

Minneapolis Institute of Art

When Home Won't Let You Stay: Art and Migration

Minneapolis Institute of Art
February 23 – May 24, 2020

Gabriel Ritter, PhD
Curator and Head of Contemporary Art
Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia)

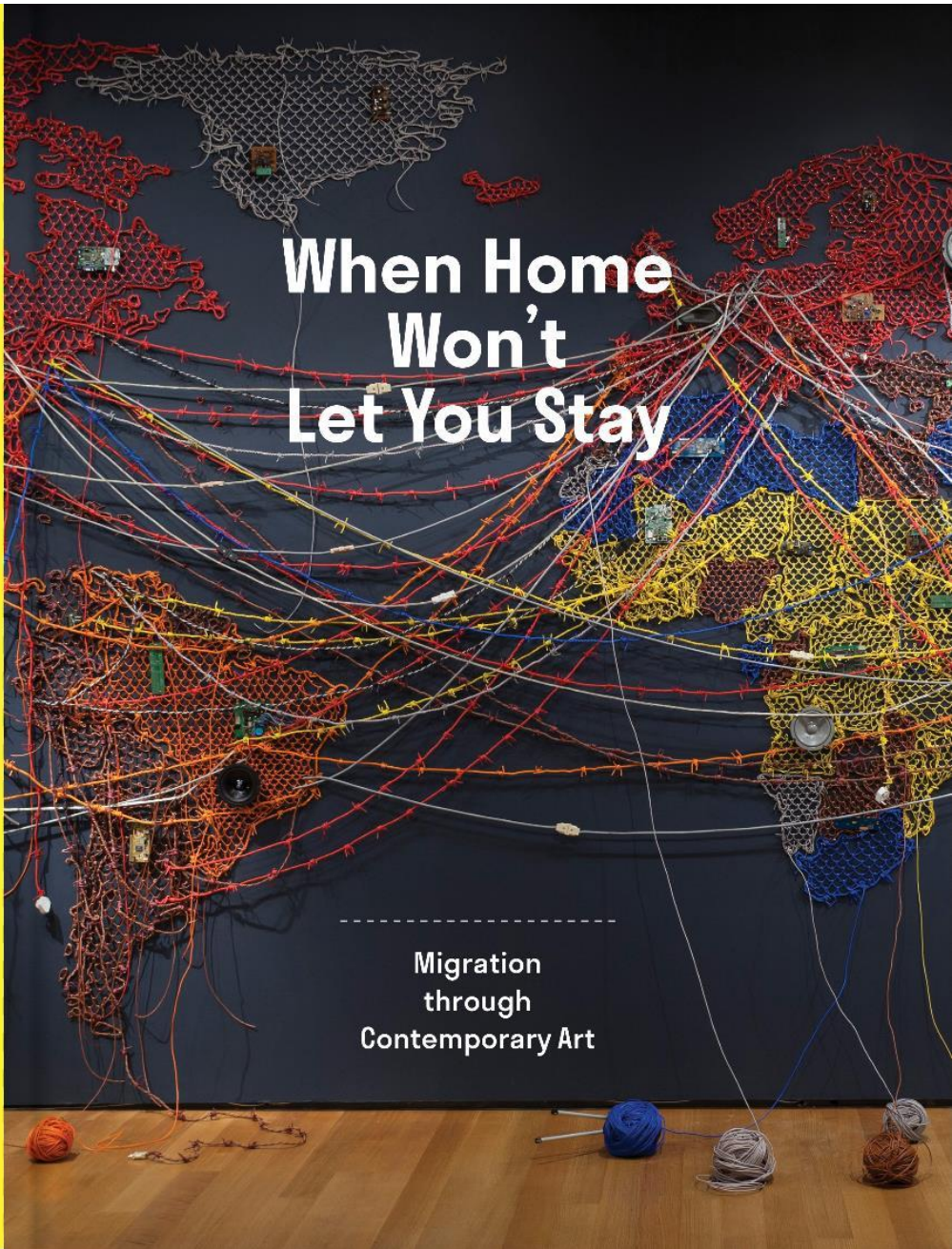
Mia



Erickson & Respini

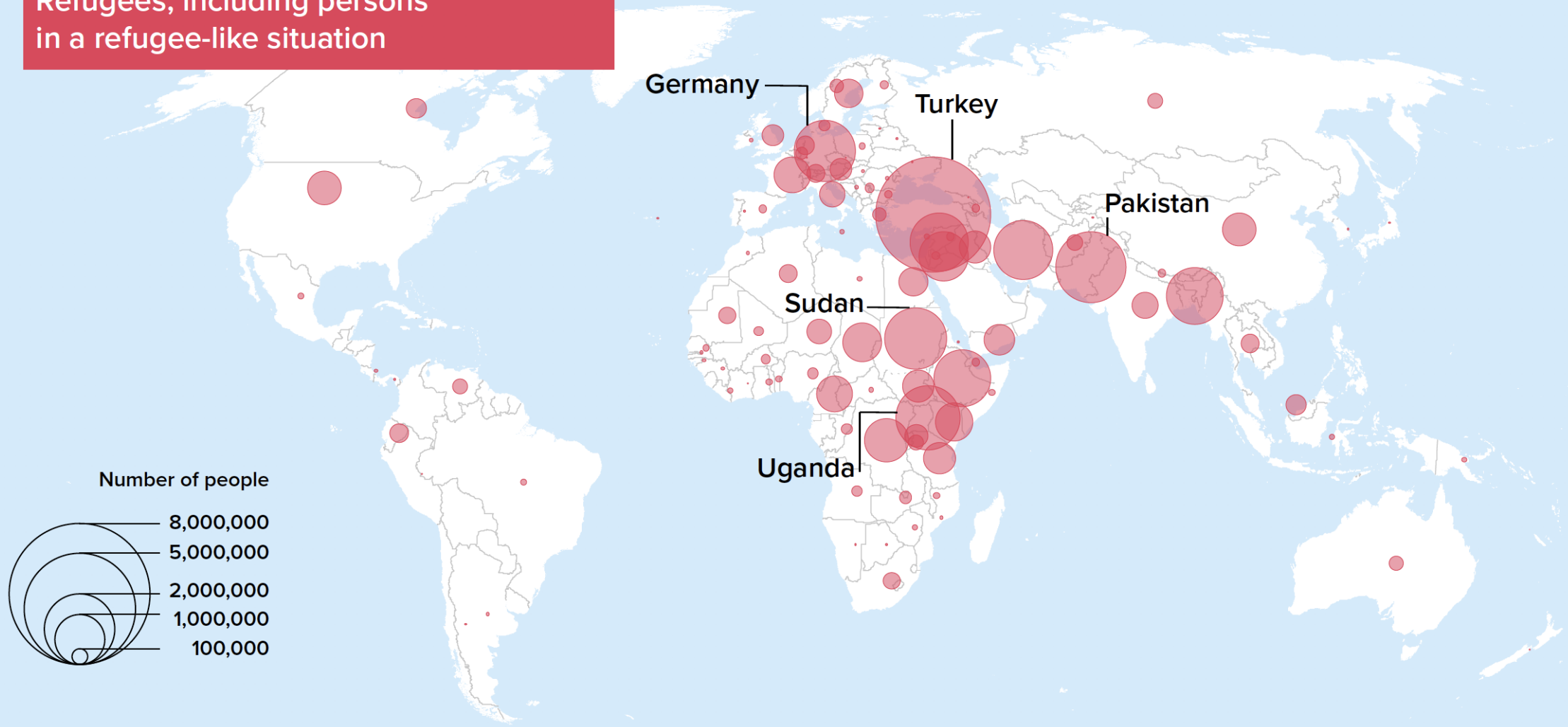
When Home Won't Let You Stay
Migration through Contemporary Art

IFA
Yale



Map 1 | Populations of concern to UNHCR by category | end-2018

Refugees, including persons in a refugee-like situation





Warsan Shire (b. 1988, Kenya)

“Home”

no one leaves home unless
home is the mouth of a shark
you only run for the border
when you see the whole city running as well

your neighbors running faster than you
breath bloody in their throats
the boy you went to school with
who kissed you dizzy behind the old tin factory
is holding a gun bigger than his body
you only leave home
when home won't let you stay.

...

you have to understand,
that no one puts their children in a boat
unless the water is safer than the land
no one burns their palms
under trains
beneath carriages
no one spends days and nights in the stomach of a truck
feeding on newspaper unless the miles travelled
means something more than journey.
no one crawls under fences
no one wants to be beaten
pitied



Reena Saini Kallat

Born 1973, New Delhi, India; lives and works in Mumbai

Woven Chronicle, 2011-19

Electrical wires, speakers, circuit boards, and fittings; single-channel audio

(sound; 10:00 minutes)

Courtesy the artist and Nature Morte, New Delhi



Aliza Nisenbaum
Born 1977, Mexico City; lives and works in New York
Veronica, Marissa, and Gustavo, 2013
Oil on linen
Collection of Josh Lilley, London



Richard Mosse

Born 1980, Kilkenny, Ireland; lives and works in New York

Incoming, 2017

Three-channel HD video (black-and-white, 7.3 surround sound; 52:12 minutes)

Produced in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, 2014–16

Director/Producer: Richard Mosse

Cinematographer/Editor: Trevor Tweeten

Composer/Sound Designer: Ben Frost

Colorist: Jerome Thelia

Production Assistants: Daphne Tolis, Djibo Issifou, Marta Giaccone, Marco Buch, Lazara Marinković, Zaher Said, and John Holten

Co-commissioned by the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, and Barbican Art Gallery, London

Courtesy the artist; Jack Shainman Gallery, New York; and carlier | gebauer, Berlin



Do Ho Suh

Born 1962, Seoul, South Korea; lives and works in London, New York, and Seoul

Hub-1, Entrance, 260-7, Sungbook-Dong, Sungboon-Ku, Seoul, Korea, 2018

Polyester fabric and stainless steel

Hub-2, Breakfast Corner, 260-7, Sungbook-Dong, Sungboon-Ku, Seoul, Korea, 2018

Polyester fabric and stainless steel

Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul



Isaac Julien

Born 1960, London; lives and works in London

Western Union: Small Boats, 2007

Three-channel video installation, 35mm film transferred to HD video (color, 5.1 surround sound; 18:22 min.)

Courtesy the artist; Metro Pictures, New York; and Victoria Miro, London



Kader Attia

Born 1970, Dugny, France; lives and works in Berlin and Paris

La mer morte (The Dead Sea), 2015

Clothes

Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul



Richard Misrach (B. 1949, Los Angeles, United States)
Wall, east of Nogales, Arizona / El muro, al este de Nogales, Arizona, 2014
From the series Border Cantos, 2004-16
Pigment print
60 × 80 inches (152.4 × 203.2 cm)
Courtesy the artist; Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York; Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco; and Marc Selwyn Fine Arts, Los Angeles

Artists in the Exhibition (Mia Presentation)

Kader Attia

Yto Barrada

Tania Bruguera

CarryOn Homes

Rineke Dijkstra

Guillermo Galindo

Mona Hatoum

Isaac Julien

Hayv Kahraman

Reena Saini Kallat

Richard Misrach

Richard Mosse

Carlos Motta

Aliza Nisenbaum

Camilo Ontiveros

Adrian Piper

Postcommodity

Yina Shonibare CBE

Xaviera Simmons

Do Ho Suh

Ai Weiwei

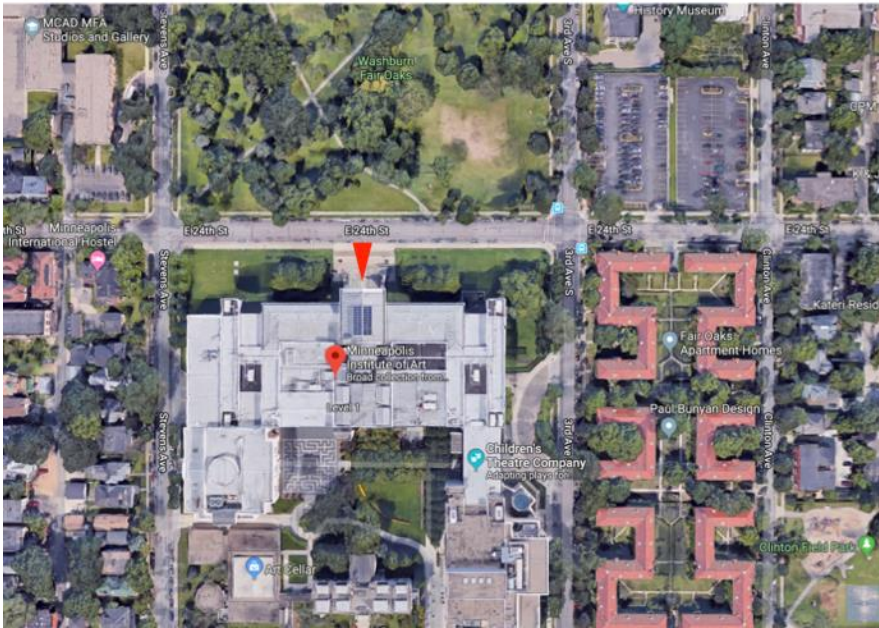


Minneapolis Institute of Art

Ai Weiwei (Chinese, b. 1957)
#SafePassage (2016)
Installation view, Konzerthaus, Berlin, DE



Ai Weiwei installed #SafePassage at the Berlin Konzerthaus on February 13, 2016. The work consisted of over 3.000 lifejackets, recovered from the island of Lesbos, wrapped around the ionic columns of the building, highlighting the ongoing refugee crisis in the Mediterranean and the European response.



Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia)

Minneapolis Institute of Art



Ai Weiwei (Born 1957, Beijing; lives and works in Cambridge, England)
Safe Passage, 2016
Life vests
Courtesy the artist and negerriemschneider, Berlin



Ai Weiwei
Relating to Refugees (2015-2016)
Installation view at the National Gallery in Prague



Ai Weiwei
Relating to Refugees (2015-2016)
Image courtesy of Ai Weiwei Studio

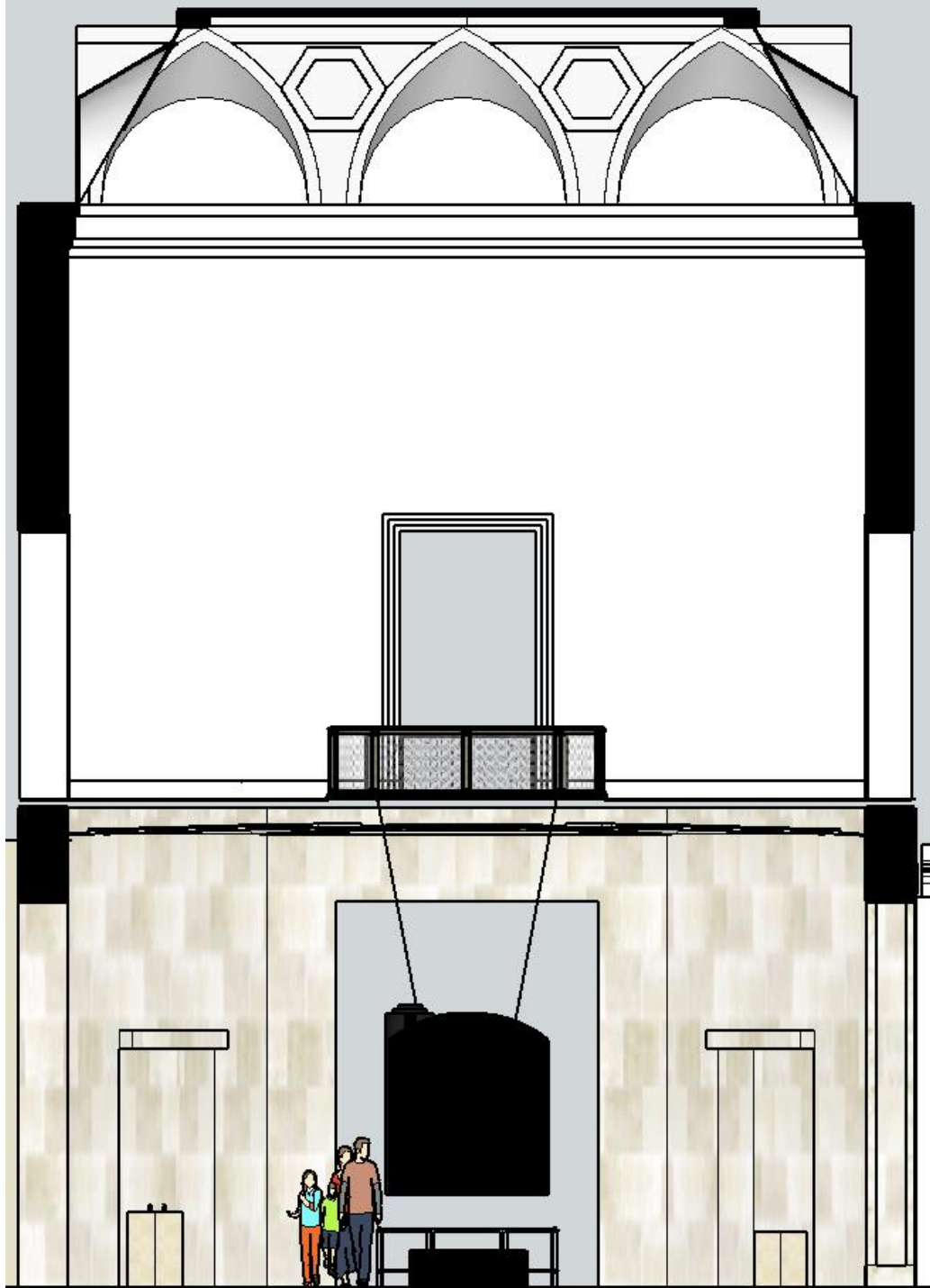


Postcommodity (founded 2007)

Left: Cristóbal Martínez

Center: *Repellent Fence*, 2015

Right: Kade Twist



Postcommodity

American artists collective, founded 2007

Let Us Pray for the Water between Us, 2020

*2200 gallon polyethylene hazmat chemical storage container,
brushless linear motor, leather mallet, wood, steel, aircraft cable,
algorithmic composition*

Courtesy of the artists

Mia rendering



The Doryphoros, 120–50 BCE

Pentelic marble

78 x 19 x 19 in.

The John R. Van Derlip Fund and Gift of funds from Bruce B. Dayton, an anonymous donor, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. W. John Driscoll, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. John Andrus, Mr. and Mrs. Judson Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Keating, Mr. and Mrs. Pierce McNally, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dayton, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne MacFarlane, and many other generous friends of the Institute 86.6



Postcommodity
American artists collective, founded 2007
Let Us Pray for the Water between Us,
2020

2200 gallon polyethylene hazmat
chemical storage container, brushless
linear motor, leather mallet, wood, steel,
aircraft cable, algorithmic composition
Courtesy of the artists

Mia rendering



Tania Bruguera
Born 1968, Havana, Cuba; lives and works in Queens, New York
Dignity Has No Nationality, 2017
Nylon, polyester poplin, and thread
Courtesy the artist



Reena Saini Kallat

Born 1973, New Delhi, India; lives and works in Mumbai

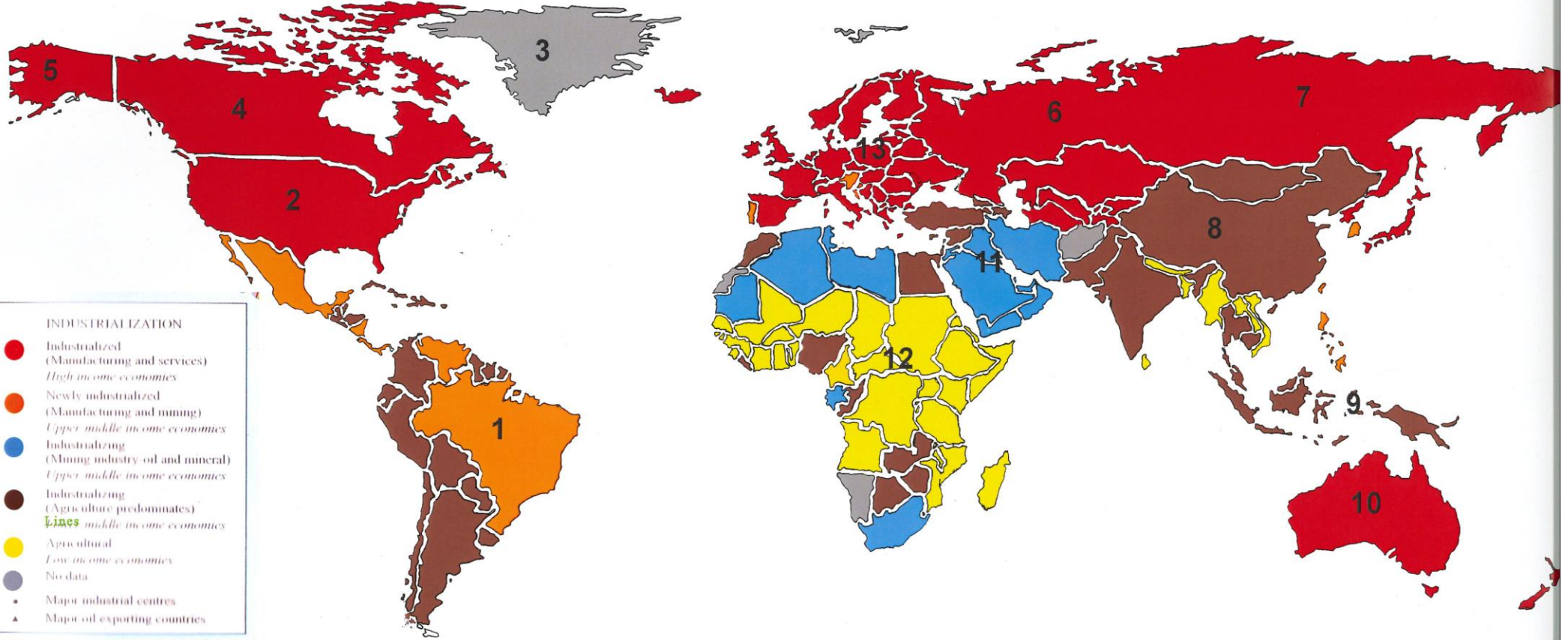
Woven Chronicle, 2011-19

Electrical wires, speakers, circuit boards, and fittings; single-channel audio (sound; 10:00 minutes)

Courtesy the artist and Nature Morte, New Delhi



Reena Saini Kallat
Born 1973, New Delhi, India; lives and works in Mumbai
Woven Chronicle (detail), 2011-19



INDUSTRIALIZATION

- Industrialized
(Manufacturing and services)
High income economies
- Newly industrialized
(Manufacturing and mining)
Upper middle income economies
- Industrializing
(Mining industry oil and mineral)
Upper middle income economies
- Industrializing
(Agriculture predominates)
Lines middle income economies
- Agricultural
Low income economies
- No data
- Major industrial centres
- ▲ Major oil exporting countries



Mona Hatoum
Born 1952, Beirut, Lebanon; lives and works
in London
Exodus II, 2002
Compressed card, leather, metal, human
hair, and beeswax
Private collection



Camilo Ontiveros

Born 1978, El Rosario, Sinaloa, Mexico; lives and works in Los Angeles

Temporary Storage: The Belongings of Juan Manuel Montes, 2017

Personal belongings of Juan Manuel Montes, rope, metal sawhorse, aluminum base, and wood

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Museum purchase funded by the 2017 Latin American Experience Gala and Auction, 2018.136



Adrian Piper

Born 1948, New York; lives and works in Berlin

Everything #4, 2004

Oval mirror with gold leaf-engraved text in traditional mahogany frame

Collection of Adrian Piper Research Archive

Foundation Berlin



Richard Mosse

Born 1980, Kilkenny, Ireland; lives and works in New York

Incoming, 2017

Three-channel HD video (black-and-white, 7.3 surround sound; 52:12 minutes)

Produced in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, 2014-16

Director/Producer: Richard Mosse

Cinematographer/Editor: Trevor Tweeten

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Incoming, 2017

Three-channel HD video (black-and-white, 7.3 surround sound; 52:12 minutes)

Produced in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, 2014-16

Director/Producer: Richard Mosse



I used a military-grade camera designed for battlefield awareness and long-range border surveillance in an attempt to engage and confront the ways in which our governments represent—and therefore regard—the refugee. This thermal camera, which is produced in the European Union by a multi-national weapons company, can detect body heat from a distance of 30.3km, day or night. This powerful tool was not designed for storytelling and was never intended to be used aesthetically. We wanted to use the technology against itself to create an immersive, humanist art form, allowing the viewer to meditate on the profoundly difficult and frequently tragic journeys of refugees through the metaphors of hypothermia, global warming, border enforcement, mortality, and what the philosopher Giorgio Agamben has called the 'bare life' of stateless people.

- Richard Mosse, 2017

“My experience with home has been finding it within myself. I find myself often grappling with foreignness. When I was in Syria, my mother is American, so I was the foreigner, and then when I came here, I was the Syrian. So the question of home, and where it is defined and where to locate it has always, for me, come back to the body.”



ESSMA IMADY
INSTALLATION ARTIST

Use your own device to hear Imady talk about the artwork *Bab el Sheikh* by Hayv Kahraman.

artsmia.org/expanded-voices



“The most important action that any one can take is to educate themselves. I’d rather that people do that than march with us because information is powerful. Hopefully when people leave here, they will want to learn more.”



ALFREDA DANIELS
CO-FOUNDER,
BLACK IMMIGRANT COLLECTIVE

Use your own device to hear Daniels talk about the artwork *Incoming* by Richard Mosse.

artsmia.org/expanded-voices





Carlos Motta

Born 1978, Bogotá, Colombia; lives and works in New York

The Crossing, 2017

Anwar (12:08 min.)

Behnam (9:39 min.)

Butterfly (12:20 min.)

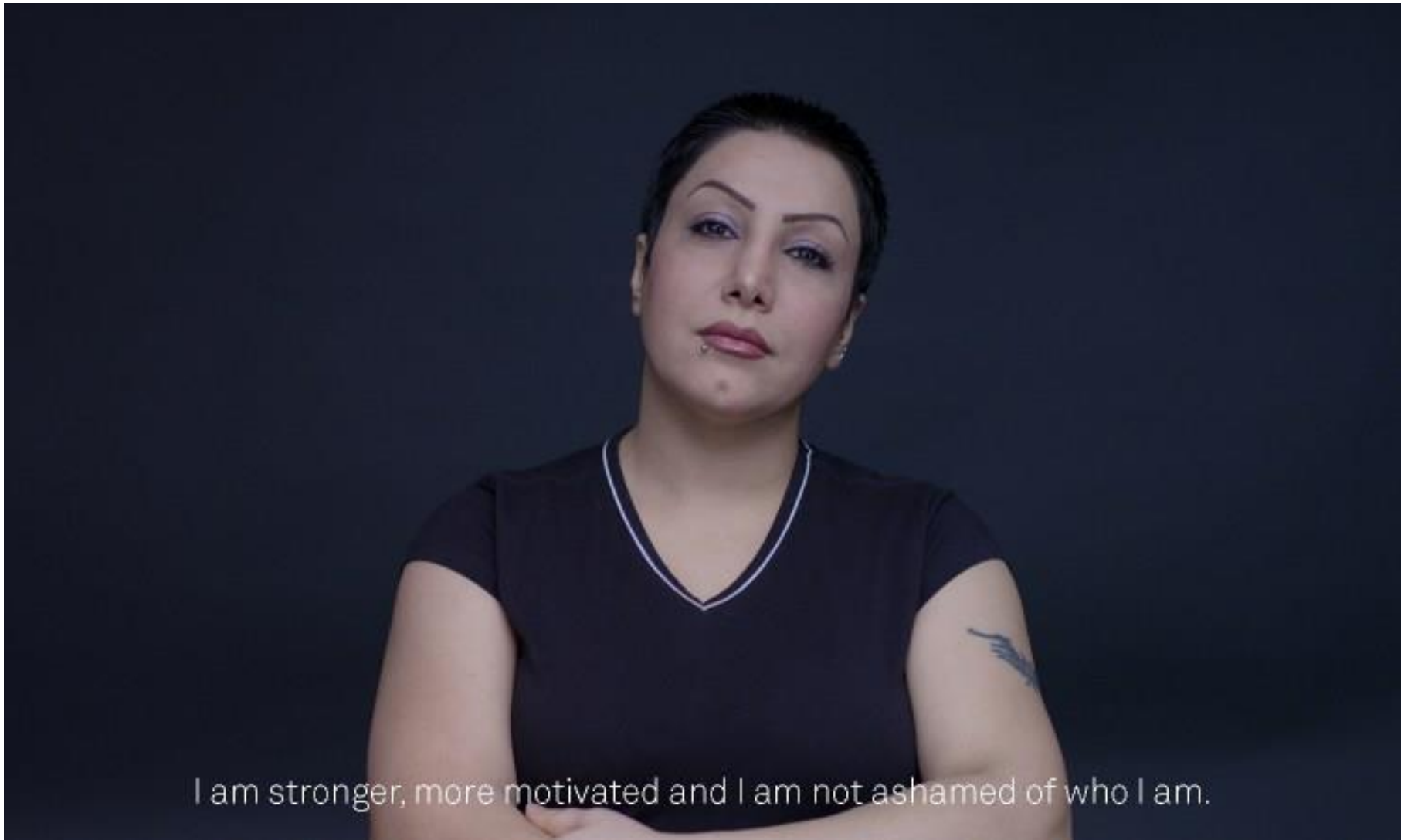
Mala (11:47 min.)

Raneen (11:58 min.)

Zizi (9:47 min.)

Six channels from an eleven-channel video installation (color, sound)

Courtesy the artist and P.P.O.W Gallery, New York



Carlos Motta

Mahshid from *The Crossing*, 2017 (video still)

2017

Installation, 11 short films, Single-channel videos (color, sound)

Dimensions variable



Carlos Motta

Zizi from The Crossing, 2017 (video still)

2017

Installation, 11 short films, Single-channel videos (color, sound)

Dimensions variable



Kader Attia

Born 1970, Dugny, France; lives and works in Berlin and Paris

La mer morte (The Dead Sea), 2015

Clothes

Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul



Kader Attia

Born 1970, Dugny, France; lives and works in Berlin and Paris

La mer morte (The Dead Sea) (detail), 2015

Clothes

Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul



Xaviera Simmons

Born 1974, New York; lives and works in New York
Sundown (Number Twelve), 2018

Chromogenic color print

The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, Jeanne L. Wasserman
Fund and Anonymous Acquisition Fund

SALLED NORTH LIES BY NORTH HAND AT THE
WEST SAW A DOVE A PELICAN A RIVER BIRD
AND OTHER WHITE FOWL THESE SEABEING
SMOOTH HAND TRANQUIL THE SAILORS
MURMURED BUT AFTERWARDS THE SEA
ROSE WITHOUT WIND THE RISEING OF THE
SEA WAS VERY FAVORABLE CERTAIN ISLANDS
IN THAT SEA OWING TO THE CURRENTS
CARRIED THEM TO THE NORTHEAST AT
SUNSET THE SEA WAS LIKE A RIVER
THE AIR SOFT AND MILD FOUR TROPIC
BIRDS CAME TO THE SHIP WHICH IS A
VERY CLEAR SIGN OF LAND FOR SO MANY
BIRDS OF ONE SORT TOGETHER SHOW THEY
ARE NOT STRAYING ABOUT HAVING LOST
THEMSELVES IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION
AT SUNRISE AND SUNSET FOUND THE SEA
LIKE THE RIVER THE AIR SOFT AND FRAGRANT
ALL NIGHT HEARD BIRDS PASSING AND
AT DAWN SAW A CARVED STICK AND A PLANT
WHICH GROWS ON LANDS STEERED WEST AND SAILLED

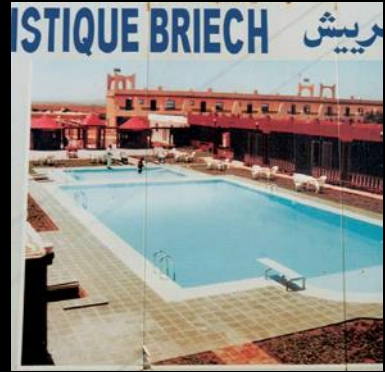
Xaviera Simmons

Born 1974, New York; lives and works in New York

Found the Sea like the River, 2018

Acrylic on wood panel

Courtesy the artist and David Castillo Gallery, Miami



Yto Barrada
A Life Full of Holes: The Strait Project



Tania Bruguera
Born 1968, Havana, Cuba; lives and works in Queens, New York
Dignity Has No Nationality, 2017
Nylon, polyester poplin, and thread
Courtesy the artist



Isaac Julien

Born 1960, London; lives and works in London

Western Union: Small Boats, 2007

Three-channel video installation, 35mm film transferred to HD video (color, 5.1 surround sound; 18:22 min.)

Courtesy the artist; Metro Pictures, New York; and Victoria Miro, London



Isaac Julien

Western Union: Small Boats, installation at Aarhus Kunstmuseum

2007

Three-channel video (16mm color film transferred onto HD video, sound; 18 minutes 22 seconds)

Overall dimensions variable



Isaac Julien (B. 1960, London, United Kingdom)

Western Union: small boats No. 2, (Flight Towards Other Destinies 1) (still), 2007

Duratrans image in light box

47 1/4 x 96 1/8 inches (120 x 244 cm)



Do Ho Suh
Born 1962, Seoul, South Korea; lives and works in London, New York, and Seoul

Hub-1, Entrance, 260-7, Sungbook-Dong, Sungbo-Ku, Seoul, Korea, 2018
Polyester fabric and stainless steel

Hub-2, Breakfast Corner, 260-7, Sungbook-Dong, Sungbo-Ku, Seoul, Korea, 2018
Polyester fabric and stainless steel
Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul



Do Ho Suh (B. 1962, Seoul, Korea)

Installation view, *When Home Won't Let You Stay: Migration through Contemporary Art*, ICA/Boston, October 2019



Hayv Kahraman
Born 1981, Baghdad, Iraq; lives and works in Los Angeles
Bab el Sheikh, 2013
Oil on wood
Private collection



Aliza Nisenbaum

Born 1977, Mexico City; lives and works in New York

La Talaverita, Sunday Morning NY Times, 2016

Oil on linen

Collection of Jackson Tang, New York



Aliza Nisenbaum

Born 1977, Mexico City; lives and works in New York
Veronica, Marissa, and Gustavo, 2013

Oil on linen

Collection of Josh Lilley, London



Aliza Nisenbaum (B. 1977, Mexico City, Mexico)

Nimo, Sumiya, and Bisharo harvesting flowers and vegetables at Hope Community Garden (2017)

Oil on linen

The Mary Ingebrand-Pohlad Endowment for Twentieth Century Painting, 2018.13.3



Rineke Dijkstra

Born 1959, Sittard, the Netherlands; lives and works in Amsterdam

Almerisa, 1994–present

Chromogenic color prints

Courtesy the artist and Marian Goodman Gallery, New York, Paris,

and London



Yinka Shonibare CBE

Born 1962, London; lives and works in London

The American Library, 2018

Hardback books, Dutch wax-printed cotton textile, gold-foiled names, and website

Courtesy the artist and James Cohan Gallery, New York, and FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art with funds from VIA Art Fund



Richard Misrach

Wall, east of Nogales, Arizona / El muro, al este de Nogales, Arizona, from the series Border Cantos

2014

Pigment print

60 × 80 inches (152.4 × 203.2 cm)



Richard Misrach

Born 1949, Los Angeles; lives and works in Berkeley, California

Agua #10, near Calexico, California/Agua n° 10, cerca de Calexico, California, 2014

Pigment print

From the series Border Cantos, 2004-16

Courtesy the artist; Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York; Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco; and Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles



Richard Misrach

Effigy #3, near Jacumba, California / Efigie nº 3, cerca de Jacumba, California, from the series Border Cantos
2009

Pigment print

60 × 80 inches (152.4 × 203.2 cm)



Richard Misrach

Born 1949, Los Angeles; lives and works in Berkeley, California

Artifacts found from California to Texas between 2013 and 2015/Artefactos encontrados entre California y Texas de 2013 a 2015, 2013-15

Pigment print

From the series Border Cantos, 2004-16

Courtesy the artist; Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York; Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco; and Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Los Angeles



Guillermo Galindo

Born 1960, Mexico City; lives and works in Oakland, California

Zapatello, 2014

Wood blocking used in construction of the Mexico–United States barrier, tire, rawhide, boot, glove, donkey jaw, and ram's horn

Fabricated by Ross Craig and Tiffany Huey

From the series Border Cantos, 2004–16

Courtesy the artist and Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York



Guillermo Galindo

Born 1960, Mexico City; lives and works in Oakland, California

Ángel Exterminador/Exterminating Angel, 2015

Section of the Mexico–United States barrier, Border Patrol drag chain, and wood blocking used in the construction of the Mexico–United States barrier

From the series Border Cantos, 2004–16

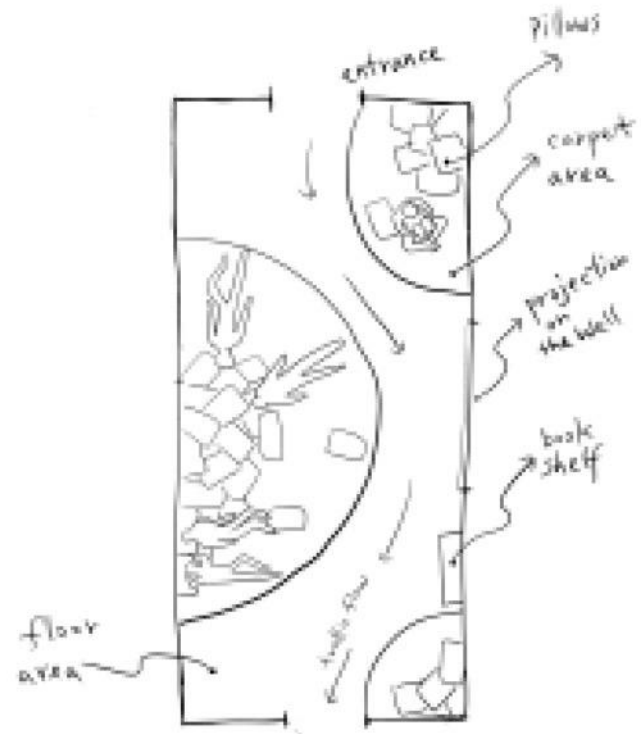
Courtesy the artist and Pace/MacGill Gallery, New York

CarryOn Homes - Living Room (2020)

Team of artists working in the Twin Cities, comprising:

Zoe Cinel (born 1992 in Italy), Preston Drum (born 1983 in the United States), Aki Shibata (born 1984 in Japan)

Peng Wu (born 1981 in China), and Shun Jie Yong (born 1987 in Malaysia)



CarryOn Homes - Living Room (2020)



- **Pillow cases are made out of used cloth fabric from immigrant and refugee communities.**
- **Intimate to one's body, carries diverse and rich cultures of domestic living.**
- **Opens the opportunity of hosting community workshops and making the pillow cases together.**

Mia Exhibition Advisory Committee Members

- Aaron Ortiz Johnson, CLUES
- Alfreda Daniels, Black Immigrant Collective
- Carry On Homes collective
- Cawo Abdi, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
- Corleen Smith, International Institute
- Ekta Prakash, CAPI
- Erika Lee, Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota
- Fartun Weli, Isuroon
- Jack DeWaard, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota
- Jillian Kyles, Office of Multicultural Services, Hennepin County
- Mark Pfeifer, Hmong Cultural Center
- Michelle Rivero, Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, City of Minneapolis
- Nasibu Sareva, African Development Center
- Nicole Martin Rogers, Speaking for Ourselves Report, Wilder Foundation,
- Roxana Linares, Centro Tyrone Guzman
- Sarah Brennes, Advocates for Human Rights

When Home Won't Let You Stay: Art and Migration

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