

Daniel Minter

Sculptor · Painter · Printmaker · Educator

Portland, Maine | danielminter.net | indigoartsalliance.me

PRACTICE

Daniel Minter is a multidisciplinary artist and educator whose work constructs an iconography of the Afro-Atlantic experience rooted in resilience, resistance, and healing. Working in canvas, carved wood, metal, and mixed-media assemblage, he explores displacement and diaspora, the spirituality of African diasporic traditions, and the ongoing (re)creation of meanings of home. His practice moves fluidly between intimate bas-relief panels and monumental installation, between studio work and community-embedded public art.

EDUCATION

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| 2023 | Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts , Colby College, Waterville, Maine |
| 2019 | Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts , Maine College of Art & Design, Portland, Maine |
| 1983 | Associate of Arts , Visual Communications, Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia |

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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| 2024 | <i>Hidden Mouth Talking</i> , Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine |
| 2022 | <i>Through This to That</i> , with Eneida Sanches, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, Maine |
| 2022 | <i>A Blue</i> , Lewis Gallery, Portland, Maine |
| 2022 | <i>A Other Crossing</i> , Dowling Walsh Gallery, Rockland, Maine |
| 2021 | <i>Rootwork</i> , Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin |
| 2020 | <i>STATES OF...?</i> , Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine |
| 2019 | <i>Othered: Displaced from Malaga</i> , Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana |
| 2018 | <i>Othered: Displaced from Malaga</i> , University of Southern Maine Art Gallery, Gorham, Maine |
| 2017 | <i>A Distant Holla</i> , Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana |
| 2017 | <i>CARVING</i> , Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, Washington |
| 2015 | <i>Water Road</i> , Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana |
| 2014 | <i>The Art of Daniel Minter</i> , Reed Fine Art Gallery, University of Maine at Presque Isle, Presque Isle, Maine |
| 2012 | <i>A Shallow Home</i> , Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana |
| 2011 | <i>A Heavy Grace, A Shallow Home</i> , Hammonds House Museum, Atlanta, Georgia |
| 2008 | <i>A Shallow Home</i> , Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, Washington |

2008	<i>A Shallow Home</i> , Museum of African Culture, Portland, Maine
2005	<i>A Heavy Grace</i> , Running With Scissors Gallery, Portland, Maine
2005	<i>A Heavy Grace</i> , Bates College, Lewiston, Maine
1997	Bambara Gallery, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
1996	<i>Crossing Paths</i> , MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington
1994	MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington
1994	<i>Mixed Media Paintings on Carved Wood</i> , Northview Gallery, Portland, Oregon
1993	<i>Cross Currents</i> , Index Gallery, Clark College, Vancouver, Washington
1992	MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026	<i>Thresholds</i> , part of <i>The Otherworld Is Home</i> , Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2026-27	<i>MAINE: A Force Within American Art (1890-2026)</i> , Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine
2025-27	<i>Re Sounding</i> , Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine
2025-26	<i>Offshore Winter</i> , Dowling Walsh Gallery, Rockland, Maine
2024-28	<i>In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World</i> , Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, D.C.; international tour through 2028
2024	<i>The Wake / L'Éveil</i> , Dak'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal Featured artist in the U.S. presentation <i>The Work of the Wake</i> , drawn from <i>In Slavery's Wake</i>
2023	<i>The Farnsworth at 75: New Voices from Maine in American Art</i> , Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine
2022	<i>Abstracting Reality</i> , Band of Vices Gallery, Los Angeles, California
2022	Spillman Blackwell Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana
2021	<i>Quiet Reach</i> , 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, New Hampshire
2020	<i>Stories of Maine: An Incomplete History</i> , Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine
2020	<i>Queen</i> , Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, Michigan
2019	<i>New Acquisitions</i> , Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine
2018	<i>Portland Museum of Art Biennial</i> , Portland, Maine
2012	<i>The Material Calls</i> , Hedreen Gallery, Seattle, Washington
2008	<i>Our Stories: Block Print Images</i> , Museum of African Culture, Portland, Maine
2001	<i>National Black Fine Art Show</i> , New York, New York
1999	<i>National Black Fine Art Show</i> , New York, New York
1998	<i>Altered Beliefs</i> , City Gallery East, Atlanta, Georgia

- 1994 *Bienal Internacional Afro-Americana de Cultura*, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil
Galeria Casa do Índio; Museu da Cidade; Galeria Portal da Cor; Escola de Belas Artes, Universidade Federal da Bahia
- 1994 *Face of the Gods: Art and Altars of Africa and the African Americas*,
Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
- 1993 *The Art of Microsoft*, Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington,
Seattle, Washington

COMMISSIONS & PUBLIC ART

- 2024-28 *Universe of Freedom Making*, immersive installation
Commissioned centerpiece of *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), Washington, D.C.
Travels with NMAAHC's first international exhibition: Rio de Janeiro (Nov 2025-Mar 2026), Cape Town (May-Oct 2026), then Dakar and Liverpool through 2028
- 2025 *In the Voice of Trees*, permanent outdoor sculpture, Coastal Maine
Botanical Gardens, Boothbay, Maine
Sixteen branchless red pine trunks bound into a single form after the African proverb "Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable," draped with clay beads hand-formed by community members
- 2021-23 *In the Healing Language of Trees*, permanent outdoor sculpture, Lynden
Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Joyce Award commission: an ash tree lost to the emerald ash borer, adorned with beads carved with community members; installed June 2023
- 2011, 2004 **Kwanzaa stamps**, United States Postal Service (two national commissions)
- 2004 **Portland Freedom Trail**, Portland, Maine
Co-founder and creative visionary; permanent granite and bronze markers at 13 sites of the abolitionist movement and Underground Railroad
- Malaga Island Freedom Trail**, Maine
Commemorates the State of Maine's 1912 forced removal of the island's interracial community; instrumental in the island's designation as a public preserve
- Mothers Garden**, Kennedy Park, Portland, Maine
- Art in Embassies**, U.S. Embassy, Gabon · U.S. Department of State
- Sixteen Paths**, Seattle Arts Commission, Seattle, Washington
- Art That Heals**, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
- Lavizzo Water Play Park**, Pratt Park, Seattle, Washington (artist team, Seattle Parks Department)
- PoetsWay**, Boulder, Colorado

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture,
Washington, D.C.

Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine

Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine
 Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine
 Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine
 Bates College Museum of Art, Lewiston, Maine
 David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
 Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, Washington
 Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Microsoft Corporation, Seattle, Washington

ARTS LEADERSHIP

2018- **Co-Founder & Artist Director, Indigo Arts Alliance**, Portland, Maine
 Maine's first Black-led nonprofit artist residency; 98 artists-in-residence from 16+ countries
 Supported by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Terra Foundation, and VIA Art Fund
 Partner with NMAAHC on *Art in the Wake* symposia: Portland (2023), Rio de Janeiro (2026), Cape Town (2026)

AWARDS & HONORS

2024 **Maine Craft Artist Award**, Maine Crafts Association
 Juried by Donna McNeil, Founding Executive Director, Ellis-Beauregard Foundation
 2023 **NAACP Image Award nominee**
 2022 **Distinguished Achievement Award**, Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance, Maine Literary Awards
 2021 **Joyce Award**, Joyce Foundation, with Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 2020 **Caldecott Honor**, American Library Association
 2019 **Lupine Award**, Maine Library Association
 2013 **Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor**, American Library Association

GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

2025 **Artist-in-Residence**, Guest Artists Space (G.A.S.) Foundation, founded by Yinka Shonibare, Lagos and Ikiş, Nigeria
 Eight-week residency divided between G.A.S. Lagos and the G.A.S. Farm House in Ikiş
 2023 **MOMAZOZO Artist Residency**, Carrizozo, New Mexico
 2018 **Artist-in-Residence**, University of Southern Maine, Portland, Maine
 2016 **Artist-in-Residence**, Hewnoaks Artist Colony, Lovell, Maine
 2014 **Artist-in-Residence**, Partners of the Americas, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

- 2012 **Artist-in-Residence**, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Sapelo Island, Georgia
- 2010 **Artist-in-Residence**, James Washington Jr. Studio, Seattle, Washington
- 1997 **Artist-in-Residence**, Seattle Arts Commission, Seattle, Washington
- 1996 **Artist-in-Residence**, Tacoma Art Museum, Pacific Arts Center, Washington
- 1994 **Travel Grants Fund for Artists**, National Endowment for the Arts / Arts International
Year in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, foundational to his ongoing practice in Afro-diasporic traditions

PUBLICATIONS

Books & Catalogs Featuring the Work

- 2024 *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*, eds. Paul Gardullo, Johanna Obenda, and Anthony Bogues; foreword by Lonnie G. Bunch III. Smithsonian Books
Companion volume to the NMAAHC exhibition; artwork by Daniel Minter featured throughout
- 2021 *Black Food: Stories, Art, and Recipes from Across the African Diaspora*, ed. Bryant Terry. 4 Color Books / Ten Speed Press. Artwork

Writings & Interviews

- 2026 Catalog essay, *Thresholds*. Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 2025 *Re|Sounding: Recovering Maine's Undertold Maritime History*. Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine

Essays on the Work

- 2022 Rachel Elizabeth Harding, "A Quantum Exchange: The Art of Daniel Minter in Diasporic Context." Indigo Arts Alliance
- 2005 Rachel E. Harding, "Daniel Minter's Keys: Deciphering and Honoring Ordinary Blackness"

SELECTED LECTURES, PANELS & PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- 2026 *Fall 2026 Discussion and Exhibition Preview*, in conversation with Henry John Drewal, with artists Aisha Tandiwe Bell, Stephen Hamilton, and Portia Cobb. Haggerty Museum of Art, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; co-presented with Bronzeville Center for the Arts
- 2025 *Community Art + Justice Evening: Freedom Making Through the Arts*, panel with curator Johanna Obenda and filmmaker Tiffany McNeil. Oprah Winfrey Theater, NMAAHC, Washington, D.C.
- 2025 American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California. Presentation on *In Slavery's Wake*, nominated for two AAM awards
- 2023 Symposium, *Embodying Memory, Medicine, and Power in Material and Process*, with Henry John Drewal. Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- 2022 Artist conversation with Eneida Sanches, moderated by Henry John Drewal. Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, Maine
- 2019 *Othered: Displaced from Malaga*, artist and scholar talk with Henry John Drewal. Indigo Arts Alliance and Cove Street Arts, Portland, Maine
- 2018 Artist conversation with David Driskell, moderated by Henry John Drewal. Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine
- Ancestors, Art and Black Ritual Diasporas*, public talk and workshop. Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts
- Talks and youth programs: DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago (Youth Art Program, digital animation); Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; Kennedy Center Education Department, Washington, D.C.

TEACHING & VISITING ARTIST POSTS

- Current **Adjunct Professor**, Maine College of Art & Design, Portland, Maine
- 2020 **Visiting Artist**, Lunder Institute for American Art, Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, Maine
- 2019 **Printmaking Residency Instructor**, Monson Arts, Monson, Maine
- Instructor**, printmaking, collage, and painting. Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, Maine
- Instructor**, Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, Washington
- Faculty**, African-New World Studies Teachers Institute, Florida International University, Miami, Florida

SELECTED PRESS

- 2026 Arango, Jorge S. "Tracing Maine's Artistic Legacies at Farnsworth Art Museum." *Boston Art Review*, July 2026.
- 2026 "Through Carved Wooden Assemblages, Daniel Minter Communes with the Spiritual." *Colossal*, September 18, 2026.
- 2026 "Maine: A Force Within American Art (1890-2026) at Farnsworth Art Museum." *Antiques and The Arts Weekly*, 2026.
- 2026 "In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World." *Blooloop*, Innovation Awards 2025 entry (Exhibit - Culture), submitted by Ravenswood Studio, January 8, 2026.
- 2026 "Daniel Minter to Immerse in Ecosystem Research and Artistic Exploration During Residency." G.A.S. Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria, January 2026.
- 2025 "'Re|Sounding' Exhibition in Bath Highlights Indigenous, Black Histories." *Portland Press Herald*, November 12, 2025.
- 2025 "Global Connections at Heart of Exhibition on Slavery and Freedom." *ShareAmerica*, U.S. Department of State, 2025.
- 2025 "Legacies of Resilience." *Smithsonian Magazine*, May 12, 2025.
- 2024 Schuessler, Jennifer. "The Smithsonian Looks at How the Slave Trade Shaped the World." *The New York Times*, December 13, 2024.

- 2024 "2024 Maine Craft Artist Award: Daniel Minter." Maine Crafts Association, November 20, 2024.
- 2024 "Colby Museum: New to the Collection." *Colby News*, June 26, 2024.
- 2023 Bence, Susan. "Artist Creates Striking Piece with Ash Tree Killed by Invasive Beetle at Lynden Sculpture Garden." WUWM 89.7 Milwaukee Public Radio, July 18, 2023.
- 2023 Meader, Laura. "Daniel Minter: Making Art, Making Connections." *The Take Magazine*, May 21, 2023.
- 2022 Little, Carl. "The Multifaceted Creativity of Daniel Minter." *Maine Boats, Homes & Harbors*, Issue 174.
- 2018 Little, Carl. "Coming to Terms with Tragedy Through Art." *Hyperallergic*, December 1, 2018.

GALLERY REPRESENTATION

Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine · Dowling Walsh Gallery, Rockland, Maine · Cove Street Arts, Portland, Maine · Spillman Blackwell, New Orleans, Louisiana