

# Foster Bullock, Ph.D.

## Artist Statement

My art practice deals with the built environment through abstraction and responds to art and architectural history with feminist and queer interventions. My study of architecture has guided my interest in building materials, urban forms, shapes, and fabrics. In my paintings I give attention to spatial design—particularly interior design—and the textures of walls and surfaces. My emphasis on the haptic nature of the canvas is informed by the feminist theory of Luce Irigaray and her exploration of the sense of touch as a means of understanding difference and contesting the primacy of vision. The duality of touching and being touched challenges the singularity of simply looking—at art and others. My textured paintings invite the desire to touch and be touched by the canvas. A second element of her work which I employ is the notion of questioning what has been left out and recognizing that the dominant narrative of any field is incomplete or imperfect. By means of colors, shapes, and lines, I create paintings which similarly interpolate the audience to ask themselves, what is being covered? what is underneath? and what is being hidden?

## Artist Bio

Foster Bullock earned a doctorate in art and art history from Duke University in 2019. There ze began painting in the studio of Beverly McIver. Through a serendipitous class project, ze switched to doing abstract paintings for his first commission in the private dining room of Cucciolo Osteria, an Italian restaurant in Durham. Her approach to painting began as a therapeutic outlet for creative expression but soon became an opportunity for intellectual engagement and self-care.

His continued work with oils and wax explores the textures of interiors as ze extracts the layers of building materials, surfaces, and shapes. Her doctoral research on architectural history and feminist theory informs her approach to highlighting the sense of touch in zir work. Using a palette knife and oil pens in addition to the paintbrush, Foster Bullock explores themes of erasure, deletion, cutting, and cropping. Bullock's work has been featured in shows with the Durham Art Guild, Charlotte Art League, VAE Raleigh, and the Orange County Arts Commission.

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## Fine Artist

[www.fosterbullockart.com](http://www.fosterbullockart.com)

### Education

- 2019 Ph.D., Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies, Duke University
- o 2019 Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies
  - o 2018 Emerging Scholar Award, Association for Asian Performance
  - o 2016 Semester Exchange, Yale School of Architecture (Peter Eisenman's Studio)

### Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Greenville Museum of Art "Growing Up Queer in the South" Greenville, North Carolina
- 2022 VAE Raleigh Juried Art Auction, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 2022 Orange County Arts Commission "Home? An Exploration of Housing in the Triangle" Hillsborough, North Carolina
- 2022 South End Arts "Outer Limits" Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2022 Artists' Alliance of the Triangle Members' Exhibition, Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina
- 2021 Hearth Collective "The Art of Process" online
- 2021 Fuquay-Varina Arts Council Members' Exhibition, Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina
- 2021 VAE Raleigh Mutual Aid Art Auction, online
- 2019 Durham Art Guild Members' Holiday Show, Durham, North Carolina
- 2019 South End Arts "Arts Matter" Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2019 Arts Charlotte "Beauty from Brokenness" Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2019 Charlotte Art League "Dimensions" Charlotte, North Carolina

### Special Projects

- 2016 Co-Curator, "Full Exposure: Paul and Damon McCarthy's *Pirate Party*" Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, North Carolina
- o Catalog essay: "Deconstructing Disney: The Architecture of Paul and Damon McCarthy's *Pirate Party*"

### Publications

- "Spaces of Citizenship in Contemporary Singaporean Theatre: Staging the 2011 General Election" *Asian Theatre Journal* (2019) 36:2, 472-489.
- "A Feminist Psychoanalytic Perspective on Glass Architecture in Singapore" in *Psychoanalysis and the Global*, ed. Ilan Kapoor (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2018) 189-208.
- "Ocularcentrism in Singapore: A Preliminary Analysis of Architecture" *eTropic: electronic journal of studies in the tropics* (2018) 17:1, 25-40.
- "Lacan on Urban Development and National Identity in a Global City: Integrated Resorts in Singapore" *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* (2014) 32:2, 213-227.

### Membership

- Member, VAE Raleigh, 2021—Present
- Board of Directors, Artists' Alliance of the Triangle, 2020—Present