

Ever-Present Presence

**Stephanie Concepcion Ramirez, D'Angelo Lovell Williams, and Hannah Bates
Organized by Rachel McDermott**

Release & Mailing: May 2020

Stephanie Concepcion Ramirez, D'Angelo Lovell Williams, and Hannah Bates explore present realities, recent histories, and social constructs that have been misrepresented in mass media through acts of whitewashing by political and societal powers. Through seemingly gentle intimate moments, the three artists use their own bodies and personal histories to disrupt existing mainstream narratives and speak to the lasting impact of political injustice, deliberate ignorance, and/or historical trauma. Their tender acts of care through touch, ingestion, and eye contact embody moments of vulnerability and power as they question historical "truths" and their continued influence on the present. Spotlights the power dynamics that continue to dictate the ways moments are remembered and communicated as history, the exhibition supports artists, who through their own self-understanding placemaking practices, make work that pushes for change in contemporary time through methods of documentation as proof of current realities.

The publication is a shift in form from an exhibition scheduled to take place at ACRE Projects in April to a printed and mailed publication. A type of #museumfromhome that rifts on an exhibition catalog and lands somewhere between a publication and exhibition experience in hopes to bring a moment of gathering from afar. The work will be sent in the mail and be accessible online for home printing! To get a copy, please email your name and street address to mcdermottm1@gmail.com.

Hannah Bates | Hbates.org | @hbatez

Hannah Bates is an interdisciplinary artist working in sculpture, glass, and installation. Her work investigates relationships between body and landscape in order to reveal the agency of matter within the Anthropocene. She received an MFA in the Craft/Material Studies department at Virginia Commonwealth University and a BFA in Fine Arts at Columbus College of Art and Design. She was recently a resident at ACRE in Steuben, WI and chaNorth in Pine Plains, NY, and will be a resident at Sculpture Space in 2020. She has upcoming shows at RoyGBiv in Columbus, OH and Heaven Gallery in Chicago, IL.

Stephanie Concepcion Ramirez | Stephanieconcepcionramirez.com | @stephanieconcepcionramirez
Stephanie Concepcion Ramirez is a Salvadoran-American artist from Prince George's County, Maryland. She has had the privilege to attain her BFA at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA and her MFA at the University of Texas at Austin. Ramirez' practice combines the language of photography with site-specific installations and text. Her work is based on notions of memory, personal and historical amnesia that trace the veins of the Central American diaspora. In an

attempt to reconcile with her personal and cultural histories and memories, she creates work to validate truth, false memories, filtered history, and fantasy. Ramirez currently works and lives in League City, Texas.

D'Angelo Lovell Williams | Dangelolovellwilliams.com | [@dangelolovellwilliams](https://www.instagram.com/dangelolovellwilliams)

D'Angelo Lovell Williams (b. 1992, Jackson, Mississippi) is a Black, HIV Positive artist expanding narratives of Black and queer intimacy through photography. They earned their BFA in photography from Memphis College of Art, '15, MFA in photography from Syracuse University, '18, and is a Skowhegan School of Art alum, '18. Williams has most recently exhibited at Higher Pictures (2017-2020), Washington Project for the Arts, OSilas Gallery, Silber Gallery, and FJORD Gallery. Williams's work is featured in CULTURED Magazine, Studio Magazine, The 1619 Project, The Financial Times, VICE, Dazed, OUT, and W Magazine. Their work has been reviewed by Roberta Smith in the New York Times, Andre Hereford in Metro Weekly, and Johanna Fateman in The New Yorker. D'Angelo lives in and seeks work in New York, NY.

Rachel McDermott | [@rm.mcdermott](https://www.instagram.com/rm.mcdermott)

Rachel McDermott is an arts administrator and curator based in Savannah, GA. She collaborates with individuals who question our understandings of the vernacular every day to shift how we move through social, ecological, and digital spaces. McDermott is a 2020 ACRE Curatorial Fellow and works on SCAD's social media team. She has a BA in Historic Preservation and Community Planning from the College of Charleston, an MA in Museum and Exhibition Studies from UIC, and she has previously worked on curatorial and marketing teams at ASMP Chicago/Midwest, Galley 400, EXPO CHICAGO, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and the Robert F DeCaprio Art Gallery.

ACRE is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, MacArthur Funds for Culture, Equity, and the Arts at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events, and Sustainable Arts Foundation. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

Questions?

Email Rachel McDermott, mcdermottrm1@gmail.com or Danny Floyd, exhibitions@acreresidency.com