

The Museum of Modern Art

MoMA HONORS THE LEGACY OF TERRY ADKINS'S MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERFORMANCE COLLECTIVE IN *PROJECTS 107: LONE WOLF RECITAL CORPS*

Exhibition Reunites the Corps for the First Time since Adkins's Death and Features Five Performances by an Intergenerational Roster of Acclaimed Artists and Musicians

Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps

August 19–October 9, 2017

Floor Three, The Philip Johnson Galleries

NEW YORK, July 31, 2017—The Museum of Modern Art presents ***Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps***, featuring the multidisciplinary performance collective founded in 1986 by artist and musician Terry Adkins (American, 1953–2014). On view at the Museum of Modern Art from August 19 through October 9, 2017, *Projects 107* is the first museum exhibition to reunite the Corps since Adkins's death; the exhibition will feature a display of Adkins's sculptures and a set of five live performances by the reconstituted Corps, in which a changing group of multigenerational artists will present new work and reprise selections from the group's repertoire. *Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps* is organized by Akili Tommasino, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture.

Consisting of an accumulative, rotating membership of collaborators hailing from various musical and visual-arts disciplines, the Lone Wolf Recital Corps performed within and in conjunction with Adkins's exhibitions during his lifetime. Described by Adkins as "recitals," these performances incorporated spoken word, live music, video projection, and costumed, choreographed movement. For Adkins, recitals were part of an ongoing quest to reinsert the legacies of unheralded immortal figures into their rightful place within the panorama of history. Lone Wolf Recital Corps performances have commemorated and celebrated such figures as abolitionist John Brown, jazz musician John Coltrane, explorer Matthew Henson, and blues singer Bessie Smith. Orchestrated by Adkins, recitals featured the collaborative improvisation of the Corps.

The selection of sculptures included in *Projects 107* traces the history of the Corps, from *Dark Night* (1987–88), a work Adkins created while on the residency in Zurich during which he founded the Corps, to *Upperville* (2009) and *Methane Sea* (2013), assemblages featured in the last exhibition of Adkins's work organized during his lifetime. The exhibition also features a new acquisition, *Last Trumpet* (1995), comprising four 18-foot-long horns—which Adkins called Akrhaphones—that serve as both monumental sculptures and functional musical instruments. Adkins retained this seminal work until his death, including it in several of his exhibitions, where he would conduct various brass players in the Corps in activating it.

The works in *Projects 107* also encompass the implicit and explicit ways music features in Adkins's sculptures, and demonstrate his concept of a synesthetic exchange between sculpture and sound. To the extent possible, the works are installed in a manner consistent with their historical modes of display. *Projects 107* features looping video documentation of the collective's past recitals, including horn players Vincent Chancey, Dick Griffin, Marshall Sealy, and Kiane Zawadi's performance of *Last Trumpet* under Adkins' conduction at the Performa biennial in 2013—as well as performance props and costumes.

The exhibition culminates in a series of five live performances and one lecture and panel discussion spearheaded by original members of the Corps. Comprised of an intergenerational group of artists and musicians, this iteration of recitals will include Sanford Biggers, Blanche Bruce, Vincent Chancey, Arthur Flowers, Charles Gaines, Dick Griffin, Tyehimba Jess, Rashid Johnson, Jason Moran, Demetrius Oliver, Cavassa Nickens, Clifford Owens, Kamau Amu Patton, Marshall Sealy, Dread Scott, Jamaaladeen Tacuma, Kiane Zawadi, Tukufu Zuberi, and others. The installation of sculptures serves as the set for the performances in the gallery; the other recitals will occur in The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters.

Terry Adkins: Recital, a monograph about Adkins's work and the history of the Lone Wolf Recital Corps, will be available in the MoMA Design Store. It is published by the Tang Museum and DelMonico-Prestel, and features an essay by *Projects 107* curator Akili Tommasino.

Initiated by MoMA in 1971 as a platform for new and experimental art, The Elaine Dannheisser Projects Series, now presented at both The Museum of Modern Art and MoMA PS1, provides a forum for the most urgent international voices in contemporary art. *Projects 107: Lone Wolf Recital Corps* will be accompanied by an illustrated brochure.

SPONSORSHIP:

The Elaine Dannheisser Projects Series is made possible in part by the Elaine Dannheisser Foundation and The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art.

#Projects107

RELATED EVENTS:

Monday, September 18

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2
7:00 p.m.

[Modern Mondays: Kamau Amu Patton](#)

Kamau Amu Patton restages *Amun (The Unseen Legends)* (2013), performing live electro-acoustic improvisation with his 2010 film *Theory of Colors* accompanied by a digitally scrubbed recording of the 2013 Corps recital in which only Adkins's musical parts remain

Wednesday, September 20

Floor 3 Gallery
7:00 p.m.

Recital

A Living Space

Blanche Bruce, Sanford Biggers, Juni Booth, Clifford Owens, Kamau Amu Patton, Dread Scott
Invoking the mythic Blanche Bruce, the artists restage passages from *Postlude (Corpus Specere)* (2013)

Sunday, September 24

Floor 3 Gallery
7:00 p.m.

Recital

Envy of the World (A Blues for Terry Adkins)
Blanche Bruce (chordophone) Arthur Flowers (recitation), Tyehimba Jess (recitation), Rashid Johnson (recitation), Cavassa Nickens (bass), Kamau Amu Patton (banjo), Jamaladeen Tacuma (bass)
An evening of improvisational sound, recitation, light and image

Tuesday, September 26

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1
8:00 p.m.

Recital

A Visionary Recital (after Terry Adkins)
Charles Gaines (percussion), Jason Moran (piano), Jamaaladeen Tacuma (bass)
Gaines, Moran, and Tacuma improvise around a new musical composition written by Charles Gaines, based on translating a Lone Wolf Recital Corps text letter-by-letter into musical notation

Wednesday, September 27

The Celeste Bartos Theater
6:00 p.m.

Lecture/panel

The Legacy of Terry Adkins and the Lone Wolf Recital Corps
A conversation with Charles Gaines, Clifford Owens, and Kamau Amu Patton, moderated by Valerie Cassel Oliver and Akili Tommasino

Saturday, September, 30

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1
8:30 p.m.

PopRally Presents: Twilight Brothers

Clifford Owens, Kamau Amu Patton, Da'Niro Elle Brown, Zachary Fabri, LaMont Hamilton, and Kambui Olujimi
Through gesture, sound and image, members of the Sacred Order of Twilight Brothers explore rites of initiation and an expanded notion of brotherhood with a new generation of artists

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For downloadable high-resolution images, register at moma.org/press.

Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400, moma.org. Hours: Saturday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Museum Admission: \$25 adults; \$18 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$14 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Free admission during Uniqlo Free Friday Nights: Fridays, 4:00–8:00 p.m. moma.org: No service charge for tickets ordered on moma.org. Tickets purchased online may be printed out and presented at the Museum without waiting in line. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Film and After Hours Program Admission: \$12 adults; \$10 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$8 full-time students with current ID. The price of an After Hours Program Admission ticket may be applied toward the price of a Museum admission ticket or MoMA membership within 30 days.