

For Immediate Release

We gon put it on the Hood, before we put it on God
 Gregory Michael Carter

Exhibition Dates: December 16, 2022 – February 11, 2023
 Opening Reception: 6 – 8 PM Friday, December 16, 2022
 Artist Talks: 2 – 4 PM Saturday, December 17, 2022
 PLATFORM



Gregory Michael Carter, *We gon put it on the Hood, before we put it on God*, Mixed media collage. Image courtesy of the artist

December 6, 2022. Houston, TX - Art League Houston (ALH) is proud to present *We gon put it on the Hood, before we put it on God*, an exhibition by artist Gregory Michael Carter. **In this third presentation in ALH's newest public art initiative *Platform*, Carter investigates the current political climate by referencing a range of influences including product and graphic design, mecha anime, West African and Renaissance sculpture, and American television culture, among others.**

Carter draws inspiration from the poetry of Lucille Clifton (1936 – 2010) and her deep engagement with history as a subject and its potential reframing through literature and



the arts. For this exhibition, the artist references an excerpt of Clifton's renowned poem *i am accused of tending to the past*:

i am accused of tending to the past
as if i made it,
as if i sculpted it
with my own hands. i did not.

-Lucile Clifton

Carter's research-based practice also deeply engages with current political events. The artist states: "In April, the governor of Florida signed into law a bill that is designed to restrict the discussion of race and privilege in classrooms and in the workplace. **Much of the work I've done over the past few years deals with the idea of gathering true history, wherever it may hide, and creating new relics based on those truths, to replace the ones stolen by the Europeans and the Americans during the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade.** In many instances these works seem to repair the damage to the collective black image, due to a consistent attack by the inherently racist American media. This particular work is an interactive one that addresses some of my views on the current political climate here in the U.S."

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Gregory Michael Carter is a Houston-born artist and community activist. Currently living and working in St. Louis, MO, Gregory is fascinated and influenced by cultural history and global politics. He has travelled to 30 countries and visited more than 50 UNESCO world heritage sites. He is an interdisciplinary artist working primarily with drawing, printmaking, painting, collage, and photography. He is founder of The Milburn Institute for Research and Development, a nonprofit organization based on the Northside of St. Louis, across the street from Fairgrounds park. He also is the co-founder of Thirdwardsfinest.com, an online retailer dedicated to supporting and uplifting his home neighborhood in Houston by donating half of its revenue to local nonprofits including Project Row Houses, SHAPE Community Center, and others. His work was on view at the San Antonio Museum of Art, as part of the Texas Biennial.

<http://www.gregorymichaelcarter.com/>

Instagram: @gregorymichaelcarter

For more information, visit www.artleaguehouston.org, or contact Bridget Bray, Interim Director of Exhibitions and Curatorial Projects, at bridget@artleaguehouston.org or 713-523-9530.



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Art League Houston is funded in part by a grant from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, Houston Endowment, Inc. Brown Foundation, Inc. Texas Commission on the Arts, and National Endowment for the Arts.



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Art League Houston acknowledges the following individuals, private foundations, public funders, and corporations for their support this season:

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