

FORT GANSEVOORT

VANESSA GERMAN

1976 Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Raised in Los Angeles, California
Lives and works in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021-22 *Vanessa German: The Artist Channels 33 Intimate Technologies of Soul*, Transformative Arts, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2021 *Vanessa German: W E, Wa Na Wari*, Seattle, WA.
Reckoning: Greif and Light, The Frick Art Museum, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2020 *In a Fit of Glory*, Amarillo Museum of Art, Amarillo, TX.
ADAA Art Show, Pavel Zoubok Fine Art, Park Avenue Armory, New York, NY.
The Holiest Wilderness Is Freedom, Art Production Fun, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY.
- 2019 *TRAMPOLINE: Resilience & Black Body & Soul*, Fort Gansevoort, New York, NY.
Miracles and Glory Abound, Bates College Museum of Art, Lewiston, ME.
sometimes.we.cannot.be.with.our.bodies., The Union for Contemporary Art, Omaha, NE, and The Flain Museum of Art at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
Vanessa German: The Window Series 2019, Concept Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
this good love, James Barron Art, Kent, CT.
Miracles and Glory Abound, Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA, and Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI.
\$LANG: Short Language in Soul, GAVLAK, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2018 *running with freedom*, Taft Museum of Art, Cincinnati, OH.
The Incredibly True Sometimes Horrific Often Humorous Adventures of a Wacky Black Girl, Concept Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
Things Are Not Always What They Seem: A Phenomenology of Black Girlhood, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago, IL.
Defiant Show of Unity, Woodland Pattern Book Center, Milwaukee, WI.
sometimes.we.cannot.be.with.our.bodies., Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2017 *Emanation*, Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, Millville, NJ.
- 2016 *de.structive dis.tillation*, Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY.

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i am armed. i am an army., Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.

i come to do a violence to the lie, MATRIX 174, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT.

Introspective: Vanessa German, The August Wilson African American Culture Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

- 2015 *The Ordinary Sacred*, Concept Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
Bitter Root, Northcutt Stelle Gallery, Montana State University Billings, Billings, MT and Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT.
- 2014 *Citizen Artist*, Concept Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
Bitter Root, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, Missoula, MT.
- 2013 *Homewood*, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, New York, NY.
- 2012 *Emerging Artist of the Year*, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2011 *Are You A Good Woman*, Gallerie Chiz, Pittsburgh, PA.
HOME: HOMEWOOD Artist Residency, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2010 *Tar Baby*, Mendelson Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
Tar Baby Jane and Doo-Wop: Everything Useful For Your Modern Household, 707 Penn Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Upcoming: *We Flew Over the Wild Winds of Wild Fires*, MOTHER, Beacon, NY.
- 2021 *Those Who Dare*, DC Moore Gallery, New York, NY.
SeenUNseen, LA Louver, Los Angeles, CA.
ARRIVALS, Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY.
Dimensional: 3D Works from the Figge Collection, Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA.
Seattle Deconstructed Art Fair, Wa Na Wari, Seattle, WA.
Between Earth and Sky, Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2020 *Living in America: An Exhibition in Four Acts*, International Print Center, New York, NY.
- 2019 *Citizen*, Anya and Andrew Shiva Gallery, John Jay College, New York, NY.
Radical Love, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, NY.
People, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles, CA.
This Stillness, Intuit: Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, Chicago, IL.

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Perilous Bodies, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, NY.

An Essential Presence: Highlights from the Petrucci Family Collection of African American Art, Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA.

Give Me Body!: Femme Re-Divined, Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts, Brooklyn, NY.

A Pittsburgh Anthology, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA.

2018 *ritual & resilience* Elizabeth Stone Harper Gallery, Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC.

You Tell Me, Foley Gallery, New York, NY.

A House is Not a Home, Emily Davis Gallery, University of Akron, OH.

SEED, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY.

Piecework, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.

Reclamation! Pan-African Works from the Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, VA.

2017 *Female\Feminist/2017*, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Old Lyme, CT.

Supernature, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.

Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions, Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY.

2016 *AFRICA FORECAST: Fashioning Contemporary Life*, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA.

Platform, Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, KS.

Storytelling: The Georgia Review's 70th Anniversary Art Retrospective, Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

Tomorrow Never Happens, Samek Art Museum, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

Conjurers: Artists Imbue the Ordinary, Visual Arts Center of Richmond, VA.

State of the Art: Discovering American Art Now, Jepson Center for the Arts, Savannah, GA.

2015 *Black: Color, Material, Concept*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY.

Re:Purposed, Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL.

UNLOADED, Space, Pittsburgh, PA.

Vices Peculiar to these Eclectics: Contemporary Collage, Dr. M.T. Geoffrey Art Gallery, St John's University, Queens, NY.

Performing Blackness:: Performing Whiteness, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA.

Some Assembly Required, Hill Gallery, Birmingham, MI.

2014 *State of the Art: Discovering American Art Now*, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR.

Pittsburgh Biennial, Pittsburgh Glass Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

SOFA: Sculpture Objects Functional Art + Design, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL.

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Cabinets of Wonder, Children's Museum of Art, New York, NY.

Afrotechtopia, Samek Art Museum, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

- 2013 *Remix: Selections from the International Collage Center*, Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY.
- 2012 *To Be A Lady: Forty-five Women in the Arts*, 1285 Avenue of the Americas Art Gallery, New York, NY.
Remix: Selections from the International Collage Center, The Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedalia, MO.
The Art of Storytelling: Lies, Enchantment, Humor & Truth, American Visionary Art Museum, Baltimore, MD.
Ill Perceived, Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, Cleveland, OH.
African American Art 1950-Present, Smithsonian Institution and David C. Driskell Center, College Park, MD.
- 2011 *Material Witness*, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2010 *Responding*, Future Tenant Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA.
Art of the State: Pennsylvania 2010, Pennsylvania State Museum, Harrisburg, PA.
Art For Life, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA.
Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow, I.P. Stanback Museum, Orangeburg, SC.
- 2009 *Visionary Arts Festival*, Pittsburgh, PA.
Associate Artists of Pittsburgh 99th Annual Exhibition, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2008 *Black Clay in PA: A Dialogue in Flux*, August Wilson African American Cultural Center, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2007 *Objectification*, Callerie Chiz, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2005 *Gestures: An Exhibition of Small Site-Specific Works*, Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA.

PERFORMANCES

- 2021 *The Blue Walk*, Baltimore, MD and Pittsburgh, PA.
Letting Go, The Iris Project, Los Angeles, CA.
hypersensitive, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2020 *The Next Life*, ARThouse.

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- 2019 12th Annual Community Gala, Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI.
Vanessa German, soft: the longest kiss, Gavlak, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2016 *Vanessa German/MATRIX 174*, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT.
- 2014 *Creative Summit*, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, AR
and Bricolage Theater, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2013 *Homewood*, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2011 *Pittsburgh Biennale Gertrude's/Lot*, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA.
Too Shallow for Diving: the 21st Century is Treading Water, American Jewish
Museum, Pittsburgh, PA.
Material Witness, Pavel Zoubok Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2010 *TED x MIT*, Cambridge, MA.
Reading on Mars: American Shorts Reading Series, Carnegie Museum of
Art, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2009 *Black Clay*, National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (feature performance),
Erie, CO.
Testify, Multiple venues (feature performance).
Women in Politics, Chatham College (feature guest performer), Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2008 *SNAP!*, Science, Nature, Art and People Conference (feature performance),
Boulder, CO.
Testify, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts & PFM Biennale, Pittsburgh, PA.
Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship International Conference
(keynote poem and performance), Boston, MA.
- 2007 *Pittsburgh International First Voice Festival*, August Wilson Center, Pittsburgh, PA.
PopTech!, Camden, ME.
- 2005 *She Said: Words by Women*, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh, PA.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Center for Victims of Violence and Crime Fellow
Community Leadership Initiative Fellow
Creative Capital Flight School Fellow
Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania
Don Tyson Prize from Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art
Founding member August Wilson Center Theater Ensemble

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Governor's Awards for the Arts, Artist of the Year
Heinz Endowments
Inaugural August Wilson Center Fellow
Inaugural Green For All Fellow
Jacob Lawrence Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters
Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant
National Organization for Blacks in Law Enforcement Community Leadership Award
Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments, Creative Development Grant
Ronald H Brown Leadership Award for Community Leadership, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh
Sprout Fund
United States Artist Grant
Women and Girls Foundation Award

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Bates College Art Museum, Lewiston, ME
Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA
Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, AR
David C. Driskell Center, College Park, MD
Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY
Figge Art Museum, Davenport, IA
Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI
Franciscan University of Steubenville, Steubenville, OH
Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation, Los Angeles, CA
Girls' Club Collection, Fort Lauderdale, FL
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
I.P. Stanback Museum, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC
Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at Portland State University, Portland, OR
Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, South Hadley, MA
The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL
The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO
The Progressive Art Collection, Cleveland, OH
The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, FL
Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ
San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
Snite Museum of Art, Notre Dame, IN
Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT
Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College, Clinton, NY

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- Harrop, Joanne Klimovich. "Frick and Pittsburgh artist Vanessa German collaborate in exhibition", Trib Live, March 28.
- O'Driscoll. "Artist Vanessa German's Homewood 'ArtHouse' Looks to Rebuild After Fire", 90.5 WESA Pittsburgh's NPR Station, February 19.
- 2020 Adams, Amanda Dalla Villa. "What Remains In a Person's Soul: A Conversation with Vanessa German", Sculpture Magazine, October 26.
- "Art in Focus: Vanessa German – A Liberating Vision at Rockefeller Center", At Rockefeller Center, January 14.
- 2019 "Going, going, gone: 2019 in Review", Oregon's Artwatch, December 31.
- Valentine, Victoria L. "On View: Vanessa German, 'Trampoline: Resilience & Black Body and Soul' at Fort Gansevoort in New York", Culture Type, December 18.
- Clavarino, Elena. "Vanessa German: Trampoline – Resilience & Black Body & Soul," Arts Intel Report, December 11.
- Thomas, Alexandra M. "#BlackGirlMagic Takes Form in Vanessa German's Sculptures", Hyperallergic, December 11.
- Healis, Jahunya. "Artist Vanessa German Celebrates Black Resilience in Her Mixed Media 'Power Figures'", Observer, December 9.
- Orlov, Piotr. "The Magical Citizen Art of Vanessa German", Afropunk, December 6.
- Goldstein, Caroline. "Editors' Picks 15 Things Not to Miss in New York's Art World This Week", Artnet News, December 2.
- Steinhauer, Jillian. "New York Galleries: What to See Right Now", The New York Times, November 27.
- "TRAMPOLINE: Resilience & Black Body & Soul", State of the Arts NYC, November 19.

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Cohen, Alina and Casey Lesser. "7 Must-See Shows in New York Right Now", Artsy, November 15.

Khan, Baseera. "What Does 'Radical Love' Mean To You? For these artists, there's no right answer.", Garage, July 2.

"Pittsburgh Artist Vanessa German", PBS State of the Art. April 26.

Lanay, Jessica. "There is Life and Death in the Power of the Tongue: Vanessa German Interviewed by Jessica Lanay", BOMB, April 18.

Bullock, Maggie. "The Future of Work: The 'Citizen Artist' Bringing Hope to Pittsburgh's Homewood", Shondaland, April 17.

Ollman, Leah. "Review: Black, female and strong: Vanessa German's sculptures voice their power without sound", Los Angeles Times, April 13.

Zellen, Jody. "*Vanessa German: 'Slang: Short Language in Soul'*", ART NOW LA, March 22.

"Art Notes for Feb. 22 through Feb. 28", The Daily Progress, February 21.

Lorne, Raennah. "Restorative Justice: Vanessa German's Art Celebrates Black Lives", C-Ville, February 20.

Kucharski, Eve. "'Miracles and Glory Abound' at the Flint Institute of Arts", Pride Source, February 6.

Ford, Harold C. "'Miracles and Glory Abound': Artwork of Vanessa German at FIA through April 20", East Village Magazine, January 30.

2018

Cascone, Sarah. "Artist Vanessa German Needed Money to Repair Her Steps in Pittsburgh. Then She Won \$200,000 From the Crystal Bridges Museum", Artnet News, December 18.

"Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art Announces Vanessa German as the recipient of the 2018 Don Tyson Prize", Artdaily, December 18.

"Vanessa German Wins \$200,000 Don Tyson Prize", Artforum, December 18.

Valentine, Victoria L. "Pittsburgh Artist Vanessa German Wins \$200,000 Don Tyson Prize", Culture Type, December 18.

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O’Driscoll, Bill. “Local Artist Vanessa German Wins Big National Prize”, NPR, December 18.

Selvin, Claire. “Vanessa German Wins \$200,000 Don Tyson Prize”, ARTnews, December 18.

Norman, Tony. “Vanessa German caps busy 2018 with \$200,000 national art prize”, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, December 17.

Bateman, Anita. “Vanessa German Recognizes How Society Fails Black Girls”, Art & Object, September 14.

Ajmal, Shahum. “Women hone craft at Art House in Homewood”, Pitt News, April 4.

Carrier, David. “Vanessa German”, Brooklyn Rail, February.

Norman, Tony. “Vanessa German marries art, activism”, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, January 16.

2017 Mellor, Carl. “Found Objects Create Fine Artworks at Everson”, Syracuse New Times, April 19.

2016 Stern, Melissa. “An Army of Female Power Figures Stands Against Injustice,” Hyperallergic, November 17.

Dunne, Susan. “Wadsworth Atheneum Exhibit Confronts Violence Against African-Americans”, Hartford Courant, June 14.

O’Driscoll, Bill. “Vanessa German shows off powerful print-based work at AIR”, Pittsburgh City Paper, May 25.

Lidji, Eric. “Citizen Artist: Vanessa German”, Pittsburgh Magazine, May 18.

Mascia, Jennifer. “Vanessa German: Helping to Heal Traumatized Youth Through Art”, Carnegie Museum of Art Storyboard, March 24.

Davis, Jessica Stafford. “10 Female Artists of Color on the Rise”, The Root, March 22.

Beras, Erika. “Young Artists Find Home and Healing At Pittsburgh Art House”, NPR All Things Considered, January 24.

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- 2015 Davis, Marcia. "Six years after the fire, Peggy Cooper Cafritz has a new home and collection", The Washington Post, September 24.
- Berger, David S. "Vanessa German's Sculptures Continue to Impress in a New Show", Pittsburgh City Paper, February 11.
- 2014 Rosenberg, Karen. "In Blue-Chip Precincts, a Shout-Out for the Undersung", New York Times, March 6.
- 2013 Wolff, Rachel. "Cut-and-Paste Culture: The New Collage", ARTnews, December 12.
- Jones, Diana Nelson. "Artist Vanessa German displays her love for Homewood in NYC", Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, November 4.
- Jones, Diana Nelson. "Fighting the world view that 'nobody cares'", Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, October 31.
- 2012 Micchelli, Thomas. "City of Women", Hyperallergic, October 13.