

TURNER CARROLL

Saba Taj

Education

- 2016 M.F.A. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2011 B.A. Art Education, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC; summa cum laude

Select Honors, Awards, and Residencies

- 2021 Editor's Pick and featured on Cover, New American Paintings, South: Issue #154, (curated by Molly Boarati, Assistant Curator at Nasher Museum of Art), Duke University
2020 Grand Prize Winner, NC Artists Exhibition, (selected by Nat Trotman, Curator of Performance and Media, Guggenheim Museum), CAM Raleigh, Raleigh NC
Isadora Duncan Dance Award nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Visual Design, with Hushidar Mortezaie, Anum Awan, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and Jose e abad
2019-20 Post-MFA Fellow with the Documentary Diversity Project at the Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham NC
2017-18 Artist-in-Residence, Salaam: Exploring Muslim Cultures, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
2017 Southern Constellations Fellow, Elsewhere Museum, Greensboro, NC
2015-16 Teaching Fellow, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 there are gardens at the margins (curated by Courtney Reid Eaton), Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham NC
2020 seeing bodies (installation), Perkins + Will Architecture Studio, Durham NC
2019 Perkins + Will, Nazar (site-specific installation), Durham, NC
2018 Twelve Gates Arts, Of Beast | Of Virgin, Philadelphia, PA
MOSS Arts Center, Salaam, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA
2017 Gatewood Gallery, we have adorned everything on earth, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Sumter Art Gallery, Muslims are Awesome, Sumter, SC
Guilford Art Gallery, we have adorned everything on earth, Guilford College, Greensboro NC
2016 Allcott Gallery, creatures from the earth made of earthly materials, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
2014 Carrack Modern Art, An-Noor, Durham, NC
2013 Litmus Gallery, Technicolor Muslimah, Raleigh, NC
Ravenscroft School, Technicolor Muslimah, Raleigh, NC
2012 Room 100, Technicolor Muslimah, Durham, NC
Carrack Modern Art, Technicolor Muslimah, Durham, NC

Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Coined in the South, The Mint Museum, Charlotte NC
Futurisms (curated by Ingrid LaFleur), The Gallery at VCU Arts Qatar, Doha Qatar
Reckoning and Resilience: North Carolina Art Now, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham NC
2021 A Collection of Changes, selections from the Raleigh Municipal Arts Collection at Block Gallery, Raleigh NC

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Group Exhibitions continued

- 2021 Of Care and Destruction: 2021 Atlanta Biennial (curated by Jordan Amrikhani),
Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta GA
- 2020 American Muslim Futures, Shangri La Museum of Islamic Art and Muslim Advocates, Virtual Exhibit
NC Artists Exhibition, CAM Raleigh, Raleigh NC
- 2019 breathing without a body, Basement Art Space, Chapel Hill NC
New Asian Futurisms, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia PA
Figure | Form, Elder Gallery, Charlotte NC
- 2018 Tomorrow We Inherit the Earth: The Queer Intifada (performance), Counterpulse, San Francisco CA
Rubenstein Art Center at Duke University, (In)Visible Organ, hosted by the Calla Initiative. Durham, NC
The Stud, Tomorrow We Inherit the Earth, performance with SFAC. San Francisco, CA
SOMArts Cultural Center, The Third Muslim, curated by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Yas Ahmed.
San Francisco, CA
- 2018 The Warehouse, Bull City Meets the Bayou, New Orleans, LA
- 2017 Cassilhaus, En | Gender, curated by Courtney Reid-Eaton. Chapel Hill, NC
Twelve Gates Arts, #BLM: Masterminding our Ordered Rage, curated by Atif Sheikh. Philadelphia, PA
American Tobacco Campus, Black on Black, curated by Mike Williams and Linda Dallas. Durham, NC
OUTsider Arts Festival, creatures from the earth made of earthly materials. Austin, TX
Carrack Modern Art, conjuring other planes of there, curated by Durham Artists Movement. Durham, NC
Durham Arts Council, MACONDO - A Journey Through Magical Realism,
curated by Rafael Osuba. Durham, NC
- 2016 Visual Art Exchange, Black on Black, curated by Mike Williams and Linda Dallas. Raleigh, NC
Twelve Gates Arts, I Bear Witness, curated by Atif Sheikh. Philadelphia, PA
Carrack Modern Art, al maghreb ghareeb: the strange west. Durham, NC
The Elephant Room Gallery, Poets/Artists. Chicago, IL
Ackland Art Museum, Depth Perception, curated by Kelly McChesney. Chapel Hill, NC
Arcana, Everyday Chaos: Re-Collaging the Surface. Durham, NC
- 2015 Carrack Modern Art, the DAM show, Durham, NC
Greenhill Gallery, Self-Portraits by NC Artists, curated by Edie Carpenter, Greensboro, NC
- 2014 NCCU Art Museum, 75th Anniversary Alumni Exhibition, North Carolina Central University, Durham
Durham Art Guild, Face to Face, Durham, NC
Carrack Modern Art, Interface || interference, Durham NC
Pleiades Gallery, Truth to Power; juror: Kenneth Rodgers. Durham, NC
- 2013 World Islamic Economic Forum, MOCAfest, London, UK
Durham Art Guild, 59th Annual Juried Exhibition; Juror: Edie Carpenter, third prize. Durham, NC
Exchange Gallery, Visual Art Exchange, Featured Artist, Raleigh, NC
Visual Art Exchange, Unfettered; Juror: Katharine Adkins, Raleigh, NC
International Museum of Women, MUSLIMA: Muslim Women's Art and Voices,
curated by Samina Ali. Web
- 2010 Durham Art Guild, 56th Annual Juried Exhibition; juror: Maria Magdalena Compos-Pons. Durham, NC

Collections

- 2021 City of Raleigh Municipal Art Collection, Raleigh NC
- 2020 Pratt School of Engineering, Duke University, Durham NC
- 2019 Provident 1898, Durham NC

Selected Bibliography

- 2022 New American Paintings, South: Issue #154, (Curated by Molly Boarati, Assistant Curator at
Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University)
- 2021 "of beast | of virgin." Reconstructed Magazine, Volume 2: Bodies. 202-7 p.
Görkariksel, Banu, et al. Feminist Geography Unbound: Discomfort, Bodies, and Prefigured
Futures. First edition. ed. West Virginia University Press, 2021. (Cover)
- 2020 Crasnow, Sascha. "The diversity of the middle: mythology in intersectional trans representation."
Journal of Visual Culture. Vol. 16, Issue 2, p 212-224. August.
- 2019 Alsous, Zaina. A Theory of Birds: Poems. University of Arkansas Press, 2019. (Cover)
Alsous, Zaina. "In her Art, Carrack Director Saba Taj Populates a Sanctuary for the Secret
Language of Women." Durham: INDYWeek, March 7.
Krieger, Deborah. "Speculative Collages of Saba Taj Re-Imagine the Future Through a Queer,
Brown Perspective." The Art Blog, January 3 (web).

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Selected Bibliography continued

- 2018 Hobbs, Margaret and Carla Rice, editors. "Gender and Women's Studies: Critical Terrain." 2nd ed. Toronto: Women's Press. 182-3 p.
Alsous, Zaina. "A Story of Us: In Conversation with Artists Monet Noelle Marshall and Saba Taj." Scalawag Magazine, Issue 15.
Bhutto, Zulfikar Ali. "Queer Muslim Futurism." Archer Magazine, Issue 10.
Sayej, Nadja. "'We're Stepping out of a Binary' - Celebrating the Art of Marginalized LGBT Muslims." The Guardian, January 22 (web).
B., Marke. "'The Third Muslim' Highlights Queer Faith, Art, Resilience." 48 hills, January 23 (web).
"Queer and Trans Muslim Narratives of Resistance and Resilience Celebrated in New Exhibition." Afropunk, January 4 (web).
Seikaly, Roula. "'The Third Muslim' Builds an Archive of Resistance to Stereotypes." KQED Arts, January 30 (web).
Kini, Aditi Natasha. "Queer Muslim Artists are Beyond a 'Movement.'" Intomore.com, January 24 (web).
Kuruvilla, Carol. "These Queer Muslims are Using Art to Tell their Stories." Huffington Post, January 31 (web).
Marques, Catarina. "The Third Muslim: Against All Discrimination." Metal Magazine, January (web).
2017 Felix, Annie, "Queering Visibility In the Age of Digital Journalism," New Museum: New INC, June 22 (web).
Stascio, Frank, "The State of Things: LGBTQ Faith Leaders Come Out of the Shadows," WUNC 91.5, Durham NC, April 27 (broadcast).
Habib, Samra, "Queer Muslim Women from the South: 'we exist and we are fierce,'" The Guardian, February 3.
2016 Stascio, Frank, "The State of Things," representing Black on Black, WUNC 91.5, Durham NC, October 25 (broadcast).
Howe, Brian, "In the Carrack's Former Digs, Durham Artists Movement Creates a Safe Space for Diverse Voices," INDYWeek, July 20.
Kuruvilla, Carol, "Queer Muslim Artist Saba Taj Sees Her Art as an Act of Resistance," Huffington Post Religion, June 24.
Yusuf, Muhammad, "Targeting Stereotypes," The Gulf Today, January 14.
2015 Clarey, Brian, "Exhibit Explores Artists' Relationships with Self," Triad City Beat, February 4.
2013 Rivero, Daniel, "This Artist Will Break All Your Stereotypes of Muslim Women," Fusion. November 26 (web).
Stascio, Frank, "The State of Things," WUNC 91.5, Durham NC, March 30 (broadcast).

Speaking

- 2020 Featured Speaker, International Women's Day Lecture. University of Toronto, CA.
2019 Panelist, Alternative Visions and Counter Institutions, as part of Open Engagement. Carrack Modern Art, Durham NC
Keynote Speaker, Resilience and Triumph, Womxn of Worth Initiative Conference. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
2018 Hybridities, the Evil Eye, and the Apocalypse, sponsored by the Department of Art, Art History, and Visual Studies Visiting Artist Series. Duke University, Durham NC
2017 Art, Resistance, and the Dominant Narrative, TEDxDuke, "Uncharted Waters." Duke University, Durham, NC
Panelist and Facilitator, Articulating Value with Culture Mill. Living Arts Collective, Durham, NC
Speaker, 38th Annual Minority Health Conference, "Systems of Power: Reclaiming our Past, Restructuring our Future." University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2016 Panelist and Facilitator, Southern Constellation Convergence with Elsewhere Museum. Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, NC
Panelist, Artivism, hosted by the Durham Art Guild. Durham, NC
Panelist, Arts Activism in Durham, hosted by the Forum for Scholars and Publics. Duke University, Durham, NC

Arts Administration / Curatorial

- 2020 Curator, In Vulnerability, The Ackland Museum of Art. Chapel Hill, NC
2018 (current) Executive Director, The Carrack Modern Art. Durham, NC
2017 Advisory Committee, Duke Performances Building Bridges initiative. Durham, NC
2016 Board of Advisors, The Carrack Modern Art. Durham, NC

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Arts Administration / Curatorial continued

- 2013-16 Lead Administrator, Durham Artists Movement. Durham, NC
- 2014-15 Graduate Assistantship, Hanes Visiting Artist Lecture Committee (HVA).
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill NC
- 2013-14 Member of Pleiades Gallery. Durham, NC

Cultural and Community Organizing / Memberships

- 2020-21 (Current) Art Squad Lead, Durham Beyond Policing, Durham NC
- 2018-21 (Current) Member, Art Ain't Innocent, Durham NC
- 2016 Organizer, Women's March on Raleigh, Raleigh NC
- 2014-17 Member, Southerners on New Ground, Durham NC
- 2013-16 Founding Member and Lead Administrator, Durham Artists Movement (DAM), Durham NC
- 2013-14 Member, Pleiades Gallery, Durham NC
- 2009-14 Member, Durham Art Guild, Durham NC

Teaching

- 2019-20 Workshop Instructor, Nasher Museum of Art. Durham, NC
- 2018 Workshop Instructor, Endogenous Zones, Duke University. Durham, NC
Art Teacher, Githens Middle School. Durham, NC
- 2017 Visiting Artist Workshop Instructor, North Carolina Museum of Art. Raleigh, NC
- 2016 Art Instructor, The Arts Center. Carrboro, NC
Visiting Lecturer, University of North Carolina. Chapel Hill, NC