

ROOT DIVISION PRESENTS:
Now Ain't Some Day Yet and Quiet As Kept
 By jamil nasim



Image info: jamil nasim, *afro pick*, 2022, acrylic paint, dispersed pigment, & molding paste on canvas, 16x20 / *her eyes were watching god*, 2022, acrylic paint, dispersed pigment, conte crayon, oil stick, & molding paste on canvas, 16x20 / *bleu magic*, 2022, acrylic paint, dispersed pigment, molding paste, & conte crayon on canvas, 16x20

Exhibition Dates: June 7 – 28, 2023

Gallery Hours: Wed–Sat, 2–6 pm or by appointment

2nd Saturday Reception:

June 10, 2023 | 7–9 pm

Root Division is excited to present the culminating project of Root Division’s 2022-2023 Bay Area Black Artist Fellow, jamil nasim. The project takes the form of two coinciding exhibitions; ***Now Ain't Some Day Yet***, and ***Quiet As Kept***.

Now Ain't Some Day Yet considers the relationship between the Great Migration and Black life in the present-day Bay Area. In collaboration with the Dr. George W. Davis Senior Center and Black Bay Area artists, the exhibition seeks to give prominence to the hidden histories woven within Black migration patterns across the Bay Area. Between 1940 and 1970, over 300,000 Black people migrated from the American South to the Bay Area, embracing the unknown, seeking to establish social and economic mobility on alien soil. Through a variety of mediums including photography, video, painting, sculpture, assemblage, textiles, and new media, the exhibition brings together a diverse range of perspectives and voices to create a rich and complex portrait of the Great Migration and its ongoing impact on Black life in the Bay Area. Complementing ***Now Ain't Some Day Yet*** will be a coinciding solo show of nasim’s work, titled ***Quiet As Kept***.

Quiet As Kept offers a haunting and fantastical portrait of Black life in the American South. Through paintings, nasim crafts a rich and layered environment that is both familiar and

otherworldly. The exhibition challenges the stereotypical representations of Black life in the South. Rather than focusing on the traumatic histories of this region, nasim offers an alternative view which highlights the beauty and complexity of mundane, everyday experiences in Black southern life.

At the heart of nasim's work is a deep engagement with the everyday lives of Black people living in the South. By drawing from a variety of sources, including archival photos, genealogical research of their family's lineage, pop culture, Black folk art, and interviews with seniors from the Dr. George W Davis Senior Center, nasim invites viewers to question their perceptions and biases towards the American South and to recognize the importance of representation in shaping cultural narratives. This exhibition is dedicated to Linda Nichols, Cora Jackson, and James Jackson.

Now Ain't Some Day Yet, and ***Quiet As Kept*** are the culminating project from the 2022-23 **Bay Area Black Artist Studio Fellowship**. The fellowship provides free studio workspace and a monetary stipend to an emerging artist in exchange for being an integral part of Root Division's Studios Program. In large part, the commitment involves a service project that aligns and enhances Root Division's mission to empower artists, foster community service, inspire youth, and enrich the Bay Area through engagement in the visual arts.

EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Irman Arcibal

Lola Collins

Rhiannon Evans MacFadyen

Mary Fleming

Baron Frankenstein

Wesley Frazier

Jada Haynes

Geri Hill

Chase Irvin*

Chris Martin

Jessica Monette

Linda Mueller

Emerson Munroe

Marie-Jose Njoku-Obi

Linda Powell

William Rhodes

Ira Watkins

**RD Studio Artist*

ABOUT ROOT DIVISION

Root Division is a visual arts non-profit in San Francisco that connects creativity and community through a dynamic ecosystem of arts education, exhibitions, and studios. Root Division's mission is to empower artists, foster community service, inspire youth, and enrich the Bay Area through engagement in the visual arts. The organization is a launching pad for artists, a stepping-stone for educators and students, and a bridge for the general public to become involved in the arts.

Root Division is supported in part by a plethora of individual donors and by grants from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Grants for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, Kimball Foundation, Redtail Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Foundation for Quality Housing Opportunities, Violet World Foundation, Garver Family Foundation, and Bill Graham Memorial Fund.

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