

LA WEEKLY

Miracle Week: Arts Calendar: January 27 – February 2

Shana Nys Dambrot | January 26 2022

Arts all along the Miracle Mile, a full roster of virtual conversations with some of the culture's most impressive women, book signings, performance art, dance on film, digital art on center stage, art inspired by music, video inspired by indigo blue, and artists excavate the generational memory of objects and the poetry of the elements.



Tori Wrânes, *ECHO FACE*, performance, Shulamit Nazarian, Los Angeles, CA.
Courtesy of the artist and Shulamit Nazarian, Los Angeles. Photo: Mason Kuehler.

Tori Wrânes: *Mussel Tears* at Shulamit Nazarian. Sculptures, paintings, sound, and performance merge together to evoke dream-like narratives, where the familiar becomes fantastical. As a synesthete, a person with a condition of combining senses such as seeing color and form in sound and language, Wrânes visualizes sound into a sculptural and physical dimension. This experience allows the artist to use sound to dictate the form of painting and sculpture and, in turn, she also visualizes objects through vocal projection.



Miles Aldridge: Venus Etcetera (after Titian), 2021 (Fahey/Klein Gallery)

Miles Aldridge: *High-Gloss at Fahey/Klein*. An exhibition of photographs and screenprints by Miles Aldridge, an artist renowned for staging elaborate technicolor dream-like worlds and fragmented narratives that defy expectations. This exhibition features a selection of familiar and newly released images that, in pure Aldridge fashion, are exuberantly glamorous yet probe society's idealized notions of domestic bliss for sinister undercurrents.



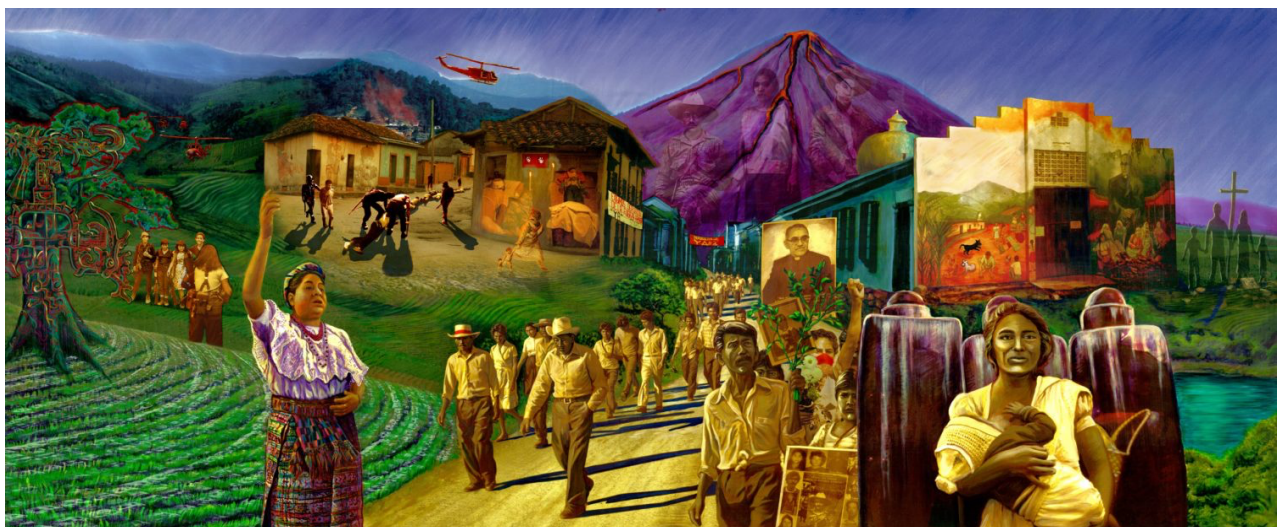
Patrisse Cullors, Angela Davis and Skye Patrick at CAAM

In Conversation: Patrisse Cullors and Angela Davis at CAAM (Virtual). In *An Abolitionist's Handbook*, artist, author and organizer Patrisse Cullors charts a framework for how everyday activists can effectively fight for an abolitionist present and future. Filled with relatable pedagogy on the history of abolition, a reimagining of what reparations look like for Black lives and real-life anecdotes, the book offers a bold and humanistic approach to how to be a modern-day abolitionist. Cullors discusses her work with political activist, scholar and philosopher Angela Davis, in a program moderated by L.A. County Library Director Skye Patrick.



Barbara T. Smith: Kiss a Spot Forbidden, 1975, performance documentation (Courtesy of the artist and The Box)

how we are in time and space: Nancy Buchanan, Marcia Hafif, Barbara T. Smith at the Armory. In an exhibition shaped by the forces of proximity, friendship, generosity, and longevity, Buchanan, Hafif, and Smith met in the newly formed MFA program at UC Irvine and remained friends for life. Structured around the subjects of bodies, communication, and dwelling, this exhibition reveals a remarkable range of pursuits explored by the three artists for the past 50 years. Though each followed their own trajectory, this exhibition — organized by guest curator Michael Ned Holte — highlights the differences as well as the “empathic overlaps” of these life-long friends.



MOLAA: Judy Baca_ CARECEN, 2002

Judy Baca & El Taller Siqueiros, with Dennis Broe at MOLAA (Virtual). Baca, ever the innovator, can't be confined within the walls of a single medium. But walls are where Baca's work is best seen. In conjunction with her landmark survey show at MOLAA, join this conversation to learn about El Taller Siqueiros, the great Mexican muralist, and how his work influenced Judy Baca's murals today.



Writers Bloc & Skylight Books Present Bernardine Evaristo & Roxane Gay

Bernardine Evaristo and Roxane Gay at Writers Bloc (Virtual). Booker Prize winner Bernardine Evaristo's new book, her nonfiction debut *Manifesto: On Never Giving Up* combines a memoir and a manifesto about achieving the impossible, about simply refusing to give up despite the odds. Bitingly candid about her insistence on filling the void where voices like hers were absent, her discussions on race, class, sexuality, and aging are not only resonant with a wide audience, but hit home with power and humor. She is joined in conversation by author Roxane Gay, herself considered to be one of our most influential cultural observers.



Senon Williams at Arcana Books

Senon Williams: *Words Don't Mean Much* Book Signing at Arcana Books. The old adage, “a picture is worth a thousand words,” is turned on its side in [Williams'](#) new book of aphoristic phrasing. This book of poems is derived from the text in Williams' ink on paper drawings, in which few words are needed to create an illuminating image in the mind's eye, conjuring immediate multi-sensory experiences. The drawings are textual extractions and gather momentum within the book, exhibiting great attention to materials and craftsmanship.



Christiane Lyons: Maria: Arrangement in King's Blue and Modigliani Ochre, 2020 (Meliksetian Briggs)

Christiane Lyons: *Some Women – A Total Portrait with No Omissions* at Meliksetian Briggs. Lyons's painting practice is driven by an ongoing investigation into the cognitive and non-linguistic processes used in interpreting imagery. Primarily using paint as a medium, she recontextualizes appropriated imagery to provoke new meanings and visual interpretations. Directly utilizing content from art history she re-addresses the issue of painting's importance as part of the canon, confronting the primary elements of paint, such as line and form, representation and abstraction, and color.



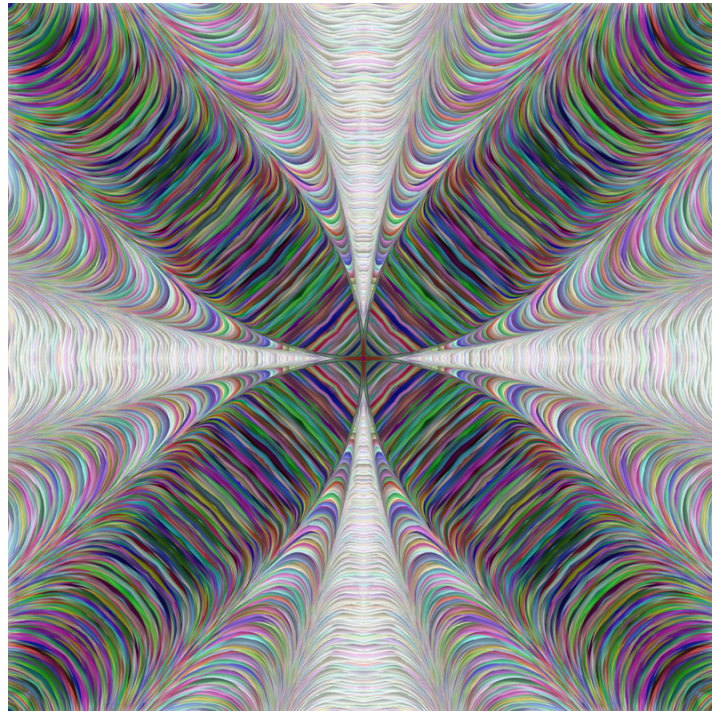
Shadi Théret: Throwing Line at Odyssey Theater

Shadi Théret: *Throwing Line* at Odyssey Theatre. A tragic-romantic-thrill-comedy dance solo composed for a deadbeat actress, the story manifests as a stream of consciousness, a play-through of events which take place in the aftermath of "giving her all" to her beloved audience. The woman's movements are a dialogue with her fragmented past, and she stages them publicly. She draws on the emotions and makes physical the desires of various personas and social relations from these memories. Music and Technical Direction by Alexander Iezzi.



Shinique Smith: Breathing Room: Moon Marked Journey

Shinique Smith: *Breathing Room: Moon Marked Journey* (Virtual). A live-stream performance and preview of Smith's new film — a meditation on breath, Indigo, and blue as a color that has long inspired her art practice. This work is an homage to blue, one that has been slowly percolating since 2009, when she began to incorporate body prints within her work. "This new, evolved version of *Breathing Room* is about Indigo, blue, the body, my body as a black woman, and the effect that the blue can have on the body, on memory, and spirit," says Smith. The full film will debut at Smith's forthcoming solo exhibition at the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art.



Karen Hochman Brown at TAG

Karen Hochman Brown: *Digital Playground* at TAG. Using the medium of photography, Hochman Brown translates nature through a digital lens. Her personal meditations take you inside a world of balance, patterns and visual trickery. Many versions of a distorted and reflected image are woven together to create precise visual symphonies in the form of multi-layered mandalas. In a world of digital over-simulation, the artist recognizes the irony of using the computer to create a peaceful, focused world.



Rosalyn Myles at Craft Contemporary

Rosalyn Myles: *Daisy Hightower*; Diedrick Bracken: *Heaven is a Muddy Riverbed*; Jaishri Abichandani: *Flower-Headed Children* at Craft Contemporary. Myles uses the traditional epicenter of family gatherings — the table and tablecloth — as a vehicle to tell her maternal grandmother’s life story. An intimate survey examines the use of the catfish motif in Brackens’ weavings and poetry. The first comprehensive museum show of New York-based artist and curator Abichandani’s varied creative production — over 25-years of folk and vernacular aesthetics and craft-based materials that create intricate figurative sculptures and painted portraits — is curated by writer, independent curator, and educator Anuradha Vikram.



Kehinde Wiley, The Watcher, 2021 at LACMA © Kehinde Wiley, photo courtesy of the artist

Artists Inspired by Music: Interscope Reimagined at LACMA. To mark the 30th anniversary of Interscope Records, the company invited artists to select albums and songs from Interscope’s catalog and fostered exchanges with musicians to generate resonant pairings. The exhibition includes over 50 works, from an intergenerational group of visual artists including Cecily Brown, Lauren Halsey, Rashid Johnson, Takashi Murakami, and Ed Ruscha — in dialog with iconic musicians from the last three decades like Dr. Dre, Billie Eilish, Kendrick Lamar, Nine Inch Nails, and Lady Gaga.