

For Immediate Release
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UPCOMING ART EXHIBITION AT FUTURE TENANT CONFRONTS RACIAL INEQUALITY BY RE-CLAIMING OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE

A Black Man Made This Art is mixed-media art installation challenging the viewer to confront the relationship between the oppressor and the oppressed.

PITTSBURGH--This fall, artist D.S. Kinsel and curator Alecia Young team up with Future Tenant to bring Pittsburgh a multi-media art exhibition tackling issues of social justice relevant not only to the Pittsburgh community, but the United States as a whole.

Opening on Friday, September 9th, 2016, Kinsel's installation entitled *A Black Man Made This Art* strives to re-claim ownership of offensive language used towards Black Americans. The exhibition is free and open to public, on view September 9th - October 23rd, 2016 at Future Tenant's space on 819 Penn Avenue. A free Opening Reception will take place on Friday, September 9th from 6:00 to 9:00pm.

An additional Reception will be held on Friday, September 23rd, 2016 from 6:00 to 9:00pm in honor of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's fall Gallery Crawl event. Both receptions will feature complimentary beverages provided by Future Tenant's generous sponsor, Straub Beer.

According to curator Alecia Young, "*A Black Man Made This Art* explores oppressive vocabulary and the role of the oppressed in claiming ownership of culturally offensive language. Rooted in the spirit of agitational propaganda, artist D.S. Kinsel presents a mixed media, text based show focusing on the action of re-appropriating racially charged epithets and traditional imagery of Americana. Challenging, provocative, vivid typography, and images of confronted patriotism are expressed through digital and physical media."

About the Artist

D.S. Kinsel is a black creative entrepreneur and cultural agitator based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He expresses his creativity through the mediums of painting, window display, installation, curating, action-painting, non-traditional performance and social media. While Kinsel's primary practice is painting, he believes that experimenting in other disciplines further develops his key practice as a painter. Kinsel's work focuses on themes of escapism, space-keeping, urban tradition, pop culture, hip-hop, informalism and cultural appropriation.

Kinsel is also the co-founder of BOOM Concepts, a combination work space/creative hub. Outside of the studio, Kinsel works with youth, community artists, and community partners to identify ways for youth to express issues of social justice through drama, dance, music, visual art, and technology. Kinsel is a board member of Pittsburgh Center for Creative Reuse and serves on the advisory board for the Heinz Endowments Transformative Arts process.

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About the Curator

Alecia Young is a proven leader and passionate educator with over a decade of experience in nonprofit management. A certified K-12 teacher by trade, she pulls from her experience creating, teaching, managing, marketing and consulting within arts and community-based organizations. Her passion stems from a commitment to underserved children and families of color. She has served in an array of professional capacities -- from creating community education programs rooted in African American arts and culture to facilitating curriculum and professional development for arts education initiatives. A Pittsburgh native, Alecia holds a Master of Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts and education from Alfred University.

About Future Tenant

Future Tenant is a non-profit art space located in the downtown Cultural District of Pittsburgh dedicated to showcasing the work of emerging artists through exhibitions that offer a cutting edge perspective on the Pittsburgh art scene. Future Tenant is made possible by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and Carnegie Mellon University.

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