



Joyce Treasure

Past work

Intimate Xenolith

2022

Soundscape installation. Skeleton leaves, wool, synthetic hair, mycelium packaging, text, sugar starch and cowrie shells.

67 x 34 x 17cm



Breakaway State, 2020 (viewing clip), MP4, Video with sound, 10'37"



Masquerade Elegua Performance, 2022 (viewing clip), 3D virtual immersive performance, Stryx Gallery residency, 6 minutes



Current work

Break ∇ way State Painting Installation

Cotton dress

170 x 34 x 36 cm

Black assemblage mask piece

2025, hair, rubber mask, crochet, silver dice, 100 x 20 x 15 cm

Thus Spoke The Prophet of Dixie

2024, Oil on paper, 106 x 75 cm



Thus Spoke The Prophet of Dixie, 2024, Oil on paper, 106 x 75 cm



01. *Poiesis of Weathering _ nose*
2023.
Ceramic, golden glue, earth strong magnets. 13 x 24 x 13 cm



02. *Poiesis of Weathering _breasts*, 2023, Ceramic, golden glue, crochet, earth strong magnets, 17 x 16 x 4 and 16 x 13 x 9 cm



Poiesis In Benin

20225

Video with sound, 38 sec clip.



Radical Self-Compassion workshop

Relevant Literature:

- Barbieri, Donatella – Costume in Performance: Materiality, Culture, and the Body
- Campt, Tina M. – A Black Gaze
- Caretta, Martina Angela, and Zaragocin, Sofia – Cuerpo-Territorio: A Decolonial Feminist Geographical Method for the Study of Embodiment
- Hall, Stuart – Constituting an Archive
- Hurston, Zora Neale – I Love Myself When I Am Laughing And Then Again When I Am Looking Mean & Impressive(Introduction by Mary Helen Washington, Edited by Alice Walker)
- Judy, R. A. – Sentient Flesh: Thinking in Disorder, Poiesis in Black
- Lorde, Audre – Uses of the Erotic
- Noble, Denise – Remembering Bodies, Healing Histories: The Emotional Politics of Everyday Freedom
- Palmer, Katrina – The Dark Object
- Rarey, Matthew Francis – Insignificant Things: Amulets and the Art of Survival in the Early Black Atlantic
- Russel, Legacy – Glitch Feminism
- Sharpe, Christina – In the Wake
- Smith, Theophus H. – Conjuring Culture
- Stoute, Beverley J. – Black Rage and Racial Trauma
- Thompson, Robert Farris – Flash of the Spirit
- Yusoff, Kathryn – A Billion Black Anthropocenes or None

I am a multidisciplinary artist and independent researcher with an interest in social justice and embodied storytelling. Sifting through psychological architecture, my work examines the continuously upheld power structures that dominate discourse. With a background in film and scriptwriting, these tools inform how I shape narration, audio, visual elements, and poetic language.

My sound-based works surface out of community engagement, using personal archives, field recordings, and oral histories to explore collective memory, healing, and refusal. It is through this non-acceptance that rituals of refusal and mythology become known, translating these narratives as moments of harm and open abrasions, positioning myself as performer, witness, and choreographer.

Central to my process is collaboration, especially with marginalised voices. I create workshops as generative spaces for people to reconnect with their own stories, sometimes using body mapping, movement, and assemblage to open up non-verbal and verbal channels of expression.

My installation work is designed to be emotionally resonant and accessible, offering intimacy and reflective listening. I work with sensitivity, especially in contexts involving trauma or structural harm. Wherever the work takes place, whether in museums, universities, schools, grassroots contexts, or online, I centre lived experience, creating room for witnessing and grounding each project in care and deep listening.

Profile I am a multidisciplinary artist and independent researcher highly motivated in the creative industry, delivering and installing shows as a director, project manager, artist, filmmaker, and workshop facilitator. My work includes engaging with the public in groups and one-on-one settings. Drawing on my diverse skills and research, I transcend the boundaries between art and research to create new hybrid work incorporating movement, performance, and new technologies to disseminate theory as a decolonial practice. Transforming assemblages of objects and images into allegories of experiences, I cut between collage, sculpture, painting, drawings, performance, film, and speculative writing in my practice.

I hold a Public and Products Liability & Professional Indemnity Insurance policy.

Education

- 2020: (1st) BA (Hons) Black Studies – Birmingham City University
- 2008: Kowsakow Documentary, Any Media, IDFA, Amsterdam
- 2002: DV Film Production: Raindance
- 1991: Photography, K&C College
- 1999: (Merit) Screenwriting / Media Practice, Birkbeck University

Research

- Current: Poiesis of Weathering – Sculptural performance installation
- Current: SYN4SYS – Immersive Painting Installation
- Current: Break √ way State – Painting Installation and Performance Archive
- 2025: Authentic Movement Retreats – Introduction to Authentic Movement: Participated in an introductory workshop exploring the principles of Authentic Movement, focusing on inner-directed movement and the mover-witness dynamic. This experience contributes to my ongoing research into embodied practices and their application within my artistic work.
- 2023: Immersive Art / Volumetric – Explore Augmented Reality using Adobe Aero and Volumetric video, 3D capturing
- 2022: Cut, Copy, Remix – Explore the creative potential of Birmingham Museum's Trust Natural Science Collection
- 2022: STEAMhouse – Research to explore 3D scanning techniques to expand digital skills
- 2022-2024: Colectiva Feeling the Field – Research centred around workshops exploring how female-presenting researchers navigate the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) in the field using cuerpo territorio (body-mapping) methodology

Recent Shows

- 2023: Bring Your Light | curated by Chila Burman | Bow Arts
- 2023: WOCAA: Resonance | curated by Languid Hands | 198 Contemporary Arts & Learning
- 2022: Traces of the Earth pilot residency | Lapworth Museum of Geology
- 2021: VR SPOT residency | Stryx Gallery
- 2019: Hymns residency | Grand Union & Bruntwood
- 2018: Swop Shop | Tate Liverpool, BCU School of Art, Selfridges

Awards

- 2023: Women of Colour Art Awards
- 2022: Develop Your Creative Practice, Arts Council England
- 2022: Artist in Residency VR Spot Stryx Gallery
- 2022: Artist in Residence with Black Art Forum and Lapworth Museum of Geology

- 2022: a-n Time, Space, Money award
- 2019: Awarded Residency, Grand Union and Bruntwood
- 2012: Artist in Residence Kijkruimte, Amsterdam

Film

- 2010: Awarded £3000 and set up Sydenham Film Club
- 2008: Awarded £10,000 by Awards for All for Treasure Your History intergenerational programme
- 2005: Writer 'Be Mine' BBC and ABI Bollywood shorts £20,000 award with Justin Edgar productions

Writing

- The Dancer
- Breakaway State
- Intimate Xenolith
- Be Mine

Conferences/Seminars/Presentations

- 2023: Present 'Devolving Restitution' event. Early stage dialogue around histories of Empire, reparation and restitution.
- 2019: Visiting artist presentation, Birmingham SOA
- 2017: 'Art and Activism' Presentation, Birmingham City University

Teaching

- 2014-2017: St John's Hospital – Art facilitator
- Workshop leader and facilitator (2014–present) across galleries, museums, and community settings, including St John's Hospital (Art facilitator, 2014–17), Treasure Films CIC (2007–10), CineClub (2004–08).

Relevant Employment and Voluntary Work

- 2023-2025: Board member trustee, Grand Union Gallery

Acquisitions

- 2023: Winchester University – Our Lady of Climate Justice
- 2020: Bruntwood – Portraits

Performance

- 2025: SCENES FROM A FICTIONAL PLAY – Luncheon Magazine Issue 19
- 2023: Research and Development Project at 198 Gallery Performed a research and development project titled Poiesis of Weathering for a small, select audience at 198 Gallery.
- 2021: SPOT VR Residency Created a virtual performance as part of my SPOT VR residency.
- 2019: Grand Union and Bruntwood Residency (2019) Delivered a performance piece as an academic reading during my residency at Grand Union and Bruntwood.

References: Available on request