



CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

PROJECT NAME: *Figure 8*, Steffani Jemison

PROJECT TYPE: Temporary installation, April 15 – June 5, 2021 (Thursday- Saturday, dusk- 11pm)

LOCATION: Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

ARTWORK TYPE: Looping video projection.

Related Event:

Movement as Black Feminist Research: Workshop w/ Steffani Jemison and Alexis Page April 31, 2021 (tentative); time tbd

streaming online

RSVP required

Steffani Jemison and Alexis Page in Conversation

Thursday, April 15, 6:30pm

streaming online

ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:

Figure 8

2021

HD video, color, sound

TRT: (approx. 12m)

Featuring: Alexis Page

Harp: Jess Garland

Additional recording: Steffani Jemison

Sound: Sean T. Davis / the HalfStyle

This piece was commissioned by Light Work for exhibition at UVP as part of an on-going annual moving image commission program.

For nearly a decade, Brooklyn-based artist Steffani Jemison has been deeply invested in examining the ways knowledge is constructed and legitimized. This interest stems from a fascination with frameworks of interpretation and narration, as well as critical theory, and vernacular traditions, including street acrobatics, vaudeville, and other often obscure Black vernacular genealogies of knowledge. She explores these concepts through a practice that encompasses sculpture, video, installation, sound, and fiction writing. The new work, Figure 8, comes out of Jemison's collaboration with rhythmic gymnast and movement practitioner, Alexis Page. "Figure 8" describes the movement of the camera, which moves around the body of the performer, as Page muses aloud on continuity and fluency of gesture. Working together, the Jemison and Page have created a shared lexicon of movement, which they explore both as a Black feminist research method, and as way of approaching the everyday and the at-hand with virtuosity

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Steffani Jemison is an artist who lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. She has presented solo exhibitions and commissioned performances at the Museum of Modern Art, the Stedelijk Museum, MASS MoCA, Jeu de Paume, the RISD Museum, and other institutions. Her work is in the public collections of the Brooklyn Museum, the Whitney Museum, the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Museum of Modern Art, and other institutions. She was a 2017 NYFA Fellow in Video/Film and a 2017-2018 Mildred Londa Weisman Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. Jemison received a BA in Comparative Literature from Columbia University and an

MFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is an Assistant Professor in the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

LINK TO VIEW WORKS:

<https://vimeo.com/518656733/474db4a55c>

PLEASE NOTE: This video is a representative excerpt of a work-in-progress, created for UVP.

APPLICANT:

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