



FAHEEM MAJEED Who Takes the Weight

LOCATION

SMFA at Tufts / Boston

Barbara & Steven Grossman Gallery
Mrs. E Ross Anderson Auditorium
230 Fenway, Boston

CONTACT

Kaelynn Maloney,
Dept & Curatorial Assistant
kaelynn.maloney@tufts.edu
617.627.3518

August 22—October 26, 2019

Opening Reception & Roundtable Discussion
Thursday September 12, 6—8pm

SMFA at Tufts commissions two large-scale, site-specific installations in the Grossman and Anderson galleries for Chicago artist Faheem Majeed's first exhibition in Boston

Boston, MA — Faheem Majeed is a builder—literally and metaphorically. A resident of the South Shore neighborhood in Chicago, Majeed transforms materials such as particle board, scrap metal, and billboard remnants, breathing new life into these often overlooked and devalued materials. Synthesizing aspects of making, curating, community organizing, performance, and appropriation, Majeed's work acts as an entry point into larger questions around civic-mindedness, community activism, and institutional critique. For his first exhibition in Boston, Majeed will create two large-scale, site-specific installations in the Grossman and Anderson galleries at SMFA at Tufts, engaging with architectural, institutional, and community histories.

These works take inspiration from the institution-building legacies of Boston cultural icon Ms. Elma Lewis and Chicago artist, educator, and poet Dr. Margaret Burroughs. By asking, “Who takes the weight?”—a reference to a 1972 text by Ms. Lewis—Majeed initiates a listening process to better understand the space and sites we inhabit, the materials we use, and how that “use” and “inhabitation” is differentiated by our positionality—racially, economically, sociopolitically, and geographically. Delving into this history as a social practice and also an intensely material experience, Majeed brings together the studio and the presumptions of community to point to the limits of equity that persist in our cultural institutions.

Organized by Abigail Satinsky, Curator.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

12 September 6—8pm, Thursday
Anderson & Grossman Galleries

OPENING RECEPTION & Roundtable Discussion

Artist Faheem Majeed; Dr. Kymberly Pinder, Provost / Vice President of Academic Affairs at MassArt; Edmund Barry Gaither, Director and Curator of the Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists; and Destiny Polk, founder of Radical Black Girl, will discuss Majeed’s solo exhibition and the legacy of African American art and institution building in Boston and Chicago.

ABOUT TUFTS UNIVERSITY ART GALLERIES

Housed within a research university and an art school, the Tufts University Art Galleries engage with artists, scholars, and works of art to provoke discourse around cultural and social contexts. Through exhibitions, programming, research, and collecting, we create a pedagogical platform for the Tufts community and wider publics.

Tufts University Art Galleries operates from two main gallery locations:

Aidekman Arts Center / Medford

40 Talbot Avenue
Tuesday—Sunday, 11AM-5PM
Thursday, 11AM-8PM
Closed Mondays and university holidays

SMFA at Tufts / Boston

230 Fenway
Monday—Saturday, 10AM-5PM
Closed Sundays and university holidays

FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC

artgalleries.tufts.edu

Image: Faheem Majeed, Installation view of *Board-up* and *Lean-to* from *Tuned Mass*, 2018. Courtesy of the Artist & Chicago Cultural Center.

###