

# Helina Metaferia

Lives and works in New York, NY  
hmetaferia@gmail.com \* www.helinametaferia.com

## EDUCATION

2016, Participant, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME  
2015, MFA - Interdisciplinary Art, Tufts University - School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
2005, BA - Fine Art - Painting, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD  
2001-02, Courses toward BFA, Temple University - Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022, *All Put Together*, Bolinas Art Museum, Bolinas, CA  
2022, *All Put Together*, Praise Shadows Art Gallery, Boston, MA  
2021, *Helina Metaferia: Generations*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
2021, *Helina Metaferia: (Middle) Passage for Dreams*, New York University's The Gallatin Galleries, New York, NY  
2020, *Against A Sharp White Background*, Northeastern University's Gallery 360, Boston, MA  
2020, *Against A Sharp White Background*, Auburn University's Biggin Gallery, Auburn, AL  
2019, *By Way of Revolution*, Michigan State University's SCENE MetroSpace Gallery (with performance at MSU Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum), East Lansing, MI  
2018, *Refiguring the Canon*, Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington, DC  
2017, *Home/Free*, Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA  
2015, *Ancestral Honoring*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA (solo performance)

## TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2023, *Title TBD*, Center for Book Arts, New York, NY (forthcoming)  
2019, *Counting On You, Counting On Me*, NOMAD Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS, PERFORMANCES & VIDEO SCREENINGS

2023, *Sharjah Biennial*, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (forthcoming)  
2023, *Multiplicities: Collage in Contemporary Art*, Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN (forthcoming)  
2023, *Ethiopia at the Crossroads*, Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD (forthcoming)  
2022-27, *States of Becoming: Contemporary African Diaspora Artists in the U.S.*, Independent Curators International Traveling Exhibition (forthcoming)  
2022, *Resting Our Eyes*, Institute of Contemporary Art San Francisco, San Francisco, CA (forthcoming)  
2022, *Implications of Texture*, Kreeger Museum, Washington, DC (forthcoming)  
2022, *Resilience*, Eastville Museum, Sag Harbor, NY  
2022, *All Together*, Martin Luther King Library Art Gallery, Washington, DC  
2022, *The Upshot of Trans-Affective Solidarity*, Torrance Art Museum, Torrance, CA  
2021, *Designing Motherhood*, Center for Architecture and Design, Philadelphia, PA  
2021, *NI DE AQUÍ, NI DE ALLÁ*, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2021, *From Modern to Contemporary*, CFHILL Art Space, Stockholm, Sweden  
2021, *Artists & Identity: Portraiture, Doppelgängers, Disguise*, Art and Culture Center, Hollywood, FL  
2021, *A.I.R. Biennial: An A-Historical Daydream*, A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
2021, *Bring it Home*, Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery, Bennington College, Bennington, VT  
2021, *Storying*, Residency Unlimited Exhibition @ Andrew Freedman Home Gallery, Bronx, NY  
2021, *House of Crowns*, pop up show at Phillips first floor galleries, New York, NY  
2021, *Untitled Art Fair*, presented by Praise Shadows Gallery, Miami, FL  
2021, *Art Basel*, three person presentation by Addis Fine Art Gallery, Basel, Switzerland  
2021, *Making Marks*, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA  
2021, *Home Is: Contemporary Video Art from Ethiopia*, The Israeli Center for Digital Art, Holon, Israel  
2021, *1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair*, presented by Addis Fine Art Gallery, London, UK  
2020, *A Different Kind of Weapon*, Alabama Contemporary Art Center, Mobile, AL

2020, *A Beautiful Struggle*, Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids, MI  
 2020, *Still Here*, HUB-Robeson Gallery - Penn State University, University Park, PA  
 2020, *In/Flux: On Influence, Inspiration, Transformation*, Ortega y Gasset Projects, Brooklyn, NY  
 2020, *Cold Hands, Warm Heart*, Brentwood Arts Exchange, Brentwood, MD  
 2020, *Time Change, Change Time*, Auburn University - Biggin Gallery, Auburn, AL  
 2020, *Craft School*, Shelter in Place Gallery, Boston, MA  
 2020, *We Got You: 24 Hour Wide Awake Broadcast*, Fridman Gallery, New York, NY  
 2020, *Addis Video Art Festival: Grounded in Movement*, WNDX Moving Image Fest, Winnipeg, Canada  
 2020, *Meet Me In The Clouds*, Virtual performance commissioned by Sindikit Project, Baltimore, MD  
 2020, *Racism: An American Pandemic*, Eastern Connecticut State University Art Gallery, Hartford, CT  
 2019, *Idol Worship*, Smack Mellon, Brooklyn, NY 2019 *Unboxing: Double Speak*, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, MI  
 2019, *Addis Video Art Festival: Mutual Periphery*, Modern Art Museum, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
 2019, *Love In the Time of Hysteria*, Prizm Art, Miami, FL  
 2019, *Behind the Seen*, NARS Foundation, Brooklyn, NY  
 2019, *Still Here*, Museum of African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA  
 2019, *Look Us Over*, Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami, FL  
 2019, *Artscape Performance Series*, Baltimore Office of Promotion & Arts, Baltimore, MD  
 2019, *Overlooked*, Greater Reston Arts Center, Reston, VA  
 2019, *Distance*, Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, NY  
 2018, *Time Is Love*, Ex-New Centre for Contemporary Art, Sulbiate, Italy (traveling video exhibition in 11 additional countries including France, Germany, Japan, Morocco, United Kingdom)  
 2018, *Brown Paper Zine Fair*, Studio Museum of Harlem @ Langston Hughes House, New York, NY  
 2018, *Multiplicities Volume 1: Continuous Unknowing*, Assembly Room, New York, NY  
 2018, *The Dark Horse*, Prizm Art, Miami FL  
 2018, *Skowhegan Book Meet*, Skowhegan Space, New York, NY  
 2018, *Film Festival on Theatre & Performance*, Martin Segal Theatre Center - City University of New York Graduate Center, New York, NY  
 2018, *Art Speaks: An Evening of Performance Art*, Feminist Art Project - Art Share LA, Los Angeles, CA  
 2018, *HyphenAmerica*, Gallery 102 - George Washington University, Washington, DC  
 2018, *What We Don't Realize When We See Things*, The Wassaic Project, Wassaic, NY  
 2017, *Addis Video Art Festival: Love Triangle*, Modern Art Museum, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
 2017, *Universal Belonging*, Prizm Art, Miami, FL  
 2017, *Performance is Alive*, Satellite Art Show, Miami, FL  
 2017, *Inalienable Truths*, Gallery 102 - George Washington University, Washington, DC  
 2017, *Freedom*, Space Camp Gallery, Baltimore, MD  
 2017, *New. Now.*, Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington, DC  
 2017, *Home*, Logan Fringe Arts Space, Washington, DC  
 2017, *Prismacolor*, Parteojo VideoArt Festival, Barranquilla, Colombia  
 2017, *Say Her Name: An Evening of Arts and Action*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
 2017, *Black Girl Lit - Between Performance & Memory*, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA  
 2017, *Art & Academia: 1957 - 2017*, James E. Lewis Museum, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD  
 2017, *Black Girl Lit - Between Performance & Memory*, Museum of Contemporary African Diaspora Arts Brooklyn, NY  
 2016, *Black Women Artists for Black Lives Matter*, New Museum, New York, NY  
 2016, *New Home*, A.P.T. Gallery, London, UK  
 2016, *Black Women Artists for Black Lives Matter*, The Kitchen, New York, NY  
 2016, *International Video Art House Madrid Festival*, La Neomudejar Arts Center, Madrid, Spain  
 2016, *Black Girl Lit - Between Performance & Memory*, Five Myles Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
 2016, *Spilt Milk*, Thomas Young Gallery, Boston, MA  
 2015, *Addis Video Art Festival: Grounded in Movement*, Modern Art Museum, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
 2015, *What It Is & What It Ain't*, co-curator and artist, Panoply Performance Laboratory, Brooklyn, NY  
 2015, *Dispositions*, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, IL  
 2015, *Transient Vessels*, Massachusetts College of Art and Design - Pozen Center, Boston, MA

2015, *SMFA MFA Thesis Show*, The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA  
2015, *End Recordings*, Museum of Fine Arts - Alford Auditorium, Boston, MA  
2015, *The Great American Performance Art Festival*, Grace Exhibition Space, Brooklyn, NY  
2015, *Mapping the Dorchesterway*, Medicine Wheel Gallery, Boston, MA

### **SELECTED PUBLIC ART PROJECTS**

2022, *We've Been Here Before*, public art commission with RISD Museum, Providence, RI  
2021, *Hear Her Hear*, public art commission with For Freedoms, Los Angeles, CA  
2021, *Not A Monolith*, two public murals with Meta Open Arts and ArtBridge at MoCADA in Brooklyn, NY  
and DreamYard Projects in Bronx, NY  
2020, *Ministry of Truth: 1984/2020*, Public billboard project with Art at a Time Like This/Save Art Space,  
Bronx, NY  
2020, *Art Off-Screen*, public performance at Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, NY

### **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
RISD Art Museum, Providence, RI  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York, NY  
Tufts University Art Gallery, Medford, MA

### **ARTIST RESIDENCIES & STUDIO PROGRAMS**

2023, Women Studio Workshop, Kingston, NY (forthcoming)  
2021-22, Silver Art Projects @ World Trade Center, New York, NY  
2021, The Drawing Center Viewing Program, New York, NY  
2021, Residency Unlimited, Brooklyn, NY  
2020, Triangle Arts Residency, Brooklyn, NY  
2019, New York Artist Residency & Studios (NARS) Foundation, Brooklyn, NY  
2019, Fountainhead Residency, Miami, FL  
2018-19, Michigan State University - Creative Practice in Critical Race Theory Residency, Lansing, MI  
2018, The MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, NH  
2018, Virginia Center for Creative Arts - Alonzo Davis Fellowship, Amherst, VA  
2018, Lighthouse Works Fellowship, Fisher Island, NY  
2018, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art - Grant Supported Residency, North Adams, MA  
2017, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE  
2017, Ox-Bow, Saugatuck, MI  
2016, Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY  
2016, Vermont Studio Center - Full Fellowship, Johnson, VT

### **SELECTED AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

2022, Salomon Research Awards, Brown University, Providence, RI  
2022, Center for Study of Race and Ethnicity Practitioner Fellowship, Brown University, Providence, RI  
2021, FST Studio Projects Fund, New York, NY  
2021, Lighthouse Works Legacy Grant, Fishers Island, NY  
2020, Money for Women Visual Arts Grant, Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, Bearsville, NY  
2019-21, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship, Brown University, Providence, RI  
2018, SMFA Alumni Traveling Fellow, School of the Museum of Fine Arts/Tufts University, Boston, MA  
2017-18, Hamiltonian Artists Fellowship, Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington, DC  
2015-17, AICAD Teaching Fellowship, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
2016, Emergency Grant, Foundation for Contemporary Art, New York, NY  
2016, Full Fellowship, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME  
2015, Graduate Student Travel Grant, Tufts University, Boston, MA  
2014, Public Art Grant, Boston Arts Commission, Boston, MA  
2014, Montague Travel Grant, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

2014, Graduate Student Research Grant, Tufts University, Boston, MA  
2014, President's Research Award, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
2014, Boit Award, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022, D'Souza, Aruna. "Helina Metaferia's New Histories of Revolution." Monograph Book.
- 2022, Baker, Chenoa & Fisher, Michelle. "Helina Metaferia in Conversation." Monograph Book.
- 2022, Dozier, Ayanna. "Helina Metaferia Honors the Activist Legacies of Black Women across Collage and Performance." *Artsy*.
- 2022, Rubio, Maya. "Helina Metaferia Deconstructs What's 'All Put Together' at Praise Shadows Gallery." *Boston Art Review*.
- 2022, Waddoup, Ryan. "A Regal Headdress Comes Alive with Relics of BIPOC Activism." *Surface Mag*.
- 2022, Block, Annie. "Artist Helina Metaferia Celebrates Black Women Activists in Two Solo Show." *Interior Design*.
- 2022, Brandon, Elissaveta M. "'You're on top of the world': Inside 4 artists' studios on the 28th floor of the World Trade Center." *Fast Company*.
- 2021, Henderson, Teri. *Black Collagists: The Book*. Kanyer Publishing.
- 2021, McQuaid, Cate. "In Helina Metaferia's show at the MFA, an 'army of women' wear history on their heads." *The Boston Globe*.
- 2021, Smith, Melissa. "The City Is Their Canvas." *The New York Times*.
- 2021, Dafoe, Taylor. "10 New Murals Will Pop Up Across New York This Summer." *Artnet News*.
- 2021, Keenan, Annabel. "Black artists and performers take over Fort Greene Park for Juneteenth Jubilee." *The Art Newspaper*.
- 2021, Harris, Gareth. "The trio creating 'Portals' across a tumultuous year." *Financial Times*.
- 2021, Parker, Amanda. "Has BLM Really Changed The Arts?" *Financial Times*.
- 2021, Colby, Celina. "The MFA exhibit highlights women in activism." *Bay State Banner*.
- 2021, Renoylds, Pamela. "15 Art Exhibits Worth Exploring This Fall." *WBUR (Boston's NPR News Station)*.
- 2021, Elisa Pierandrei. "Helina Metaferia: Weaving and Resisting in More Than A Few Ways," *Contemporary And*.
- 2021, Westall, Mark, "Five to see at 1-54," *Fad Magazine*.
- 2021, Editor's Pick, "Artists to watch at this year's 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair." *New African Magazine*.
- 2021, Thomason, John. "Art and Culture Center Exhibit Redefines the Self-Portrait." *Boca Magazine*.
- 2021, Colby, Celina. "MFA exhibit highlights women in activism." *The Bay State Banner*.
- 2021, Niveyro, Barbara Victoria. "Exploring Black Subjectivity with Artist Helina Metaferia." *NYXT*.
- 2021, Valentine, Victoria. "Latest News In Black Art." *Culture Type*.
- 2020, Smith, Sarah. "Choreographing Dissent: Embodiment and Archives of Collectivity in Helina Metaferia's Against a Sharp White Background," Exhibition Catalogue, Northeastern University.
- 2020, Halliday, Amy. "Staying Woke: Participatory Politics in Helina Metaferia's Practice," Exhibition Catalogue, Northeastern University.
- 2020, Colby, Celina. "Helina Metaferia harpoons white-driven art world in solo show," *Bay State Banner*.
- 2020, McQuaid, Cate. "The Ticket: What's Happening in the Local Arts World," *Boston Globe*.
- 2019, Jenkins, Mark. "In the Galleries: An exhibition that draws attention to overlooked issues," *The Washington Post*.
- 2019, Sharp, Sarah Rose. "An Artist Honors the Overlooked Activism of Black Women," *Hyperallergic*.
- 2019, Trouillot, Terence. "As Detroit's Reputation for Emerging Artist Grows, Here Are the Most Striking Works at the Wildly Ambitious Detroit Art Week 2019," *Artnet News*.
- 2019, Indrisek, Scott. "Detroit Art Week's Second Edition Energizes the City's Creative Scene," *The Observer*.
- 2019, N'Namdi, Jumaane. "Art in Unique Spaces." *Art Loft*, PBS, Miami, FL. March 6, 2019. Television.
- 2019, Rems, Janet. "These are not walls, these are wounds." *Fairfax County Times*.
- 2018, Ballin, Sofya. "5 Black Artists You Can't Miss at Prizm Art Fair 2018," *OkayAfrica*.
- 2018, Soboleva, Ksenia M. "A Collective Gives Female Curators a Room of Their Own," *Hyperallergic*.

- 2018, Jenkins, Mark. "In the Galleries: The American Character, as Modeled by 11 Female Artists," *The Washington Post*.
- 2018, Carroll, Angela N. "Ethiopian American Artist Helina Metaferia Refigures the Canon at Hamiltonian Gallery," *Bmore Art*.
- 2017, Abbot, Kate. "Artists in residence given freedom to work at MASS MoCA," *Berkshire Eagle*.
- 2017, Brawner, Lydia. "Helina Metaferia in conversation," *Performa Magazine*.
- 2017, Aboulela, Leila. "Summer Maze," *Jalada 05/Transition*, 123, no. 1, Indiana University Press for Hutchins Center for African & African American Research at Harvard University.
- 2017, Hamilton, Dell M. "Inside/Out: Reflecting 'Black Performance Art' — On Chapters of Genealogy," *Big Red & Shiny*.
- 2017, Kost, Ryan. "Artist explores what it means to have a home," *San Francisco Chronicle*.
- 2015, McQuaid, Cate. "Head of the class: Six promising talents from local art schools," *Boston Globe*.
- 2015, Taylor, Blake E. "Museum of Fine Arts and Citizen's Bank team up to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day," *The Mass Media*.
- 2014, Nikkitha, Bakshani. "10 Things to Do in Brooklyn This Weekend," *Village Voice*.
- 2014, Doerfler, Andrew. "Defining contemporary art, or not: Student curators bring disparate artists to campus gallery," *The Berkeley Beacon*.

### **SELECTED VISITING ARTIST TALKS, LECTURES & PANELS**

- 2022, Panelist, Engine for Art, Democracy and Justice Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (forthcoming)
- 2022, Artist Talk, California State University Monterey Bay, Seaside, CA
- 2022, Artist Talk/Visiting Critic, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- 2022, Artist Talk, New England Historical Genealogical Society, Boston, MA
- 2022, Artist Talk/Visiting Critic, SMFA @ Tufts University, Boston, MA
- 2021, Artist Talk, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2021, Artist Talk, Frieze NYC Vision and Justice Program, New York, NY
- 2021, Panelist, College Art Association Conference, New York, NY
- 2021, Panelist, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- 2021, Artist Talk, New York University's The Gallatin Galleries, New York, NY
- 2021, Artist Talk, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
- 2021, Panelist, Foundations in Art, Theory & Education (FATE) Conference, Charlotte, NC
- 2020, Artist Talk, MASS Art, Boston, MA
- 2020, Artist Talk, San Francisco Art Institute
- 2020, Panelist, Art World Conference, New York, NY
- 2020, Artist Talk, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 2020 Artist Talk, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA
- 2020, Panelist, Museum of African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA
- 2020, Panelist, Area Code Art Fair, Boston, MA
- 2020, Panelist, Creative Activism Summit, Public Theater, New York, NY
- 2020, Guest Artist/Visiting Critic, Smith College, Northampton, MA
- 2019, Panelist, Black Portraiture[s] V Conference, New York University, New York, NY
- 2019, Panelist, Africa Braintrust @ Congressional Black Caucus Conference, Washington, DC
- 2019, Panelist, Foundations in Art, Theory & Education (FATE) Conference, Columbus, OH
- 2019, Keynote Speaker, Muskegon Community College, Muskegon, MI
- 2019, Artist Talk, Brown University, Providence, RI
- 2019, Artist Talk, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
- 2019, Artist Talk, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY 2019 Artist Talk, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
- 2019, Artist Talk, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2018, Guest Artist/Visiting Critic, The New School/Parsons Fine Art, New York, NY
- 2018, Panelist, Black Portraiture[s] IV Conference, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- 2018, Panelist, George Washington University's Corcoran School of Art, Washington, DC
- 2018, Panel Discussant, College Art Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017, Artist Talk, Pratt MWP College of Art and Design, Utica, NY

2017, Artist Talk, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
2017, Guest Artist Lecture, The New School, New York, NY  
2017, Artist Talk, California College of Art, San Francisco, CA  
2017, Artist Talk, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
2017, Artist Talk, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
2016, Panel Chair & Presenter, Black Portraiture[s] III Conference, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa  
2016, Artist Talk, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
2015, Graduate Student Commencement Speaker, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

### **COLLEGE TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2021-Present, Assistant Professor, Brown University, Providence, RI  
Courses: Social Practice, Performance, Junior Seminar, Sculpture Foundations  
2019-2021, Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Brown University, Providence, RI  
Courses: Social Practice, Sculpture Foundations  
2019-2021, Part-Time Visiting Critic, The New School / Parsons Fine Arts, New York, NY  
Courses: Individual studio visits with MFA and BFA students  
2018-2021, Visiting Professor / Artist in Residence, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Courses: Performing Identities, Social Practice  
2015-2017, Full-Time AICAD Post-MFA Fellow, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA  
Courses: Graduate Studio Seminar, The Artist's Body, Issues In Contemporary Art: Performance, New Genres, Beginning Video/Performance, Contemporary Practice  
2013-2015, Teaching Assistant, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
Courses: Death of Painting, Graduate Painting, Intermediate Painting, Performing Personas

### **SELECTED ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2021-23, *Movements in the Modern Diaspora* — Member of Advisory Group for the exhibition, The Africa Center, New York, NY  
2022, *When We Gather* - performance with Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC  
2016, *IDENTIFY: Performance Art as Portraiture* - performance with Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, National Portrait Gallery - Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC  
2015, *Conversando* - performance with Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, 12th Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba  
2014, *Habla Lamadre* - performance with Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons for the event Carrie Mae Weems LIVE: Past Tense/Future Present, Solomon J. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY