

BAM

Next Wave 2019

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

***Race Cards*, a participatory installation by UK-based artist Selina Thompson comes to BAM, Oct 29—Nov 10**

Thompson is part of Artistic Director David Binder's first Next Wave season, in which all artists are making their BAM debuts

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Race Cards

Selina Thompson

Devitre Lounge (formerly the Natman Room), 30 Lafayette Ave
Oct 29—Nov 10, on view daily from 12pm—10pm
Free

"Audiences to Selina Thompson's *Race Cards* walk away with more than insight."
—*The Globe and Mail* (Toronto)

September 30, 2019/Brooklyn, NY—UK-based artist Selina Thompson's *Race Cards* is an individual and immersive approach to examining thoughts about race and identity. Audience members enter a room—one by one—surrounded by 1,000 different questions about race posted on index cards. Each participant is invited to answer one question and write a response. The questions were written by Thompson over an extended period of time, and the work's international exhibitions to date (in the UK, Canada, Brazil, Australia, and the US) have revealed a global range of attitudes toward race.

Selina Thompson is an artist and performer based in Birmingham, England. Her work is playful, participatory, and intimate, focused on the politics of identity and how this defines our bodies, lives, and environments. Thompson has made work for pubs, cafes, hairdressers, restrooms, galleries, and theaters, including SPILL Festival of Performance, The National Theatre Studio, The Birmingham REP, and the West Yorkshire Playhouse.

Race Cards was developed as an ongoing research inquiry and as part of a body of work exploring Black British Identity called *As Wide and as Deep as the Sea*. This overarching exploration has also led Thompson to build and tour a giant 'tumble-weave' of hair, made from extensions and weaves, across the UK with *Dark and Lovely*—an exploration of the complex social debate surrounding Black hair. The series also includes *salt.*, a retracing of the Transatlantic Slave Triangle from the UK, to Ghana, to Jamaica and back on a cargo ship. Thompson's other current works include performances and installations *The Edible Woman* and *The Job Centre Project*.

For press information, contact Sandy Sawotka, ssawotka@BAM.org or 718.636.4190.

Commissioned by Camden People's Theatre and Leeds Library through Room 700.

With support from Buzzcut, Forest Fringe, and Fierce FWD

Credits

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General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. Harvey Theater at BAM Strong is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas features first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St. for Harvey Theater)
D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, and B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM