



on the wall

Rashid Johnson

Remembering D.B. Cooper

September 12 – January 4, 2014

Rashid Johnson's *Remembering D.B. Cooper* transforms the 25 foot "on the wall" space into one of his iconic shelf works. The "on the wall" work will showcase a mix of Johnson's signature materials-- branded wood, black wax, plants, books, albums, and shea butter -- to explore the notion of escapism, an issue that continues to permeate his multi-dimensional practice. In *Remembering D.B. Cooper*, Johnson explores the personal as opposed to the political reasons for the famous, unknown hijacker of a Northwest flight in 1971- a media epithet known today as D.B. Cooper; today, the true identity of D.B. Cooper, who parachuted from the flight holding 200,000 worth of ransom money, remains unknown. Since his 2008 solo exhibition at moniquemeloche titled "The New Escapist Promised Land Garden and Recreation Center," Johnson has carved out a space for a black secret society (the Boule) to study, meet, work, get their leisure on – and yes escape, and the lore of D.B. Cooper is yet another historical avenue for Johnson to mine.

Rashid Johnson (American b. 1977 Chicago, lives New York) first came to prominence outside of Chicago in 2001 when Thelma Golden included his work in the seminal Freestyle exhibition at the Studio Museum in Harlem. His work was included in the 54th Venice Biennale in 2011 and the Shanghai Biennial in 2012. He is the 2012 Driskell Prize Winner and one of the six Hugo Boss Prize Finalists from the same year. Solo exhibitions include Ballroom Marfa, TX (2013); High Museum Atlanta (2013), Miami Art Museum (2012); MCA Chicago (2012); South London Gallery (2012); Sculpture Center, NY (2009); Kunstmuseum Magdeburg, Germany (2008); Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art (2005). His MCA organized survey exhibition "Message to our Folks" travels to its final venue, the Kemper Museum in St. Louis, opening on September 20th. A newly commissioned performance work will be included in Performa 2014 later this year. He received his BA from Columbia College in Chicago (2000) and attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2003-04). He currently lives in NY.

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