

Nasher Student Advisory Board

Michael Rakowitz



Michael Rakowitz The invisible enemy should not exist 2007-ongoing London's Trafalgar Square

WHO WE ARE

We are the Nasher Student Advisory Board. We love talking about contemporary art, creating art and meeting artists. We all live in or around Dallas, Texas and contribute to programming at the Nasher Sculpture Center.

WHAT WE ARE UP TO

In celebration of artist Michael Rakowitz, we are creating a zine (informal magazine) that responds to BIG ideas in his work. Rakowitz's work will be celebrated at the Nasher because he won the 2020 Nasher Prize. The prize is awarded to an artist who expands our understanding of sculpture.

MEET MICHAEL RAKOWITZ

He is an Iraqi-American artist. He was born in Great Neck, New York and lives and works in Chicago. Rakowitz often uses drawing, sculpture and installation to explore identity, archeology, food, urban planning and the loss of cultural objects due to war.

FROM RAKOWITZ

I've dedicated my life to making works that are about disappearance and reappearance, but also through means that are so vulnerable that it will disappear again.

I knew then that I was, for the rest of my life, going to have to do something to rescue those stories that my grandparents told us and to do something to elevate those things that surrounded me: the crafts, the history, the music, the food.

The absurdity of minor objects telling a major story is something I seek out: it creates tension without resolution. I think about this in the context of Iraqi cooking, where it's very important to engage with hamud-helou, sweet and sour. Likewise I'm interested in making art that makes you feel really good and really bad at the same time.

Personally, I feel committed to the notion that a project shouldn't disappear until the problem it addresses disappears. I still do paraSiTE [shelters] every winter because there are so many people in need of shelter. Dealing with homelessness helps me understand all of my projects, to the extent that it reverberates with broader issues of unbelonging and displacement.

I will never say that a project is a project that heals but I leave open the possibility that art can always do that.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MICHAEL RAKOWITZ AND HIS WORK

Nasher Prize: https://www.nashersculpturecenter.org/programs-events/nasher-prize/laureates/laureate/id/159

Read: http://www.janelombardgallery.com/michael-rakowitz-press

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkxjR_I3Zhc



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Students ages 14 - 22 in 2020.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED

Individually or with friends create an 8 ½ X 5 ½ original artwork in response to ideas in Michael Rakowitz's work. You can draw, write, share original photos, collage or anything else that will lie flat and fit on the page.

IDEAS TO RESPOND TO IN MICHAEL RAKOWITZ'S WORK

Architecture
Community
Family Recipes
History
Healing
Identity
Immigration
Loss and Destruction
Memory
Reconstruction / Remaking
Violence and War
Visibility / Invisibility

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE

Submit your completed work by January 13, 2020.

Se sure to tell us your name, school, age and email address.

Digitally: cborsh@nashersculpturecenter.org

Mail: Nasher Sculpture Center, Attn: Colleen Borsh, 2001 Flora Street, Dallas, TX 75201

The Nasher Student Advisory Board will work with staff to select the art pages included in the zine.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

Please reach out, we would love to help. Email cborsh@nashersculpturecenter.org

SAVE THE DATE

This spring we will celebrate the release of the zine at the Nasher Sculpture Center. **Student Festival / Saturday, March 28 / 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

FREE Admission

