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How to Hold a Cry

Katherine Simóne Reynolds

August 21 – September 25, 2021

(Denver, CO) RULE Gallery is pleased to present *How to Hold a Cry*, a solo exhibition of new work by Katherine Simóne Reynolds at our Denver location at 808 Santa Fe Drive. A public reception will be held Saturday, August 21, from 5-8pm, and the show will be on view from August 21 – September 25, 2021. Gallery hours are Tues - Friday 12-6p, Sat 12-5p, no appointment necessary. Additionally, in our upstairs gallery, Reynolds has curated *While Performing in the Corner of the World* featuring Tya Anthony, Jasmine Abena Colgan, Noa Fodrie, and Rochelle Johnson. An artist's talk including all five artists will be held at the gallery on Sunday, August 22, at 2pm, which is free and open to the public.

In her second solo exhibition with RULE, artist Katherine Simóne Reynolds continues her exploration of emotional dialects and psychogeographies of the Black landscape and Black practices within the “non”. Her work tries to physicalize emotions and experiences by constructing environments that include photography, video works, and sculpture. In describing her latest work, Reynolds states:

“I have been teaching myself how to cry differently.

The instant recognition of grief becomes so delicately overwhelming, I am bracing for the impact in my throat. This feeling carves its way from my being, into my body with a goal of total subjection. Through acts of refusal, I decide how I want to cry. I begin to refuse the way I have been shown to grieve as a Black woman through my own viewership of other Black women grieving through a medial lens.

I am teaching myself to cry differently as an act of refusing a narrative taught to me through a lens of white supremacy. For, I have been taught how to mourn and grieve the death of Black women like me through a corroded white camera lens. I have been taught that this is the only time I can buckle in public under/in proximity to the bodies of those that have died while being processed in a state of non-citizenship.

This effacement of choreographed grief serves as a means of discovering what it is I can truly feel, and how I can attempt to feel my own form of authentic sadness. The last time I cried like myself, I was an infant. But even as an infant, I a Black woman born from the womb of another Black woman, was still considered a non. Hanging in the semiotic ballast of confusion and violent awareness. Newborns do/can not produce tears when they cry.

From the top of my solar plexus and the bottom of my throat, the ache become the hold of the cry. I can hold the beginning combination of lipids, water, and mucus layers.

There are reflexive tears (caused by the presence of irritation) and emotional tears. I believe mine are both.

I or we, can feel the welling of the tears pilling up in front of our eyes. Within a body/ soul that is trying to remember things differently. A presence within us that needs the authenticating factor for ultimate release.”



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Katherine Simóne Reynolds received her B.A. in Dance from Webster University in Missouri and her MFA in Art, Theory, and Practice at Northwestern, IL. She currently lives and works in Chicago. Reynolds work has been exhibited in galleries and institutions nationally, including at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation, St. Louis, MO; Fort Gondo Compound for the Arts, St. Louis, MO; Projects + Gallery, St. Louis, MO; and The Luminary, St. Louis, MO; The Sculpture Center, New York, NY (where she is currently a Curatorial Fellow); She has shown internationally, including the Tapir Lab in Berlin, Germany among others. She was a visiting artist and performer for the Gallery Sessions at MoMA and has spoken at The Contemporary Art Museum of Saint Louis and The Saint Louis Art Museum.

RULE Gallery, founded in 1991, has locations in Denver, CO, and Marfa, TX. RULE represents emerging and mid-career contemporary artists and artist estates, with a focus on fostering investigative art practices while developing artists' long-term careers. Outside their robust in-house exhibition schedule, RULE coordinates programming in prominent institutions and non-traditional settings, expanding community engagement with the work. In addition, the gallery actively endeavors to bring greater recognition of the region's historic art movements to a broader audience. For more information, visit <http://www.rulegallery.com/>