

Mendi + Keith Obadike

M: 2005 Duke University: PhD, Literature. 1995 Spelman College: BA, English
K: 2004 Yale University: MFA, Sound Design. 2001 North Carolina Central University: BA, Art

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Mendi + Keith Obadike: Anyanwu - Carnegie Mellon College of Fine Arts
- 2018 Mendi + Keith Obadike: Utopias - Weeksville Heritage Center, Brooklyn
- 2017 Mendi + Keith Obadike: Overcome - Anderson Gallery at Drake University, Des Moines
- 2016 Sonic Migration: Morning Comes - public artwork in Philadelphia - curated by Scribe Video Center
- 2015-16 Free/Phase - Chicago Cultural Center, Rebuild Foundation and Columbia College
- 2015 Mendi + Keith Obadike: Numbers Station [Furtive Movements] - Ryan Lee Gallery NY
- 2015 Free/Phase - Chicago Cultural Center, Rebuild Foundation and Columbia College
- 2015 Blues Speaker [for James Baldwin] - The New School's Vera List Center for Art and Politics / Harlem Stage
- 2014 Mendi + Keith Obadike: American Cypher -- Institute of Visual Arts, UW Milwaukee
- 2013 Mendi + Keith Obadike: American Cypher -- Studio Museum in Harlem
- 2012 African Metropole: Lagos Sonic Cty-- Pascal Gallery, Ramapo College
- 2012 American Cypher: Stereo Helix for Sally Hemings - Samek Gallery
- 2007 Big House / Disclosure - Northwestern U, curators Huey Copeland & Krista Thompson

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS & SCREENINGS

- 2023 Counterpublic Triennial
- 2023 Difference Machines: Technology and Identity in Contemporary Art
Gray Area, co-curated by Tina Rivers Ryan and Paul Vanouse
- 2022 Prime Meridian Unconference - curated by Rasheedah Phillips
- 2022 Albright-Knox - Difference Tones
- 2021 Difference Machines: Technology and Identity in Contemporary Art
Albright Knox Gallery, co-curated by Tina Rivers Ryan and Paul Vanouse.
- 2018 Programmed: Rules, Codes, and Choreographies in Art -
Whitney Museum of American Art - curated by Christiane Paul
- 2018 I Was Raised on The Internet - MCA Chicago - curated by Omar Kholeif
- 2018 Call and Response - Nurture Art - curated by Kelly Rae Aldridge
- 2017 Electronic Superhighway - Museu de Arte, Arquitetura e Tecnologia - curated by
Omar Kholeif, Emily Butler, Mahera and Mohamad Abu Ghazaleh
- 2016 Fit (the Battle of Jericho), a sound installation in Vijay Iyer: Relation
at The Metropolitan Museum, New York
- 2016 The Great Migration: A City Transformed - Slought Gallery - curated by Louis Massiah
- 2016 Electronic Superhighway -Whitechapel Gallery, London -curated by Rhizome
- 2016 Radio Imagination - Armory Center for the Arts - Pasadena, CA - curated by Julia
Meltzer
- 2015 Think of the Number 6 - GUS Gallery at The University of Stellenbosch,
Western Cape, South Africa - curated by John Pepper
- 2015 The Printed Room, Poems 1990-2001 - SALTS Gallery, Birsfelden Switzerland
- curated by Harry Burke
- 2015 Come As You Are - Montclair Art Museum - Montclair, New Jersey, Telfair Museum of
Art, - Savannah, Georgia - curated by Alexandra Schwartz
- 2014 Afrotechtopia - Samek Art Museum
- 2013/14 Reading List - Museum of Modern Art, NY

- 2012 Loop - MoCADA, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 On Screen: Global Intimacy – Bermuda National Gallery
- 2011 On Screen: Global Intimacy – H & R Block Artspace, Kansas City Art Institute
- 2010 Echo, Xiang, Eco: Meditations on the African, Andean & Asian Diasporas – Project Row Houses. Houston, TX. curated by William Cordova
- 2009/10 On Screen: Global Intimacy –Kranert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion, UIUC
- 2007/08 Unmonumental – New Museum of Contemporary Art (NY) curated by Massimiliano Gioni, Laura Hoptman and Lauren Cornell
- 2006 The Carbonist School Study Hall – Eyedrum, curated by Cinqué Hicks and Charles Nelson
- 2005 Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self – San Diego Museum of Art, Fusco & Wallis
- 2005 Back to Black: Art, Cinema and the Racial Imaginary - The New Art Gallery Walsall
- 2005 Arte Nuevo Interactiva 05, Centro Cultural de Merida Olimpo, Mexico curated by Raul Ferrara-Balanquet
- 2005 Back to Black: Art, Cinema and the Racial Imaginary, Whitechapel Art Gallery (London), curated by Petrine Archer-Straw, David A. Bailey, and Richard J Powell
- 2005 Transmission II: Airborne – New Museum of Contemporary Art organized by Anne Barlow, Defne Ayas and Free 103.9 Transmission Arts
- 2005 Rhizome Artbase 101, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, curated by Lauren Cornell and Rachel Greene
- 2005 Net Art's Cyborg[feminist]s, Punks, and Manifestos. Rhizome, curated by Marina Grzinic
- 2005 Arte Nuevo Interactiva '05, Centro Cultural Olimpo, Merida, Mexico, curated by Raúl Ferrara-Balanquet
- 2005 Transmission II: Airborne, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, curated by Anne Barlow, Defne Ayas, and Galen Hunter-Joseph
- 2005 Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self – El Museo del Arte Puerto Rico
- 2004 Only Skin Deep: Changing Visions of the American Self – Seattle Art Museum curated by Coco Fusco and Brian Wallis
- 2004 New Media: Who – Neuberger Museum of Art – Purchase College, cur. Jacqueline Shilkoff
- 2004 Powering Up/Powering Down – UC San Diego, curated by Teknika Radica (Nina Eidsheim)
- 2004 Ebay: Buy or Sell or Buy – Pace University Digital Art Gallery, curated by Jillian Mac Donald
- 2004 Skills - Ingalls and Associates , curated by William Cordova
- 2003 Only Skin Deep – International Center for Photography, cur. Coco Fusco & Brian Wallis
- 2003 Digital Africa – Electronic Arts Intermix Gallery cur by Mahen Bonnetti and Prerana Reddy
- 2003 Race and Digital Space 2.0, USC and LA MOCA cur. by Christiane Robbins
- 2003 subRational eRuptions, Turbulence, New Radio and Performing Arts, cur. Ryan Griffis
- 2002 Artport - Whitney Museum of American Art, cur. by Christiane Paul
- 2002 Race and Digital Space, Studio Museum in Harlem, cur. Erika Muhammad
- 2002 Race and Digital Space, Spelman College Art Museum, cur. Erika Muhammad
- 2001 Race and Digital Space, MIT/List Visual Art Center, cur. Erika Muhammad
- 2001 Collective Jukebox, Marseilles, Fr, cur. Jerome Joy
- 2001 Audiophfile 6.0, Washington, DC, curated by Laura McGough
- 2001 Audio Art Generator, Linz, Austria <http://www.nachrichten.at/audioart/>
- 2000 Infos 2000 Offline Net Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia cur. Tim Murray and Teo Spillers <http://grafika.splet.net/infos2000/prijave/obadike.htm>
- 2000 Transmissions Chapel Hill, NC, curated by Kenan Mc Donald <http://transmit.org>
- 1999 Sonik – the Danish Artnode Foundation and the Danish Film Institute, cur. Mogens Jacobsen <http://artnode.dk> (Sonik section)

MENDI + KEITH'S AWARDS, GRANTS AND COMMISSIONS

- 2023 Commission American Composers Orchestra - DreamTrain
- 2023 Commission - Counterpublic 2023 - SlowDrag
- 2022 Commission - Cornell Council for the Arts - Harmonies
- 2021 Commission - Kulturstiftung des Bundes - Eagle & Rabbit
- 2021 Commission – Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts -Timbre & Frequency
- 2020-21 Commission - Yale University /Artspace New Haven - Lift
- 2020 Commission - University of Chicago - Lull
- 2019 Commission - Carnegie Mellon University - Anyanwu / Book of Light
- 2019 Commission - Vera List Center for Art & Politics - In The Mouth of This Dragon
- 2018 Commission, Weeksville Heritage Center - Mendi + Keith Obadike: Utopias
- 2017 Commission - Times Square Arts - Compass Song, an app for Times Square
- 2017 Commission - Performa and 1:54 - Vectors Pan Africa, a sound installation (not exhibited)
- 2016 Commission - Clockshop, Los Angeles - Ring Shout (for Octavia Butler)
- 2016 Commission, Scribe Video Center - Sonic Migration
- 2016 Louis Comfort Tiffany Biennial Grant
- 2016 Commission, Clockshop - Ring Shout (for Octavia Butler) - public sound installation
- 2016 Commission, Scribe Video Center - Soni Migrations
- 2015 Commission, The New School's Vera List Center for Art and Politics with Harlem Stage - *Blue Speaker [for James Baldwin]*, a public sound installation
- 2014 Commission, The Columbia College Center for Black Music Research - *Free/Phase*, 3-part series of public artworks
- 2013 Commission, American Studies Association - *ALBEDO (for Angela Davis)*
- 2013 Nominated for Alpert Award in Music
- 2011/12 Rhizome Commission Award - African Metropole: Sonic City Lagos
- 2010/11 Tribeca Performing Arts Center Residency
- 2010 New York Foundation of the Arts, Fiction
- 2010 Commission and Residency - Project Row Houses, Houston Texas
- 2008/09 The Kitchen—Center for Video, Music, Dance, Performance, Film, and Literature
- 2007/08 Vectors Fellow—University of Southern California (Annenberg Center / Institute for Multimedia Literacy)
- 2007 Commission, Northwestern University / Pick-Laudati Award for Digital Art
- 2006 Commission, Franklin Furnace Archive Inc.
- 2005 Commission, Whitechapel Art Gallery London
- 2005 Commission, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council / New Museum of Contemporary Art
- 2004 Connecticut Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Sound Design
- 2004 Fellowship, Rockefeller New Media Fellowship
- 2003 Commission, New York African Film Festival & Electronic Arts Intermix
- 2003 Connecticut Commission on the Arts Award
- 2003 Naomi Long Madgett Poetry Prize, Lotus Press
- 2002 Commission, Whitney Museum of American Art
- 2002 Benjamin Slotznick New Media Award, Yale University
- 2002 Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art Grant, 2002-2003

PERFORMANCES AND READINGS

- 2023 American Composers Orchestra, Sonic Festival - DreamTrain
- 2022 Block Museum - Numbers Station [Red Record]
- 2022 Johnson Museum, Cornell Biennial - Difference Tones
- 2022 The New School, Vera List Center for Art & Politics - In The Mouth of This Dragon
- 2019 Carnegie Mellon University, WatsOn Festival - Book of Light
- 2019 The New School, Vera List Center for Art & Politics - In The Mouth of This Dragon

- 2018 Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Refiguring the Future - Numbers Station
- 2017 Times Square - Compass Song
- 2016 Fridman Gallery - Numbers Station [Manifests]
- 2016 Metropolitan Museum - Numbers Station [Red Record]
- 2015 Ryan Lee Gallery - Numbers Station [Furtive Movements]
- 2015 The Poetry Project, St Mark's Church - NY
- 2014 University of Wisconsin Milwaukee- BodyLock
- 2014 Museum of Modern Art: Reading List, Public Reading
- 2014 Whitney Museum of American Art, Shared Spaces: Social Media and Museum Structures
- 2013 Harlem Stage
- 2013 Northwestern University's Performance Studies Summer Institute
- 2012 Pro + Agonist: The Art of Opposition at Cooper Union
- 2012 First Person Plural Reading Series-Harlem
- 2012 Carolina Performing Arts
- 2011 Art Basel/Performa 11- Iona Rozeal Brown's The Battle of Yestermore 2011
- Performa 11- Iona Rozeal Brown's The Battle of Yestermore
- 2011 Performa 11- Robert Ashley's Perfect Lives Manhattan
- 2010 The Stone, NY (October & December)
- 2010 Roulette Intermedium, NY
- 2009 Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
- 2009 The Kitchen, NY
- 2007 The Stone, NY
- 2007 The Poetry Project , NY
- 2007 Sounded Text Performance Symposium, Princeton University
- 2006 Cal State Los Angeles
- 2005 Art Institute of Chicago
- 2005 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council / New Museum of Contemporary Art
- 2005 Bowery Poetry Club / Segue Reading Series, NY
- 2005 University of California at Santa Barbara, Center for Black Studies
- 2004 Neuberger Museum, Purchase, NY
- 2004 Rhode Island School of Design
- 2004 University of California at San Diego
- 2002 Studio Museum in Harlem
- 2002 Yale University – New Haven, Connecticut
- 2001 Duke University – Durham, North Carolina

VISITING LECTURES AND PUBLIC TALKS

- 2023 Harvard University
- 2023 Emory University
- 2023 Modern Art Museum Fort Worth
- 2021 University of Southern California
- 2021 Northwestern University
- 2020 Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
- 2020 Yale University, Center for Collaborative Art and Media
- 2020 Gallery 400, University Illinois at Chicago
- 2020 Philadelphia Contemporary
- 2020 Art Institute of Chicago
- 2019 New York University Music Department

- 2019 Carnegie Mellon University, College of Fine Arts
- 2019 California Institute of the Arts, Integrated Arts Program
- 2019 Weeksville Heritage Center
- 2018 Oxford University, Department of Music
- 2018 Pulitzer Arts Foundation, Dwell In Other Futures
- 2018 Stevens Institute of Technology, Art and Technology
- 2018 Cooper Union, Art
- 2018 Yale University, Black Sound & Archive Working Group
- 2018 Tech Work, Technology Museum
- 2018 Binghamton University, Sound Studies
- 2016 Rebuild Foundation, Chicago
- 2016 Columbia University -Sound Arts Dept. Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2016 Yale University -School of Drama, Sound Design Dept. Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2016 Brown University -Visual Arts Dept. Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2016 Studio Museum in Harlem - Public Conversation with Andrew Ross and Sondra Perry
- 2016 The New Museum /Rhizome.org
- 2015 The New School / Vera List Center for Art Politics
- 2015 Montclair Art Museum -Livestreamed Conversation with Mark Tribe and Alexandra Schwartz
- 2013 Smithsonian / National Institute of Health
- 2013 Studio Museum in Harlem
- 2012 MOMA P.S. 1 - NY Art Book Fair with Art Metropole
- 2012 Ramapo College Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2012 Bucknell University, Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2012 UNC Chapel Hill, Hanes Visiting Artist Lecture
- 2011 Parsons New School The New School for Design, Afrofuturism Lecture Series
- 2011 Cornell University, Society for the Humanities- Sound Art Conference
- 2011 Brown University, panel on Improvisation and New Media
- 2010 Deep End Ranch Arts Residency
- 2010 California Institute of the Arts - Center for Integrated Media
- 2009 Center for African Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2009 Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2009 Brown University – Art Department
- 2009 University of California at Berkeley – African-American Studies; Theater, Dance and Performance Studies; and the Center for New Media
- 2008 Hunter College – Tiltfactor Laboratory / Integrated Media Arts
- 2008 Princeton University - Music Dept. Sonic Fragments Conference
- 2008 Temple University
- 2007 Third Coast Audio Festival
- 2007 University Wisconsin Madison
- 2007 Duke University HASTAC Conference
- 2006 Cal State Los Angeles
- 2006 Cave Canem 10th Anniversary, CUNY Graduate Center, New York
- 2006 High Museum - Atlanta
- 2006 Scribe Video Center - Philadelphia
- 2005 California Institute of the Arts
- 2005 Art Institute of Chicago
- 2005 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council / New Museum of Contemporary Art

- 2004 Rhode Island School of Design Providence, Rhode Island
- 2004 University of California at San Diego, Department of Art
- 2004 Purchase College - Neuberger Museum of Art
- 2003 Digital Africa - Electronic Arts Intermix
- 2003 Miami University – Miami, Ohio
- 2003 New York African Film Festival / Museum of African Art (Queens)
- 2003 Smith College – Northampton, MA
- 2002 Williams College -Williamstown, MA
- 2002 Paine College - Augusta, GA
- 2001 Duke University – Durham, North Carolina
- 2001 Pavilion Arts Center/Media Arts Projects, Leeds Public Library - UK

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND CITATIONS

- 2023 New York Times - [Counterpublic in St Louis Pushes The Public Art Envelope by Siddhartha Mitter](#)
- 2023 e-Flux - [Counterpublic 2023 by Noah Simblist](#)
- 2023 The Guardian - [Six miles of American questions: An ambitious art exhibition pushes boundaries](#) by Veronica Eposito
- 2021 I Care If You Listen - [5 Questions to Mendi + Keith Obadike \(lull: a sleep temple\)](#) by Tristan McKay
- 2021 ARTNews - [Sound Artists Decline German Art Award: 'Pitting Quality Against Diversity Is Pernicious'](#)
- 2021 San Francisco Classical Voice - [Mendi and Keith Obadike: Sound Art, History, Remembrance](#)
- 2020 The Independent - [Soundwalking: The joys of combining strolling and listening by April Claire Walsh](#)
- 2020 ASAP Journal, 13.4 - [Numbers Station \[Red Record\] by Julie Beth Napolin](#)
- 2020 Gizmodo - [Revisiting Black Net.Art and Webpage Poetry by Whitney Kimball](#)
- 2019 Artnews - The Year in Technology: Augmented Reality Works, New Digital Art Platforms, and Much More from 2019 , by Tessa Solomon
- 2019 The Most Important Art Exhibitions of the 2010s by Maximiliano Durón, Alex Greenberger
- 2018 Emergent Concepts in New Media Art - “The Interaction of Coloreds’ (2002, 2018) and Racialized Online Identity” by Ekin Erkan
- 2018 Blouin Art Info -“At the Whitney, Taking Aim at the Digital Age” by Connor Goodwin
- 2018 Artnews -“The Browser: At the Whitney, ‘Programmed’ Piquantly Draws Out Connections Between TV and the Internet” by Alex Greenberger
- 2018 Artnews - “Be a Body: Shows Around New York Take Up the Materiality of Screen-Based Work” by Rahel Aima
- 2017 [Times Square Arts, Mendi + Keith Obadike - Tsq Arts Podcast](#)
- 2016 [L.A. Times - What to see in L.A. galleries: An ode to a black sci-fi trailblazer](#)
- 2016 [WHYY/Newsworks - Once again, Tindley Temple will make a joyful noise](#)
- 2016 [WHYY/Newsworks - Great Migration' films highlight transformative power of African-American communities](#)
- 2016 [CBMR Blog - Review of Free/Phase Exhibit at Stony Island Arts Bank](#)
- 2015 [Sound Studies Blog - “World Listening Day 2015”](#)
- 2015 [Rhizome.org “Study of Waves: an interview with SCRAAATCH” by M + K Obadike](#)
- 2015 [Hyperallergic - What Was The Art of the 1990s All About? by Becca Rothfeld](#)
- 2015 [Artspace, “Alt History: 8 Groundbreaking Works That Show Why We Still Love the 90s” by Karen Rosenberg](#)
- 2015 [Blouin Art Info, “Come As You Are: A 90’s Flashback in New Jersey” by Scott Indrisek](#)

- 2015 [Art News. "The Art of the Curious Nineties" by Linda Yablonsky](#)
- 2014 [Gifts. a documentary on Toni Morrison by Louis Massiah/Princeton University](#)
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- 2013 [Art F City. "At the Studio Museum. Identity Gets a New Face" by Whitney Kimball](#)
- 2013 [Haber Arts: Arts Reviews around New York City "Racial Coding -- Mendi + Keith Obadike American Cypher, Robin Rhode, and LaToya Ruba Frazier".. John Haber.](#)
- 2013 [Ammo Magazine. "Art Talk: Mendi + Keith Obadike" by Crystal Hines](#)
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by Alexis Pauline Gumbs, 2/2012
<http://www.thefeministwire.com/2012/02/get-there-four-electric-ghosts/>
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- 2011 Kansas City Star, "Nelson exhibit 'Global Intimacy' Touches on Debates Familiar in the U.S." by Alice Thorson
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- 2009 Conscious Vibration (Blog), Review of Four Electric Ghosts by Angelique V. Nixon.
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- 2009 All Music Guide, Review: Mendi + Keith Obadike present Crosstalk American Speech Music by Michael G. Nastos.
- 2009 This is Book's Music, Review: Mendi + Keith Obadike present Crosstalk American Speech Music
- 2009 Signal to Noise Magazine, Review of Crosstalk American Speech Music (Musicworks #103 Spring 2009) by Christian Carey
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- 2004 Playbill.com "The Mystery Plays, Very Good Eddie Top CT Critics Circle Awards" Robert Simonson June 14
- 2004 Backstage "Connecticut Crix Go For Goodspeed, Hartford" David Rosenberg, June
- 2004 Creative Loafing (Atlanta) "Concerted Effort: Art activist shares the Love" Felicia Feaster, June 24
- 2004 Variety "Connecticut Crix Find "Eddie" Very Good" Frank Rizzo June 22
- 2004 New Haven Advocate "Mystery Date" Christopher Arnott May 13
- 2004 Columbia Spectator "Many Say They Feel Racism" Isolde Raftery May 12
- 2004 ReadMe "By Every Means Necessary" (NYU) Kasey Wehrum
- 2003 Leonardo Electronic Almanac "Technology and Difference"
- 2003 The Florida State University – Department of Art Education
Dissertation "The Internet as Creative Environment: Practice and Explorations with the Internet Technology of Three Selected Artists" Ying-Yi Chou Summer 2003
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- 2001 Artkrush.com "Obadike Sells his Blackness" August 21
- 2001 Africana.com Aida Croal "Blackness For Sale" August 21
- 2001 The Star (Chicago) Nnedi Okorafor "Talk About Selling Out" August 16
- 2001 Washington Post Jessica Dawson "Audiophfile 6.0 Review" February 15
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