

CUE Art Foundation presents:

Vendah

A solo exhibition by Cornelius Tulloch
September 7 – October 21, 2023

Accompanied by *Tides: Spatial Memory of Being*, a site-specific installation for NADA House



Maven, 2023. Oil paint and digital collage on wood panel. Photo: David Michael Cortes.

New York, NY – CUE Art Foundation presents *Vendah*, a solo exhibition by **Cornelius Tulloch** with mentorship from **Danny Baez**. The exhibition, now on view at CUE’s gallery space (137 W. 25th Street), is the artist’s first solo show in New York City. It will remain on view until October 21, 2023. Attendance during gallery hours (Wed–Sat, 12–6 pm) is free; no reservations are required. The exhibition is accompanied by *Tides: Spatial Memory of Being*, a site-specific installation by Cornelius Tulloch presented on Governors Island as part of the fifth edition of NADA House, on view at Nolan Park House 18 until October 1, 2023.

About the Exhibition

Vendah is a solo exhibition by Miami-based artist and architect Cornelius Tulloch, with mentorship from Danny Baez. The exhibition presents new works by Tulloch that investigate the social and spatial formation of culture. Through layered explorations that draw upon narratives of Caribbean markets, Tulloch blurs the boundaries of photography, painting, printmaking, and installation. Visible within this new body of work are tactile stories of hybridity and fluidity – of people, objects, and structures that represent what renowned Martinican philosopher Édouard Glissant referred to as “new beings in a different space.”

Vendah transforms CUE’s gallery space into a vibrant site of exchange. Reflecting upon his own Jamaican and African-American heritage as well as Glissant’s writings about *Antillanité* (Caribbean-ness) and the subsequent theory of *Créolité* (Creole-ness), Tulloch explores vernacular marketplaces from Kingston to Miami to New York. In his works, he incorporates found materials such as wood, tarp, and fabric. With additive textural interventions, he collages, builds, and reveals informal architectures, uprooted produce, and complex relationships between people. Playing with legibility and opacity, he portrays his subjects in glimpses and moments that make them at once recognizable and yet not fully perceptible, as if rendered from a hazy photograph or a distant memory.



Installation view of *Vendah* by Cornelius Tulloch. Photo: Leo Ng.

Amidst this obscurity, however, the image of the *vendah* emerges as an emblem of embodied exchange, an arbiter of cultural symbolism that deftly navigates dynamics of nationalism, ethnicity, class, social hierarchy, and interpersonal relations in their interactions with market visitors, both local and from afar. Tulloch plays with this context, composing a space in which guests act as both observer and participant. A site-specific installation within the exhibition invites us in, serving as a welcoming interior to share stories of cultural memory in the form of recipes. Encouraging contributions that draw from the landscapes we each call home, *Vendah* empowers us to contemplate the histories and spaces we embody, and the forms of culture and identity we celebrate, uplift, subvert, and obscure.

Vendah is the artist's first solo show in New York City, and is accompanied by *Tides: Spatial Memory of Being*, a site-specific installation on Governors Island as part of NADA House. Through these projects, Tulloch creates an homage to diasporic movement as perceived through the senses – the spaces we inhabit, the food we cultivate, and the landscapes of our existence...and our imagination.

Read more about the exhibition and see photos at www.cueartfoundation.org.



Series: *Market Mementos*, 2023. Photography, collage, wood, house/acrylic paint, india ink, and mixed media. Photo: David Michael Cortes.

About the Installation at NADA House

Accompanying the exhibition, CUE presents *Tides: Spatial Memory of Being*, a site-specific installation by Cornelius Tulloch that occupies half the porch of Nolan Park House 18 as part of NADA House. The installation reimagines the porch space of the house by embedding within its railing fabric that depicts collaged scenes of Black and Caribbean domestic life. Screening in the porch space, Tulloch explores the notion of spatial memory within vernacular architecture. A montage of the artist's archival family photos and imagery of ornamental ironwork are incorporated into the facade of the existing structure. The installation recontextualizes the lived experience of the porch space, and puts it into conversation with other cultural contexts.

Tides builds upon Tulloch's ongoing practice that explores vernacular architecture to investigate cultural hybridity in tactile and sensory ways. The simple architectural language of the porch allows for a continual transformation. As the entryway to the home and a middle ground between the private interior and the public realm, the porch functions as a threshold between domestic experience and forms of cultural exchange that build community.

Read more about the project and see photos at www.cueartfoundation.org. To learn more about NADA House, visit www.newartdealers.org.



Tides: Spatial Memory of Being at NADA House, 2023. Digital collage screen printed on georgette. Photos: Leo Ng.

About the Artist

Cornelius Tulloch is a Miami-based interdisciplinary artist and architect. His work transcends boundaries of photography, fine art, and architecture. Tulloch combines and subverts creative mediums to tell powerful stories. Cinematic moments, spatial complexity, light, and color are important characters in his practice. His work explores the importance of cultural identity within built environments and how space shapes culture, which in turn cultivates landscapes.

Tulloch's work has been shown in institutions such as the Kennedy Center, Washington D.C.; NYU Center for Black Visual Culture, New York; Faena Art Project Room, Miami; and the MAXXI, Rome. He was a 2016 Presidential Scholar in the Arts, and his work is presented as part of the permanent collection of the Studio Museum in Harlem. Tulloch has won numerous prizes and residencies; he was named an Emerging Visionary Grantee by Instagram and the Brooklyn Museum's Black Visionaries Program in 2022, is a two-time Oolite Ellies Award recipient, and received the 2023 YoungArts Jorge M. Perez Award.

Many of Tulloch's projects have been grounded in his upbringing and communities in Miami, as well as inspired by his Jamaican and African-American heritage. His work expresses the ways in which bodies exist between cultures and borders. Tulloch's multidisciplinary practice seeks to redefine and reshape the boundaries of art and space.

About the Mentor

Danny Baez is a Dominican-born, NYC-based cultural producer and curator. Baez is currently the Head of Arts at Kickstarter. He is also director and founder of REGULARNORMAL gallery, one-half of the founding duo behind MECA (Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic's premier art fair), co-founder and board member of ARTNOIR, member of the Young Collectors Council of El Museo del Barrio, Board Member of ISCP (International Studio & Curatorial Program), Board Member of New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA), and former External Affairs Representative for Gavin Brown Enterprise. He firmly believes in the power of building and working in practice with community. Baez has organized various exhibitions in New York since 2010.



Reapings of the Labored, 2023. Photography, digital collage, wood. Photo: David Michael Cortes.

About CUE Art Foundation

CUE Art Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works with and for emerging and underrecognized artists and art workers to create new opportunities and present varied perspectives in the arts. Through our gallery space and public programs, we foster the development of thought-provoking exhibitions and events, create avenues for mentorship, cultivate relationships amongst peers and the public, and facilitate the exchange of ideas. For more information about CUE, visit www.cueartfoundation.org.

Credits

Vendah by Cornelius Tulloch, with mentorship from Danny Baez. Catalogue essay by Yume Inoue Murphy, mentored by Gervais Marsh. Graphic design by Jenni Oughton. Presented by CUE Art Foundation, 2023.

Tides: Spatial Memory of Being, a site-specific installation by Cornelius Tulloch. Presented by CUE Art Foundation for NADA House, 2023.

CUE Art Foundation Team:

Jinny Khanduja, Executive Director
Jasmine Buckley, Gallery Associate
Keegan Sagnelli, Communications Associate

Support

Programmatic support for CUE Art Foundation is provided by Evercore, Inc; ING Group; The Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; The William Talbott Hillman Foundation; and Corina Larkin & Nigel Dawn. Programs are also supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature; and the National Endowment for the Arts.