 56th Venice Biennale, Corderie, Venice, Italy [cat.]

*Contemporary Conversations*, US Embassy Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

2014 *Highlight of the Collection II*, Berezdivin Collection, Espacio 1414, Santurce, Puerto Rico (2015)

*Living in the Material World: Materiality in Contemporary Art*, Kunstmuseum Krefeld, Krefeld, Germany; traveled to Galerie im Taxispalais Innsbruck, Austria (2015) [cat.]

*Impulse, Reason, Sense, Conflict. Abstract Art from the Ella Fontanals-Cisneros collection,* CIFO Art Space, Miami, Florida (2015) [cat.]

*Speaking of People: Ebony, Jet and Contemporary Art*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York (2015) [cat.]

*Prospect.3: Notes for Now*, New Orleans, Louisiana (2015) [cat.]

*Artes Mundi 6*, National Museum Cardiff, Cardiff, Wales (2015)

*Experiments with Truth: Gandhi and Images of Nonviolence*, The Menil Collection, Houston, Texas (2015) [cat.]; traveled to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum, Geneva, Switzerland (2016)

*Homeland [In]Security: Vanishing Dreams*, Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, New York

*Made by Brazilians…Creative Invasion*, Cidade Matarazzo, São Paulo, Brazil [cat.]

*More Material*, Salon 94, New York, New York

*When the Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination and the American South*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York [cat.]; traveled to the NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, Massachusetts (2015)

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*Point of View: Contemporary African American Art from the Elliott and Kimberly Perry Collection*, Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, Michigan [cat.]

*Contemporary Conversations*, US Embassy Madrid, Madrid, Spain

2013 *We'll Make Out Better Than Okay*, la Esquina Gallery, The Charlotte Street Foundation,Kansas City, Missouri

*Etched in Collective History*, Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, Alabama

*Sculpture in the Close*, Jesus College, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*BNKUDRWTR*, Art Basel Unlimited 2013, Basel, Switzerland

*Transforming the Known: Works from the Bert Kreuk Collection*, Gemeentemuseum, The Hague, Netherlands [cat.]

*Prima Materia*, Punta della Dogana, Venice, Italy (2015) [cat.]

*The Spirit of Utopia*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, England

*Labour and Wait*, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, California [cat.]

2012 *Radical Presence: Black Performance in Contemporary Art,* Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, Texas (2013) [cat.]; traveled to the Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York (2013); Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York, (2014); Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2015)

*The Sound of Painting*, Palazzo Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy [cat.]

*IN/SITU: Temporary Landmarks and Moving Situations*, EXPO Chicago, Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois

*Beyond Beauty*, TWIG Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

*Storytelling as Craft, Chapter One*, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, Louisville, Kentucky

*40 Under 40*, Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington DC (2013) [cat.]

*12 Ballads for Huguenot House*, dOCUMENTA (13), Kassel, Germany [cat.]

*Feast: Radical Hospitality in Contemporary Art*, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois [cat.]; traveled to the Blaffer Art Museum, University of Houston, Houston, Texas (2013); SITE SANTA FE, Santa Fe, New Mexico (2014); Gund Gallery, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio (2014); and the Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2015)

2011 *Social Structures*, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Sun Valley, Idaho

*The North Wind and the Sun*, Diverseworks, Houston, Texas

*Instruments of Resurrection*, Roots & Culture, Chicago, Illinois

2010 *Grain of Emptiness: Buddhism-Inspired Contemporary Art*, Rubin Museum of Art, New York, New York (2011)

*Hand+Made Contemporary: Just a Closer Walk With Thee, Toward a Legendary Black Clay Superhero,* Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, Texas

*Whitney Biennial 2010*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York [cat.]

*Gestures of Resistance,* Museum of Contemporary Craft, Portland, Oregon

2009 *Shoe Shine Stands and other archetypal structures of Blackness*, NADA Art Fair, Miami, Florida

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2008 *Heartland*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands (2009) [cat.]; traveled to the Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (2010)

*Branded Alongside the Cabinet of Curiosities*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

*Contemporary Response to the Plantation Cabinet, circa 1782*, Chipstone Foundation Estate, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

*Tea Shacks, Collard Greens and the Preservation of Soul*, Center for the Proliferations of Afro-Asian Artifacts, Chicago, Illinois

2005 *Facing Fuji: 10 Sculptors in Japan*, Tokoname Museum of Ceramic History, Tokoname, Japan

*People of the Mud, An exhibition of 15 ceramic artists*, Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago, Illinois

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Aishti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon
- The Akeroyd Collection, London, England
- Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada
- Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo, Norway
- Berezdivin Collection, Santurce, Puerto Rico
- Brooklyn Museum, New York, New York
- Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Buffalo, New York
- Burger Collection, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland
- Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, Florida
- Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
- Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas
- DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, Illinois
- Fondation Carmignac, Hyères, France
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
- K11 Art Foundation, Hong Kong
- Kistefos Museum, Jevnaker, Norway
- Kunstmuseum Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- Long Museum, Shanghai and Chonqing, China
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California
- LUMA Arles, Arles, France
- Marciano Art Foundation, Los Angeles, California
- Menil Collection, Houston, Texas
- Museum MACAN, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, Miami, Florida
- Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
- The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
- Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar, Netherlands

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- National Gallery of Canada, Ontario, Canada
- Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida
- NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Pérez Art Museum Miami, Miami, Florida
- Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Pinault Collection, Venice, Italy
- The Roberts Institute of Art, London, United Kingdom
- Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai, China
- San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California
- Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China
- Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
- Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, New York
- The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
- TANK Shanghai, Shanghai, China
- Tate Modern, London, England
- Tia Collection, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- UBS Art Collection, London, England
- Ueshima Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- V&A East Storehouse, London, United Kingdom
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia
- Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
- Yuz Museum Shanghai, Shanghai, China

## PROJECTS

2026 *To See What They Could See*, Obama Presidential Center, Chicago, Illinois
*Han Cha*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois
*Yunomi*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois

2025 *A Listening Space*, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois
*The Land School*, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2023 *A Monument to Listening*, commissioned by the Mellon Foundation, Tom Lee Memorial Park, Memphis, Tennessee

2021-22 *there is this We*, Sculpture Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2020 *Retreat at Currency Exchange Exchange Cafe*, 305 E 55th St., Chicago, Illinois
*Where Black Power Lives*, Indiana Toll Rd & Calumet Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana

2019 *Black Monastic*, Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago, Illinois
*Black Artists Retreat 2019: Sonic Imagination*, Park Avenue Armory, New York, New

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York
*Collective Intimacy*, 180 The Strand, London, England
*In the Absence of Light*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois

2018 *A Johnson Publishing Story*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois
*Black Artists Retreat*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois

2017 *Black Artists Retreat*, Stony Island Arts Bank, Chicago, Illinois

2016 *Black Artists Retreat*, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2015 *ArtHouse: A Social Kitchen*, Gary, Indiana
*Black Artists Retreat*, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois
*Chicago Architecture Biennial*, Chicago, Illinois

2014 *Back of the House: 2014-2015*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
*Black Artists Retreat*, Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois
*Retreat*, Valerie Carberry Gallery and Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

2013 *Black Artists Retreat*, Chicago, Illinois

2012 *12 Ballads for Huguenot House*, dOCUMENTA 13, Kassel, Germany
*Creative Time Global Residency*, Haiti
*Feast: Radical Hospitality in Contemporary Art*, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois; Traveled to Blaffer Art Museum (2013), University of Houston, Houston, Texas; SITE SANTA FE, Santa Fe, New Mexico (2014); Gund Gallery, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio; Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnespota, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2015)

2010 *Pushing the Archive, Art History and a Move's Uniform*, Armory Show, New York, New York

## LECTURES

2026 *Artist Talk: Theaster Gates*, MACRO–Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome Italy

2024 *Undivided: Theaster Gates/Nari Ward*, Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Little Rock, Arkansas
*Black Vessel: Theaster Gates*, National Building Museum, Washington, DC
*Talk | Arthur Jafa and Theaster Gates*, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

## ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

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2019–present Co-Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council, Prada, Milan, Italy

2018–present Distinguished Visiting Artist and Director of Artist Initiatives, Lunder Institute for American Art, Colby Museum of Art, Colby College, Waterville, Maine

Senior Advisor for Cultural Innovation and Advisor to the Dean of Harris Public Policy, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2014–present Professor, Department of Visual Arts, Humanities Department, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2010–present Chairman and Founder of Rebuild Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2008–2018 Director, Arts and Public Life Initiative, Office of the Provost, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2008–2014 Affiliated Lecturer, Department of Humanities, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Lecturer, Department of Visual Arts, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2006–2008 Humanities Division, Office of the Dean, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

## AWARDS

2026 Medalist: Established Artist, Art Basel Awards, Basel, Switzerland

W.E.B. Du Bois Medal Honoree, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

2025 Fine Arts Fellowship, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, New York, New York

2023 25th Vincent Scully Prize

Isamu Noguchi Award

2021 Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, Massachusetts

Honorary Fellowship, the Royal Institute of British Architects, London, United Kingdom

2020 Crystal Award, World Economic Forum, Geneva, Switzerland

Mary Miss Resident in Visual Art, American Academy, Rome, Italy

2019 Artist in Residence, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, California

Visions of the City grant, Obayashi Foundation, Chuo, Tokyo

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2018 Honorary Degree, Colby College, Waterville, Maine
Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa
Honorary Doctorate, University of the Arts London, London, United Kingdom
J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, Urban Land Institute, Washington, DC
Nasher Prize, Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, Texas

2017 Award in Architecture, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, New York
Edmund N. Bacon Award, Center for Architecture and Design, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Kurt Schwitters Prize, Sprengel Museum, Hannover, Germany

2016 Harman/Eisner Artist in Residence Program, The Aspen Institute, Washington, DC
Richman Distinguished Fellowship in Public Life, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts
Visual Arts and Performing Arts–Criticism and Practice, American Academy of Arts & Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts

2015 Artes Mundi 6, Artes Mundi, Cardiff, United Kingdom
Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, California
Kleo Barrett Angel Award, KLEO Center, Chicago, Illinois
Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award for Social Progress, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC

2014 Community Impact Award, Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Distinguished Artists Program, Union League Club of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Diversity Leadership Award, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Honorary Doctorate, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Grant, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Legendary Landmarks, Landmark in the Making Award, Landmarks Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

2013 Award for Excellence, for Art Incubator, Robert E. Gard Wisconsin Idea Foundation, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Chicago Vision Award for Programming, The Urban Land Institute, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Connecting Communities Through the Arts Award, South East Chicago Commission (SECC), The University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2012 Artist Commission, The Armory Show, 69th Regiment Armory, New York
Global Residency, Creative Time, New York, New York
Innovator of the Year, Wall Street Journal, New York, New York
Kippy Fellow, United States Artists, Chicago, Illinois

Prize for Art and Politics, New School Vera List Center, New York, New York
Visual Arts Grant, Creative Capital, New York, New York

2011 Fellowship, Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence, Seattle, Washington
Grant, Graham Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2010 Artist in Residence, Museum of Contemporary Craft, Portland, Oregon
Arts/Industry Residency, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin
Grant, Harpo Foundation shared with Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, Nebraska
Loeb Fellowship, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, Massachusetts
New York Residency, Arcadia New York, New York

2009 Architecture Award, Graham Foundation, Chicago, Illinois
Joyce Award, The Joyce Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

2008 Artadia Award, Artadia, New York, New York

2044 W Carroll Ave
Chicago, IL 60612
+1 312 642 8877

1018 Madison Ave, 2nd Fl
New York, NY 10075
+1 212 472 8787