

## 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

## PERMANENT 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 Porras, 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