

## CASEY KAPLAN

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## SYDNEY CAIN

Born 1991, San Francisco, CA  
Lives and works in Philadelphia, PA

## EDUCATION

2024 MFA, Yale University, Yale School of Art  
2021 B.A., San Francisco State University

## SOLO EXHIBITONS

2025 *The Forest is the Water*, Casey Kaplan, New York, NY  
2021 *Dust to Dust*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Refutations*, The Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA  
2018 *Transitions*, African American Arts and Culture Complex, San Francisco, CA  
*the ones held tightly in my hands*, San Francisco Arts Commission, San Francisco, CA  
2016 *Always Here*, Omi Gallery, Oakland, CA  
2013 *Cosmograms: Visions of Black Matter*, Betti Ono Gallery, Oakland, CA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Nearly 31*, Casey Kaplan, New York, NY  
2025 *Driftwork*, Sourthen Guild, Los Angeles, CA  
*Flesh of the Forest*, Oxy Arts, Los Angeles, CA  
*Works on Paper*, Casey Kaplan, New York, NY  
2024 *Unknown Future*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*and the forms which linger / humming in our ears*, Yale School of Art, New Haven, CT  
2023 *Crafting Radicality: Bay Area Artists from the Svane Gift*, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA  
*Figure Telling: Contemporary Bay Area Figuration*, di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Napa, CA  
2022 *In Frequencies*, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, NV  
*Collective Arising: The Insistence of Black Bay Area Artists*, Museum of Sonoma County, Sonoma, CA  
2021 *ARK Exhibition and Auction*, The Svane Family Foundation  
*Mothership: Voyage into Afrofuturism*, Oakland Museum of California  
*Spirit & Flesh*, Slash, San Francisco, CA  
*Becoming*, St. Joseph's Arts Society, San Francisco (Curated by Erica Deeman)  
*Podium II*, 181 Fremont, San Francisco, CA  
2020 *To Reflect Us*, Rena Bransten Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
*Figural Effects*, Rena Bransten Gallery, 8-bridges (Online)  
*Imagine Freedom: Art Works for Abolition*, Benefit Auction for Critical Resistance, Artsy  
2019 *Fruition: Water Holds All Memory*, Ashara Ekundayo Gallery, Oakland, CA  
*Tiny Room for Elephants Festival*, Cherry Street Pier, Philadelphia, PA  
2017 *I AM San Francisco: Black Past and Presence*, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA  
*Distance ≠ Time*, IceBox Project Space, Philadelphia, PA  
*Cloud of Witnesses*, Omi Gallery, Oakland, CA  
2016 *The Black Woman Is God: Reprogramming That God Code*, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA

- I Am San Francisco: Black Past and Presence*, City College of San Francisco, CA  
 2015 *Psychedelic Inhibitions*, Luggage Store Projects, San Francisco, CA  
*Today is the Shadow of Tomorrow: Día de los Muertos*, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA  
*Making a Scene: 50 Years of Alternative Bay Area Spaces*, SOMArts, San Francisco, CA  
*Black Artist on Art*, Oakstop Gallery, Oakland, CA  
*The Art of Living Black*, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA  
 2014 *Beacons*, Faultline Artspace, Oakland, CA  
*Origins*, Rock Paper Scissors, Oakland, CA  
*The Black Woman Is God*, San Francisco Public Library, CA  
*The Rejection Project: Catharsis*, Big Umbrella Studios, San Francisco, CA  
*Oya: Mother of 9*, Oakland, CA  
 2013 *R/EVOLVE: Faith Art Exhibition*, Oakland City Hall, CA  
*Creative Intelligence and Desire*, MyGroove Designs, Inc., Oakland, CA  
*The Third Mind*, Big Umbrella Studios, San Francisco, CA  
*Black Woman is God*, African American Art and Culture Complex San Francisco, CA  
*Black Bucket Base*, House of the Rising Sun, San Francisco, CA  
*Innovators*, Warehouse 416, Oakland, CA  
*Alpha Omega Collective*, Ear Peace Records Berkeley, CA  
 2012 *Lucid Dreams*, Betti Ono, Oakland, CA  
*Small Art Show*, Warehouse 416, Oakland, CA  
*Breathe Easy*, Ear Peace Records, Berkeley, CA  
 San Francisco Green Festival, Art Installation, San Francisco, CA  
*Life is Living*, Art Installation with Betti Ono Gallery, Oakland, CA  
*Endless Canvas: Special Delivery*, Inkwell Factory, Berkeley, CA  
*Visual Codex*, Black Faun Gallery, Eureka, CA  
*The Exodus, The Migration, The Stand*, African American Art and Culture Complex San Francisco, CA

## RESIDENCIES

- 2021 Black Space Residency, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA  
 2020 Creatives in Place Residency, Oakland, CA  
 2018 African American Arts and Culture Complex, San Francisco, CA  
 2016 Signal Fire: Unwalking the West, Portland, OR  
 Residencia Gorila, Tulum, Mexico  
 1307 Gallery, San Francisco, CA

## AWARDS

- 2022 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SECA Nomination)  
 2021 Artadia Awards, San Francisco  
 Honorary Fellowship, Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, CA  
 2019 Emerging Artist Award, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA

## COMMISSIONED MURALS & PROJECTS

- 2021 Radio Imagination, Oakland Museum of California (for the exhibition Mothership: Voyage into Afrofuturism)  
 2017 San Francisco Anti-Displacement Coalition & San Francisco Municipal Transit Agency (Artist Design)  
 2016 Demos, New York  
 2014 Super Heroes Mural Project, Attitudinal Healing Connection/ CalTRANS (Mural Assistant) Oakland, CA

San Francisco Arts Commission, Third on Third Mural Project, San Francisco, CA

## PERMENANT COLLECTIONS

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, NV  
De Young Museum, San Francisco, CA  
Crocker Museum, San Jose, CA

## FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Dust to Dust, (Exhibition catalog), Rena Bransten Gallery  
Emergence Magazine v.3: Living with the Unknown
- 2021 Acres of Ancestry – Emergence Magazine, Online Publication, April  
BLATANT: A Zine of Art, Rage, and Joy, Issue 2
- 2017 Race, Poverty Environment: The National Journal for Social and Environmental Justice Power in Place, published by RE:Imagine! Oakland, CA Volume 21, No. 1
- 2013 Black Dandelion by Sasha Kelley, produced by The House of Malico, Oakland, CA  
“Art For Change” by Sarah Rewers for University of San Francisco Foghorn, Feb 12
- 2011 Art, Kids, and Institutions: A Brief Memoir of Teaching by Richard Olsen

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2025 Keenan, Annabel, “How Pamela Joyner’s Passion for Art Books Sparked a Visionary Collection”, *Artsy*, October 30
- 2023 Bravo, Tony, “Don’t miss ‘Crafting Radicality’ in its final week”, *Datebook*, December 25,  
Hotchkiss, Sarah, “At the de Young, ‘Crafting Radicality’ Captures the Energy of a Local Moment”, *KQED*, July 26
- 2022 Mgbeahuruike, Ezinne, “5 Artists We Discovered at Frieze New York”, *Okay Africa*, May 23  
Schneider, Tim, “5 Under-the-Radar Works to Seek Out at Frieze New York, From an Edward Said-Themed Video to an Artist’s Poignant Memorial”, *Artnet*, May 20  
Harshaw, Pendarvis & Marisol Medina-Cadena, “Rightnowish Presents: ‘Visions of Black Futurity’ from Raw Material”, *KQED*, May 13  
Valentine, Victoria L., “On View: See Images From ‘Sydney Cain: Dust to Dust’, Artist’s First Solo Exhibition at Rena Bransten Gallery”, *Culture Type*, February 10  
Suarez Porrás, Tamara, “Review: Sydney Cain’s gentle erasures summon omnipotent ancestral lineages”, *48 Hills*, February 9  
Blue, Max, “Sydney Cain’s solo show dares and dislocates at Rena Bransten Gallery”, *San Francisco Examiner*, January 7
- 2021 Van Proyen, Mark, “Sydney Cain @ MOAD and Rena Bransten”, *Square Cylinder*, December 7  
“7 Bay Area arts and entertainment events to check out this week, Dec. 6-12”, *SquareCylinder.com*, December 7  
Kosman, Joshua, “Artadia Awards recognize three Bay Area visual artists with financial and institutional support”, *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 20
- 2020 Harshaw, Pendarvis, “Conjuring Our Ancestral Spirits Through Art”, *KQED*, March 20