

# Taj Poscé (b. Philadelphia, 1995)

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## EXPERIENCE

### Maryland Institute College of Arts, Baltimore — Graduate Program Assistant

January 2023– Present

- Handpicked by the director for exemplary leadership qualities
- Streamline communication channels between administration, director and student body
- Lead productive meetings to enhance the student experience
- Contribute to the successful coordination of the new directorship candidate interview process
- Create schedules for visiting artists' lectures and final reviews
- Lead exhibitions team to develop installation skills such as drilling, hammering, patching and painting walls

### Rush Arts Philadelphia, Philadelphia — Gallery Educator/Assistant

August 2021 - Present

- Facilitate creative processes and mentor students in Jamaica through virtual platforms, fostering their artistic talent and enhancing their knowledge of art history and design
- Developed a virtual art course template that was promoted and instrumental in raising \$1,000,000 for Jamaica's public schools
- Coordinate exhibition installation from inception to completion, ensuring seamless execution and attention to detail
- Provide detailed information about the works and artists featured in exhibitions to educate and engage guests

### Freire Charter Middle School, Philadelphia — Substitute Teacher

January 2022 - June 2022

- Managed multiple classrooms across departments during teacher absences and meetings, ensuring continuity of students' education
- Improved student engagement by supporting teachers and at-risk students with compassion and introducing new ideas and activities
- Promoted positive relationships with both students and parents through effective communication

### Episcopal Academy, Newtown Square — Arts Educator

August 2020 - June 2021

- Fostered multidisciplinary engagement among middle and upper school students
- Produced detailed lesson plans and student evaluations for administration within deadlines
- Cultivated student communication, interpersonal skills, and artistic language through artistic expression
- Led Black Student Union in after-school meetings

### Odili Odita Art Studio, Philadelphia — Studio Assistant

November 2020 - February 2021

- Mixed over 50 colors per project with acrylic paint and mediums for artist to select from
- Organized and cleaned brushes and containers while maintaining a clean studio space
- Handled packing and created custom shipment packaging for prints and shipping artwork

### **City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia — Arts Recreational Specialty Instructor**

July 2019 - October 2020

- Created arts and crafts curriculum to engage with local youth
- Facilitated meetings between community and recreational leader to run efficient operations at recreation center
- Organized weekly park and community clean-up

### **Franco Losvizzero Art Studio, Rome— Studio Assistant**

August 2018 - October 2018

- Handled delicate art projects for Museum installations
- Attended museum exhibitions to support artist and his work
- Installed Exhibition at Teatro India

### **Temple Gallery, Rome - Gallery Archive Coordinator Intern**

August 2018- December 2018

- Researched gallery materials to correlate flyers to exhibition photos and text media
- Archived past gallery flyers and photos by scanning and filing documents
- Established and managed a social media account, boosting student engagement and improving user experience
- Collaborated on an artist exhibition including lighting, backdrop, and video recording to ensure successful delivery

## **EDUCATION**

### **Maryland Institute College of Arts, Baltimore — MFA**

August 2022 - Present

- Received the highest merit scholarship to the Leroy Hoffberger painting program
- Graduate Teaching Intern
- Graduate Program Assistant

### **Tyler School of Arts, Philadelphia — BFA**

August 2016 - December 2018

- Studied at the Temple University Rome campus in art studio studies and practice on a study abroad scholarship

## **MENTORSHIP**

- Graduate Program Assistant for MICA Interim Director Stephen Ellis
- Graduate Program Assistant for MICA Director Joan Waltemath
- Black Artist School Modality Facilitated and Instructed by Romi Crawford, Fred Moten, Marvin X, Sonia Sanchez, Dianne McIntyre, Tim Davis, Aziza Claudia Gibson-Hunter, Ben Jones, Ssmpada Aranke, Shawn Walker, and Abiodun Oyewole
- Studio Assistant for Odili Donald Odita
- Mural Restoration with David McShane
- Studio Assistant for Franco Losvizzero

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- “Rush Arts Philadelphia Rush Tales: Taj Poscé Studio” – Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture – 2021
- “These are must sees in the gallery this fall” – Philadelphia Inquirer – 2021
- “Fellow, Mural Arts 2020 Fellowship for Black Artist” – Fox29 News – 2020
- “Black Lives Matter movement has impact on artists - and they have our attention” – Courier Post – 2020
- “Leave A Trail” – Connections Magazine – 2019
- “Temple Univ. student heading to Yale Norfolk Summer School of Art” – Philadelphia Tribune – 2018
- “Brings Street Style to Episcopal” – Episcopal Academy e-Scholium – 2013

## ARTIST TALKS & LECTURES

- Delaware County Community College - Juried Exhibition Artist Lecture, 2023 - Media, PA
- The Yard - Luminescence Artist Panel Discussion, 2023 - Washington D.C
- Maryland Institute College of Art - LaToya Hobbs Fundamentals of Drawing Class, 2023 - Baltimore, MD

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 - Black Rock Center of the Arts "Between Sunbeams" Germantown, MD
- 2021 - Rush Arts "Everything & Nothing" Philadelphia, PA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 - The Yard "Luminescence" Washington, D.C.
- 2023 - 610|215 Contemporary Delaware County Community College "Juried Exhibition by Mark T. Gibson" Media, PA
- 2023 - Sheila & Richard Riggs Gallery Fred Lazarus IV Center "Conjure" Baltimore, MD
- 2023 - NoMü NoMü Gallery "Hand to Eye" Baltimore, MD
- 2023 - NoMü NoMü Gallery "Salt Eaters" Baltimore, MD
- 2023 - WPA "Benefit Auction" Washington D.C.
- 2023 - Celeum Gallery "Behind City Walls" Chelsea NY, NY
- 2023- Eubie Blake Cultural Jazz Center "To Witness, To Experience, To Reflect II" Baltimore, MD
- 2023 - Zo Gallery "Construction, Deconstruction" Baltimore, MD
- 2023 - Hudson Guild Gallery "Dialogue: Taj Poscé & Wanda Payne" New York, NY
- 2022 - Leidy Gallery Fred Lazarus IV Center "We Are Not Similar" Baltimore, MD
- 2022 - Gallery CA "To Witness, To Experience, To Reflect" Baltimore, MD
- 2022 - Cherry St. Pier "Tiny Rooms for Elephants Art Festival" Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 - Old City Jewish Arts Center "My Freedom" Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 - Bishop Gallery "Still Nigga" Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 - Vox Populi "What Makes That Black?" Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 - Temple University Rome "BFA Show" Rome, Italy
- 2018 - Yale Norfolk School of Art "Terrain" Norfolk, CT
- 2017 - Blank Canvas Gallery "Past the Present" Miami, FL
- 2016 - Penn State Abington "Bertha Lear Juried Exhibition" Abington, PA
- 2016 - CCC Gallery "Converse" Newtown Square, PA

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Congressional Black Caucus Visual Artist Award, 2023
- Leroy E. Hoffberger Fund, 2022-2024
- Hoffberger Foundation Fellow, 2022-2024
- Lore's Philadelphia Artist Award, 2022
- Septa Public Transit Commission Selected Nominee, 2021
- Mural Arts Philadelphia Black Artist Grant and Fellowship, 2020
- Temple Rome Study Abroad Scholarship, 2018
- Heckt Award in Printmaking, 2019
- Bertha Lear Painting Award, 2015

## RESIDENCIES

- Yale Norfolk Summer Arts, 2018

## CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2022, "Art is Love" Rush Arts, Assistant Curator of Noah Smalls