GRAY

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TORKWASE DYSON

Born in Chicago, Illinois, 1973. Lives and works in Beacon, New York.

EDUCATION

2003 M.F.A., Painting/Printmaking Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

1999 B.F.A., Painting/Printmaking Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

1996 B.A., Sociology/Social Work Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Torkwase Dyson*, Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz, Austria (2027)
The Distance Inside Us (Bird and Lava), Goldfarb Gallery, York University, Toronto, Canada (2027)
Torkwase Dyson: Seeing in Blue, Pace Gallery, New York, New York

2024 *Torkwase Dyson: Of Line and Memory*, Richard Gray Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (2025)
Torkwase Dyson: Here, Pace, Los Angeles, California

2023 *Torkwase Dyson*, 'T' Space Rhinebeck, New York
Torkwase Dyson: Bird and Lava, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri

2022 *Torkwase Dyson: A Liquid Belonging*, Pace Gallery, New York

2021 *Liquid A Place*, Pace Live, Pace Gallery, London, England
Torkwase Dyson, Hall Art Foundation, Kunstmuseum Schloss Derneburg, Derneburg, Germany (2022)

2020 *Torkwase Dyson: Studies for Bird and Lava*, Pace Gallery, New York, New York
Torkwase Dyson: Black Compositional Thought | 15 Paintings for the Plantationocene, New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana

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2019 *Torkwase Dyson: Nautical Dusk*, William D. Adams Gallery, Colby Museum of Art, Colby College, Waterville, Maine

Torkwase Dyson - 1919: Black Water, Arthur Ross Architecture Gallery, Columbia University, New York, New York [cat.]

Torkwase Dyson: I Can Drink the Distance, The Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, The Cooper Union, New York, New York

2018 *Nautical Dusk*, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine (2019)

*Scala*r, Suzanne Lemerg Usdan, Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont

Torkwase Dyson: James Madison Dyson, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

Torkwase Dyson and the Wynter-Wells Drawing School, Graham Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

Torkwase Dyson: Dear Henry, Davidson Contemporary, New York, New York [cat.]

Torkwase Dyson: Black Compositional Thought and the Wynter-Wells Drawing School for Environmental Justice, The Drawing Center, New York, New York

2017 *Hidden in Plain Site: Black Paintings*, College of Visual Performing Arts, School of Art, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

2016 *Illegal Abstraction*, Hemphill Fine Arts, Washington, D.C.

Unkeeping, Industry City Gallery/Eyebeam, Brooklyn, New York

2014 *Mine: a solo exhibition by Torkwase Dyson*, Schiltkamp Gallery, Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

2008 *Torkwase Dyson: Hereinafter*, Meat Market Gallery, Washington, D.C.

2006 *Torkwase Dyson: Ding, Bling, Splash: Hurray You're Rich*, Ty Stokes Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia

Torkwase Dyson: Oil and Water Don't Mix, Ty Stokes Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Hard Art*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York (2027)

In Minor Keys, 61st International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy [cat.]

If the word we, 59th Carnegie International, The Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (2027) [cat.]

BLACK WORK: ABSENCE / ABSORPTION, Harnett Museum of Art, University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia

Affirmation Room, Mendes Wood DM, New York, New York

2025 *Artist's Choice: Arthur Jafa—Less Is Morbid*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (2026)

MONUMENTS, The Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California (2026) [cat.]

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2024 *A Nation Takes Place*, Minnesota Marine Art Museum, Winona, Minnesota (2025) [cat.]

Revolutions: Art from the Hirshhorn Collection, 1860–1960, Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC (2025)

Whitney Biennial 2024: Even Better than the Real Thing, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York [cat.]

Sites of Impermanence, National Academy of Design, New York, New York

2023 *50 Paintings*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2024)

12th Seoul Mediacity Biennale: THIS TOO, IS A MAP, Seoul Museum of Art (SeMA), South Korea

35th Bienal de São Paulo: Choreographies of the Impossible, São Paulo, Brazil

Liverpool Biennial 2023: uMoya: The Sacred Return of Lost Things, various venues, Liverpool, United Kingdom

Counterpublic Triennial, St. Louis Place Park and Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Saint Louis, Missouri [cat.]

Desert X, Coachella Valley, California

So it appears, Institute for Contemporary Art, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia

Embrace the World, Passerelle Centre d'art contemporain, Brest, France

Ecologies of Elsewhere, Contemporary Arts Center, Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, Cincinnati, Ohio

[action=query]: Black Arts and Black Aesthetics, Pace Gallery, New York, New York

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

Prendre corps au monde, Passerelle Centre d'art contemporain, Bretagne, France

2022 *Boil, Toil + Trouble*, organized by Art in Common, 50 NE 40th Street, Miami, Florida

Living with Ghosts, Pace Gallery, London, England

Set It Off, The Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York

Ninth Street and Beyond: 70 Years of Women in Abstraction: Part II: Geometry, Hunter/Dunbar Projects, New York, New York

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

Lux et Veritas, NSU Art Museum, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

2021 *Hiding in Plain Sight*, Pace Gallery, New York, New York

Bodies of Water: The 13th Shanghai Biennale - Phase 03: An Exhibition, Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China

Stories of Resistance, Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri [cat.]

Climate Changing: On Artists, Institutions, and the Social Environment, Wexner Center for the Arts, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

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2020 *Drawing 2020*, Gladstone Gallery, New York, New York [cat.]
Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago, The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Catalyst: Art and Social Justice, Gracie Mansion Conservancy, New York, New York

2019 *Count of Three*, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, New York
Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, California
Sharjah Biennial 14: Leaving the Echo Chamber, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

2018 *Out of Easy Reach*, Gallery 400, University of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois [cat.]
Form Shapes Language, Morán Morán, Los Angeles, California
The Last Place They Thought Of, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia [cat.]
Primary, Korn Gallery, Dorothy Young Center for the Arts, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey
Between the Waters, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York

2017 *Lack of Location is My Location*, Koenig & Clinton, New York, New York
On Documentary Abstraction, Oolite Arts, Miami, Florida
35 Days, Hemphill Fine Art, Washington, D.C.
Works on Water, 3LD Art & Technology Center, New York, New York
Stacked, Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, New York, New York
Invisible Man, Maros Gallery, New York, New York
Dialogues In Drawing, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, California
In Conditions of Freshwater, Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
x y: An Act of Translation, Tiger Strikes Asteroid, New York, New York
The Future is Abstract, Harvey B. Gantt Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

2016 *A Constellation*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York [cat.]
The Block Party, Kravets Wehby Gallery, New York, New York
Grey Scale, PostMasters Gallery, New York, New York
Torkwase Dyson and John Trevino: Mine Mind and Sunken City, Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, Virginia

2015 *Outside In*, South Street Seaport Cultural Building, New York, New York
EAF 15: 2015 Emerging Artist Fellowship Exhibition, Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City, New York, New York
Eyebeam Annual Showcase, 101 Front St. Galleries, Brooklyn, New York

2014 *Africa Extended*, United Nations, New York, New York
Emerging Artist Fellowship Exhibition, Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, Minnesota

2011 *Material Girls: Contemporary Black Women Artists*, Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Baltimore, Maryland [cat.]

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2008 *She's So Articulate: Black Women Artists Reclaim the Narrative*, Arlington Center for the Arts, Arlington, Virginia [cat.]
Spectrum-ed, Flanders Art Gallery, Raleigh, North Carolina
Ephemerality, Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
It Might Blow Up, But It Won't Go Pop, African American Art Museum, Dallas, Texas
Passin' It On, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, New York

2007 *The Velocity of Gesture, or How to Build an Empire*, The Dalton Gallery, Decatur, Georgia

2006 *Magic Realism: Relationships to Caribbean and Latin Literature*, Rush Arts Gallery, New York, New York

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
- Hall Art Foundation, Reading, Vermont
- Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California
- Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.
- The Long Museum, Shanghai, China
- Mead Art Museum, Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts
- Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis, Missouri
- Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
- Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts
- Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C.
- The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
- Ueshima Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York
- Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, Massachusetts

PROJECTS

2026 Obama Presidential Center, Chicago, Illinois

2025 *Torkwase Dyson: Akua*, Public Art Fund, Brooklyn Bridge Park, Pier 1, Brooklyn, New York (2026)
Superfine: Tailoring Black Style, Conceptual Design, The Met, New York, New York
CODE NOIR by Canisia Lubrin, Knopf Canada, Canada

2018 *The Shapes that Make the Black*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York

2017 Wynter-Wells Drawing School for Environmental Justice, School of Art and Architecture, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

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2016 *In Conditions of Freshwater*, Alamance County, North Carolina and Lowndes County, Alabama

2014 *Studio South Zero* (location variable)

2012 *Plural Zone: Occupying Possibilities in Sculpture Now*, International Sculpture Conference, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2010 *Monastic Residency: Torkwase Dyson: Whitney Biennial 2010*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York

2009 Dash, Fire and Ink: LGBT Empowerment Conference, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

2018 Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, Vermont
Visiting Instructor, Graduate Printmaking, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island

2017 Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts, PAFA, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York
Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, New York, New York

2015 MICA Rinehart Sculpture Group, Baltimore, Maryland

2014 International Advanced Research Institutes, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island

2012 The School of the Art Institute Of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

2008 Visiting Artist Sculpture Corcoran College of Art and Design, Washington, D.C.

2003 Lecturer, Painting / Printmaking, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut
Visiting Assistant Professor, Fine Arts, Pratt University, Brooklyn, New York

AWARDS

2019 Anonymous Was A Woman Award
Climate Change Residency at Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, California
Joyce Alexander Wein Artist Prize, Studio Museum, Harlem, New York

2018 BOFFO Artist Residency, Fire Island, New York
Fall Residency, Morán Morán, Los Angeles, California
Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

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Graham Foundation Inaugural Fellowship, Chicago, Illinois

2017 Mason Gross School of the Arts/Brodsky Center Residency and Visiting Artist Program, New Brunswick, New Jersey

2016 Joan Mitchell Foundation's Painters & Sculptors Grant, New York, New York

LMCC Art Center and Governor's Island, New York, New York

The MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Visiting Artist Grant to the Nicholas School of the Environment, Durham, North Carolina

2014 Brooklyn Artist Grant, Brooklyn, New York

Culture Push Fellowship for Utopian Practices, Franconia Sculpture Park/Jerome Fellowship, Shafer, Minnesota

The Dorchester Project, Chicago, Illinois

Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, New York

2012 Spelman College Summer Art Colony/Taller Portobelo Norte, Portobelo, Panama

2006 Nancy Graves Grant for Visual Artist, New York, New York

National Women's Travel Grant, New York, New York

2005 Spelman College Summer Art Colony, Summer Arts Fellowship, Portobelo, Panama

2003 Yale University Barry Cohen Scholarship, New York, New York

Yale University Paul Harper Residency at Vermont Studio Center Prize, New Haven, Connecticut