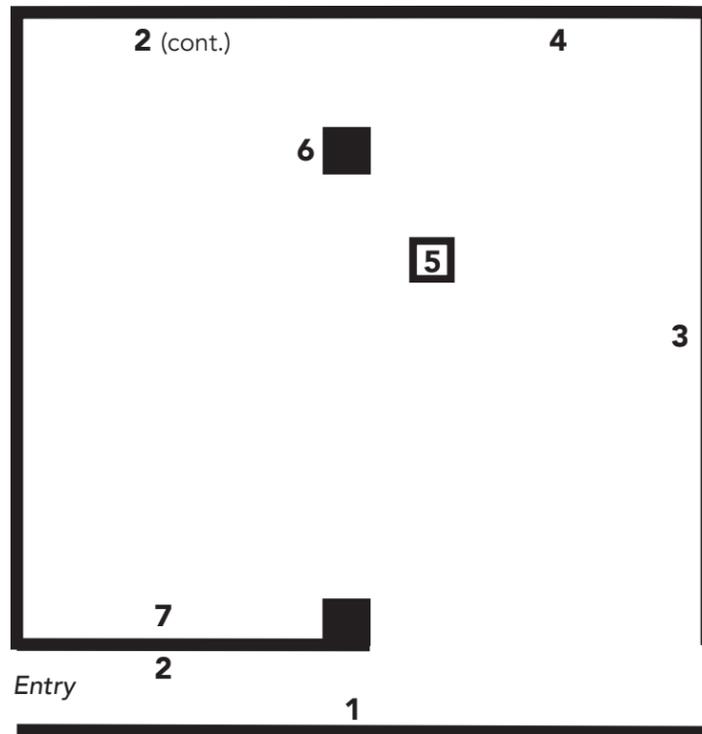


# GALLERY MAP & WORKS LIST



- 1** *Tornado Weather*  
Lee Filter gels and sunlight
- 2** *Procuress (after Vermeer)*  
Shelf with objects, Odeyemi "Ode" the crow, and projection
- 3** *Apartment Therapy*  
CB2 catalog pages, gouache, chalk, purple heart frames, and rocks  
  
Rocks from right to left:  
Rough Fibrous Malachite, Africa  
Rough Blood Stone, Africa  
Rough Septarian, Madagascar  
Rough Blue Kyanite Blade Matrix, Brazil  
Rough Fluorite Blue/Green, Morocco  
Grape Agate Cluster, Mamuju Sulawesi Indonesia  
Fluorite Crystal Cube Cluster Green, Madagascar
- 4** *Light Up Your Life (for Sandra Bland)*  
Neon, Plexiglas, faceted hematite, and aluminum chain

- 5** *I wish you could stay wet forever*  
Wet clay, spray bottle, and water, Lee Filter gels, LED lights, plywood, and casters
- 6** *She Likes Shiny Things*  
Foam, aluminum wire, nail, faceted hematite bead
- 7** *The Social Otherwise*  
Video  
Total run time: 14:40

## THE SOCIAL OTHERWISE CREDITS

<b>Featuring</b> Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson and Alyson Alonzo	<b>Producer</b> Manuel Solis Artpace San Antonio
<b>The Chorus</b> Antoinette Allen Alyson Alonzo Jenn Alva Dominik Blackman King Cobra Aminah Dece Dominiqu Edmonds Jade Garcia Six Gawd Anika Lee Paulette R. Lovelace Dee Mahone Lisa A. Martinez Clotia McCrory Stephanie "Fiiire" Nious Yamile A. Peña Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson Trulie Versatile Lauren "Iori Elle" Williams	<b>Production Manager</b> Caitlin Dalton Solis  <b>Direction Edit Sound</b> Cauleen Smith  <b>Director of Photography</b> Magic Hoskins  <b>Assistant Camera</b> Valentina Khalimon  <b>Gaffer</b> Bejan Farnarzi  <b>Grip</b> Chasiti Chambers David Guerrero  <b>Sound Mixer</b> George De La Rosa Garza

<b>Stylist</b> Timiece Sanders	<b>Live Music</b> The Foreign Arm: Omar Rosel Nick Blevins George De La Rosa Garza Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson
<b>Hair &amp; Makeup</b> Shawn D. Jones	
<b>Craft Services</b> Candi Diaz	<b>Source Music</b> "You Light Up My Life", 1977 Written by Joe Brooks Recordings by Aretha Franklin and Whitney Houston
<b>The Bang Bang Bar Hospitality</b> Jenn Alva	
<b>Score</b> Justin Hicks	"Light You Up", 2010 Written and recorded by Shaun Mullins

# ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Cauleen Smith's *Contingent Habitat* unfurls for the viewer gradually, inviting them to move throughout the space and consider every object, image, and intervention with the same intentionality she employs throughout her process. She presents both two- and three-dimensional "habitats," none of which are crafted to render reality. *Contingent Habitat* envelops the viewer in a continually changing environment (via the changing light through multihued films on the windows) and offers an intimate and welcoming atmosphere.

In Smith's thoughtful assembly of objects for *Procuress* (titled after a 17th-century Johannes Vermeer painting of the same name), the taxidermied crow is collecting objects in her own space, what kind of space exactly, is left unclear. A live video of the diorama is projected onto the other side of the wall. Opposite the live projection of *Procuress* is a video entitled *Social Otherwise*. Smith weaves found footage of riots, starlings, fish shoaling, scenes of an interior with dancing, learning, writing, cowboy-meets-biker women, and a mashup of two songs ("Light You Up" by Shawn Mullins and Debby Boone's 1977 song "You Light Up My Life"), with audio excerpts from the Sandra Bland recording.

Text in neon alternates between "I will light you up" and "I will light up your life". The former was taken from widely circulated video of the late Sandra Bland in 2015. The 28-year-old African American woman was pulled over for failing to signal, ended up in jail, and three days later, died of apparent suicide. The case drew national attention with the spread of the officer's dashcam footage in addition to Ms. Bland's own cellphone video. It goes from a what appears to be a routine traffic stop to a disturbing and aggressive confrontation wherein the officer points at her with a taser and threatens her "I will light you up." The confrontation is made even more unsettling by Ms. Bland's death only three days after being arrested.

The latter phrase is taken from the title of Debby Boone's "You Light Up My Life." Growing up the song and era reminded Smith of the epitome of a white American ideal. The song was covered eventually by Whitney Houston and Aretha Franklin, among others, and there is a marked shift that the song takes. Smith reclaims the hostile language from the Sandra Bland encounter and inverts the phrase to be more positive.

Nearby, perched on frames are objects and colorful renderings of geological formations set among pages from catalogues peddling the domestic habitat. Habitats are considered environments where one feels safe and protected, welcome, and able to let down one's guard. Much like the other work on view here, the drawings inquire into ideas of home, safety, and vulnerability. Smith brings to our attention that the safety of home and our own private and personal spaces is most definitely not a universal experience when one considers Sandra Bland, Botham Jean, and Atatiana Jefferson, among numerous others. One's existence is entirely subject to chance and subject to overarching, and everchanging, influences due to no fault of one's own.

*The artist would like to thank Manuel Solis, The Bang Bang Bar, Jim Mendiola, Dorinda Rolle, Logic Allah, Ya'ke Smith, Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson, and Aaron Swanton.*

## ABOUT <sup>THE</sup> INTERNATIONAL ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Since 1995, Artpace has welcomed more than 240 artists through its renowned International Artist-in-Residence program. Annually, Artpace hosts three residencies, which each feature one Texas-based artist, one national artist, and one international artist, who are selected by a notable guest curator. Each eight-week residency culminates in a two-month exhibition on site. The mission of this program is to provide artists with unparalleled resources that allow them to experiment with new ideas and take provocative risks.

Artpace San Antonio is a nonprofit residency program which supports regional, national, and international artists in the creation of new art.

As a catalyst for artistic expression, we engage local communities with global art practices and experiences.

## ABOUT ARTPACE

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Support for the International Artist-in-Residence Program comes from Artpace members & donors and:

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# INTERNATIONAL

# ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

*Contingent Habitat*  
Cauleen Smith

Fall 2019 International Artist-in-Residence

In residence September 23–November 19, 2019

Exhibition on view November 14, 2019–January 12, 2020

## ABOUT <sup>THE</sup> ARTIST

**Cauleen Smith** is an interdisciplinary artist whose work reflects upon the everyday possibilities of the imagination. Operating in multiple materials and arenas, Smith roots her work firmly within the discourse of mid-twentieth-century experimental film. Drawing from structuralism, third world cinema, and science fiction, she makes things that deploy the tactics of activism in service of ecstatic social space and contemplation. Smith enjoys container gardening, likes cats and collects disco balls, vinyl records, and books. She is an avid leisure and functional cyclist. She lives in Los Angeles and is Art Program faculty at California Institute of the Arts. She received a BA in Creative Arts from San Francisco State University and her MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Theater Film and Television. Smith's short films, feature film, and installation and performance were showcased at International Film Festival Rotterdam 2019. Smith is the recipient of the following awards: Rockefeller Media Arts Award, Creative Capital Film/Video, Independent Spirit Someone to Watch Award, Chicago 3Arts Grant, and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Chicago Expo Artadia Award, a Rauschenberg Residency, Herb Alpert Awards in the Arts in Film and Video 2016, United States Artists Award 2017, and was the 2016 inaugural recipient of the Ellsworth Kelly Award.

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