

Shervone Neckles

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation, 2019 Statement & Inventory

Domiciliation: Bless this House is a new mixed media installation that features a series of digital collaged images silkscreened onto layers of clear polyvinyl chloride (PVC) material displayed as both wall hangings and three dimensional storage containers.

The 6ft x 4.5ft wall hangings captures a liminal figure maneuvering in space wearing a house structure as a mask or headdress, and engulfed by silkscreened layers of neurons. The house structure is a replication of my maternal family home in Grenville, Grenada, built in the mid 20th century. The house survived a fire in 1986 and two hurricanes in 2004 and 2005. In both man-made and natural disasters the family lost primary records, personal ephemera and photos that could never be replaced. To salvage and protect what's left of my family's history and ensure that it's preserved and passed on to my son's generation, I've constructed a series of three dimensional polyvinyl chloride storage containers to function as a repository for my maternal family's history.

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation is also a personal examination into notions of selfhood. Contemplating both the interior and exterior spaces of black womanhood. What does it mean to embody a place or have the ability to locate oneself in a space? How do I create imagery that is not based on mimicry or in relation to others but rather iconography that moves my black female body beyond servitude, violence, trauma, and exploitation to one that exudes my beauty, and complexity?

My intention is to construct a narrative that captures the hybrid and transitional nature of my Americanness, Caribbeanness and In-betweenness. The installation is designed to center my life, the lives of my family, and our transgressions as the subject of history. The work draws inspiration from Grenadian-American poet and activist, Audre Lorde's "biomythography" concept, which blends biography, history, and myth to present the black female existence and lived experiences through and alongside the numinous.

Domiciliation: Bless this House weaves together the symbolism of the house and body as chapel, cathedral, and temple, and utilizes mixed-media techniques of collaged family photos, printed and constructed into sculptural forms to bridge the concepts of the sacred and material world. The clear polyvinyl chloride wall hangings and storage containers function as the evidence, the archive, and artifact. The layers of neurons represent the transmission of ancestral memory and the innate, genetic connectedness I feel to a place, home, land, and country that my parents physically left yet deeply embody. A trans-generational history, they've endowed onto my generation. This installation is a monument to the Mark-Munro Family Legacy.

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation, Inventory

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Wall Hangings

Wall Hangings: mixed media silkscreen prints on 20-gauge clear polymerizing vinyl chloride (PVC) sheets with thread and fabric trimming

6ft x 4.5ft / 182.88cm x 137.16cm (individual PVC sheets)

Installation dimensions: variable

One-of-a-kind Print Installation

**wall hangings must be mounted onto the wall surface 90 inches / 228.6cm height from the ground and require a low lit room with spot lighting*

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Storage Containers

Storage Containers: mixed media digitally collaged family photos and records silkscreened onto 16-gauge clear polymerizing vinyl chloride (PVC) sheets, constructed into 3D forms using polypropylene webbing with thread and fabric trimming.

One-of-a-kind Print Storage Containers

**storage containers must be displayed freestanding on and pedestals and suspended from ceiling hanging mechanism*

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Storage Container #1

15in x 20in x 35in / 38cm x 50cm x 88cm

* installation requirement: ceiling hanging mechanism & spot lighting

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Storage Container #2

30in x 22in x 18in / 76cm x 55cm x 45cm

* installation requirement: ceiling hanging mechanism & spot lighting

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Storage Container #3

29in x 18in x 12in / 73cm x 45cm x 30cm

* installation requirement: low & wide pedestal with spot lighting

Domiciliation: Bless this House Installation Storage Container #4

25in x 8in x 25in / 65cm x 22cm x 65cm

* installation requirement: square pedestal (3ft / 91cm height preferable) with spot lighting