



contemporary craft  
*news release*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Space Between Explores the Roles of Creativity and Identity in Conjunction with  
Exhibition *Oaths and Epithets: Works by Sonya Clark***

PITTSBURGH, PA – July 17, 2017 - Inspired by exhibiting artist Sonya Clark’s exploration of the inherited histories in craft, Contemporary Craft (CC) invited local cultural producers - Njaimeh Nije and Corey Carrington. The speakers will discuss the role of creativity at “The Space Between” on Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 6 PM. Organized around the theme of identity, this salon-style speaker series joins together fascinating and buzz-worthy local cultural producers in an evening of inspiring and revealing discussion.

During “The Space Between”, speakers will talk about their backgrounds, the way they approach the creative process, their personal connections to craft, and how “identity” weaves into the concepts of their work. Speakers will engage the attendees in discussions through their creative journeys and CC’s current exhibition, *Oaths and Epithets: Works By Sonya Clark*. This event is free and open to the public at CC’s Strip District gallery with a \$5 suggested donation; attendees are invited to arrive early to experience the exhibition before the event.

“The Space Between” is being presented in conjunction with *Oaths and Epithets*, a solo exhibition highlighting Clark, an international recognized artist and a leader in the field of craft and material studies for more than 20 years. Her work explores self-identity and social perceptions through centuries old handcraft traditions and commonplace objects ranging from human hair, to thread, to gold. The exhibition, including some works that have never been publicly exhibited before, will be closing on Saturday, August 19, 2017.

For additional details or images, please contact Stephanie Sun at [ssun@contemporarycraft.org](mailto:ssun@contemporarycraft.org).

**THE SPACE BETWEEN INVITED SPEAKERS**

**Njaimeh Nije** is a Pittsburgh-based photographer, filmmaker, and multimedia producer rooted in social justice and cultural enrichment. Nije is the founder and lead producer of Eleven Stanley Productions, dedicated to creating story-based, branded and original content. Nije’s multimedia series *Power(ed) by Grace* has earned coverage by the Huffington Post, the Carnegie Museum of Art blog, and Blavity.

**Corey Carrington**, also known as Grits Capone, is an accomplished poet, visual artist, and change maker. He is deeply involved with Pittsburgh’s spoken word community, and uses his creative practice to effect positive social change while exploring themes of identity and connectivity. Carrington’s works in performing art and visuals art have been seen at the August Wilson Center, The Kelly Strayhorn Theater, Wood Street Galleries, The Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, BOOM Concepts, and more. He is currently the inaugural recipient of the 2016-17 Emerging Black Arts Leader Apprentice at CC.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Parts, Patterns, and Pieces*, an interdisciplinary storytelling exhibit by Women of Visions, Inc., features artworks by regional artists and explores visual expressions related to Black hair. From intuitive geometry to strands of resistance, these African American artists adapt, innovate, and integrate cultural notions of adornment by drawing from within. *Parts, Patterns, and Pieces* is exhibited at Contemporary Craft's BNY Mellon Satellite Gallery through September 17, 2017.

Join Women of Vision, Inc. for a guided "Walk and Talk" of *Parts, Patterns, and Pieces* with the artists on Sunday, August 27, 2017 starting at 2:30 PM at the BNY Mellon Satellite Gallery.

### FUNDERS

*Oaths and Epithets: Works by Sonya Clark* is made possible by the Allegheny Regional Asset District, the Elizabeth R. Raphael Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the Windgate Foundation. Media sponsored by 90.5 WESA and 91.3 WYEP.

### ABOUT CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

Presenting contemporary art in craft media by regional, national, and international artists since 1971, CC offers cutting edge exhibitions focusing on multicultural diversity and non-mainstream art, as well as a range of studio workshops, community outreach programs, and a retail store. Through its mission of engaging the public in creative experiences through contemporary craft, CC offers meaningful art opportunities for 145,000 people a year through four core values: providing vital support for artists, filling critical gaps in public education; sharing cross cultural perspectives; and using art to build community.

CC is located at 2100 Smallman Street in the Strip District of Pittsburgh, PA. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM. Exhibition and informal, hands-on art activities in the Drop-In Studio are always free to the public. Contemporary Craft is committed to making its exhibitions, programs, and services accessible to the public. For questions related to accessible accommodations, please contact us. For more information, visit [www.contemporarycraft.org](http://www.contemporarycraft.org) or call 412.261.7003.

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