



NEXT NOW

CONFERENCE
APRIL 10-12, 2025



NEXT/NOW

Juried Exhibition Open Call

Eligibility: **FATE Members**

(How to become a FATE member: <https://www.foundationsart.org/join-fate>)

Extended Deadline for Submissions:

November 22, 2024

Dates of Exhibition: **March 17 - April 25, 2025**

Venue: **Mason Exhibitions, Gillespie Gallery
GMU Art & Design Building, Fairfax, Virginia**

NEXT/NOW

GROUP EXHIBITION OPEN CALL

The George Mason University School of Art and Mason Exhibitions invites current FATE members to submit artworks for a juried exhibition opportunity to coincide with the upcoming NEXT/NOW Conference 2025.

NEXT/NOW will challenge the established structures and assumptions that form our current understanding of what a foundational education in the arts is supposed to be.

In keeping with the spirit of the conference, the exhibition seeks examples of recent artworks that are motivated by a desire to question the status quo, promote change, and advocate for new directions and interdisciplinary approaches to visual art and creative research. Artists working in all media and subject matter are invited to apply.

The exhibition will be presented in Mason Exhibition's Gillespie Gallery at George Mason University's Art & Design Building from March 17 - April 25, 2025. During its 6 week run, Mason Exhibitions curators and staff will partner with School of Art faculty to actively integrate the exhibition into curricular and public programming, providing wide exposure and educational opportunities for university students and the community.

Juror: Sheldon Scott

Artist Sheldon Scott mines his experiences growing up in the Gullah/Geechee South and professional background in storytelling to examine the Black male form with particular emphasis on biases of usability and expendability in relation to constructs of race, economics, and sexuality.

Scott's works have been presented at the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC; American University Art Museum, Washington, DC; and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA, Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, NC, Perez Art Museum Miami, and the Aspen Institute.

The artist's work is featured in museum collections including: Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC; Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, NC; Ogden Museum of Southern Art, New Orleans, LA.

Entry Fee:

Only FATE members are eligible for consideration. There is no additional entry fee for this exhibit.

To become a FATE member visit: <https://www.foundationsart.org/join-fate>

Calendar:

Deadline for Submissions: November 22, 2024

Notification of selections: early January

Receive artworks in gallery: February 1 - February 14, 2025

Install in Gillespie February 24 - March 14, 2025

Exhibition on view: Monday, March 17 - Friday, April 25, 2025, M - F 11am-5pm

FATE Conference Exhibition Reception: Friday, April 11, 2025, 6-8pm

Pickup of delivered artworks: Beginning Monday, April 28, 2025

Return shipping following exhibit: Monday May 5, 2025 - Friday, June 6, 2025

Application Requirements:

Please submit examples of your work using the google form found here:

[SUBMIT YOUR PORTFOLIO](#)

Portfolios are preferred in **PDF** or **Powerpoint** format and should include:

- **Artist name and contact information**
- **Artist statement overview (max 400 words).**
- **Statement of Intent: How do you see your work reflecting the goals or themes of this year's conference? (max 200 words) (Optional - not a requirement for consideration)**
- **Artist Biography (max 400 words)**
- **Up to 10 images:** Each image should include caption information including name, title, materials, dimensions, and year of completion. Include individual project statements or details as needed so reviewers can accurately understand the images, content, and scope of projects.
- Video or media projects should be embedded or links provided to a hosting site.

Shipping and delivery of artworks:

Mason Exhibitions has a modest budget to support shipping costs and delivery where reasonable. Mason Exhibitions staff will consult with each selected artist to independently understand their needs and to determine what we can do to support their inclusion in the exhibition. The budget is not unlimited, so projects or artworks that are determined to be logistically intensive or require special equipment, art handling, crating, or transportation services may not be covered. Mason Exhibitions reserve the right to reject selected work that is not properly prepared for exhibition, not accurately described in submission materials, or deemed infeasible for this exhibition upon consultation with Mason Exhibitions staff.

Sales

All work must be either priced for sale or valued for insurance purposes. Work not for sale should be noted as such in the submission form. No commission is charged on sales and all sales interest will be directed to the Artist to be independently negotiated.

Liability Agreement

Although every effort will be made to ensure the safety of the artwork, FATE Mason Exhibitions, and George Mason University assume no responsibility for damage or deterioration incurred before or after the exhibition or for a possible loss in transit. Work will be insured by George Mason University during the exhibition. Work included in the exhibition will be accompanied by an exhibition loan agreement initiated by Mason Exhibitions and George Mason University. This loan agreement will include permission to use a reproduction of works for publicity, education, and exhibit related materials or activities. All accepted work must remain in the custody of Mason Exhibitions for exhibition purposes from Monday, March 17, 2025 - Friday, April 25, 2025.

About Mason Exhibitions

Mason Exhibitions offers a multi-venue forum for the presentation of contemporary visual artists who advance research, dialogue, and learning around global social issues. Through its research partnership with Provisions Research Center for Arts Social Change, Mason Exhibitions develops interdisciplinary curatorial platforms to engage questions around philosophy, social justice, communications, conflict resolution, identity, technology, and sustainability.

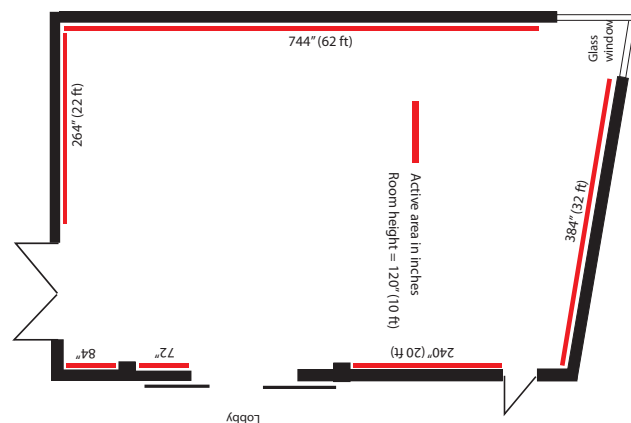
Mason Exhibitions is a program of George Mason University's College of Visual and Performing Arts and is affiliated with the School of Art & Design and the Arts Management Program.

George Mason University is the youngest, largest, and most diverse Research 1 university in Virginia, with a growing student population of 40,000. Emphasizing access, inclusion, equity, and academic excellence, Mason is emerging as a significant transformational resource for the engagement of global social and environmental issues.

About the Gillespie Gallery

Located in the Art & Design Building on the GMU Fairfax Campus, Gillespie Gallery is Mason Exhibition's largest gallery. During the academic year (Aug-May) the gallery features exhibitions from recognized regional, national, and international professional artists in addition to semiannual capstone exhibitions from graduating seniors and MFA candidates from Mason's School of Art.

The gallery's mission is to complement and enhance the School of Art's curriculum through the first-hand experience of objects and ideas by established contemporary artists and designers. The exhibition program seeks to highlight practices which address topical social issues, global cultural traditions, transdisciplinary exploration, and recent innovations in the field of art and design.



[gmu_gillespie_gallery-floorplan\[650\].pdf](#)

For more information, visit [masonexhibitions.org](#), [art.gmu.edu](#),+ [provisionslibrary.org](#).