

RASHAAD NEWSOME

THE GESTURE OF COLLAGE AS PRACTICE



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Rashaad Newsome is a multidisciplinary artist whose work blends several practices together including: collage, sculpture, film, music, computer programming and performance, to form an altogether new field. Newsome's work is deeply invested in how images used in media and popular culture communicate distorted notions of power. He draws attention to the contributions that marginalized communities, whose culture is often absorbed and co-opted by mainstream advertising platforms, have made to pop culture and society in general. Through his visually engaging interdisciplinary work, Newsome explores the complexities of social power structures and questions of agency. Using the diasporic tradition of improvisation, he crafts compositions that surprise in their associative potential and walk the tightrope between intersectionality, social practice and abstraction. At the heart of Newsome's practice is the tenacity and resilience of marginalized communities to create globally celebrated cultural productions, despite living within what scholar bell hooks calls the capitalist, imperialist, white supremacist patriarchy. His work speaks to the power of the human spirit to reinvent and transform itself as evidenced in the Black and Queer cultural practices referenced and abstracted throughout the work.

www.rashaadnewsome.com | www.rashaadnewsomestudio.com

Course# Integrated Arts 310/610

Day/Time: Fridays / 9 am – 2 pm

Location: Humanities 6321

Credits: 3 | Limit: 20 | Prereq: None

ABOUT THE COURSE

The Gesture of Collage as Practice is a hands-on studio class, in which Newsome uses his critically acclaimed performance work FIVE as a way to engage students in a wide range of collaging strategies including: creative coding, sound, video, and performance, while exploring current discourses on race, sexuality, gender, performance, and art history. Through critical thinking, visiting artist workshops, and reading, the students will consider issues pertinent to cultural circulation within global capitalism: the politics of authenticity and the economy of appropriation. They will also collaborate on a series of new interdisciplinary works to be featured at a public event.

The Spring 2019 Interdisciplinary Arts Residency Program is presented by the UW–Madison Division of the Arts and hosted by the Art Department with Professor Stephen Hilyard as lead faculty. Co-sponsors include the Dance Department, First Wave Learning Community, and the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing.



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