Daniel Minter

Sculptor · Painter · Printmaker · Educator

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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.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Hidden Mouth Talking*, Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine

2022 *Through This to That*, with Eneida Sanches, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, Maine

2022 *A Blue*, Lewis Gallery, Portland, Maine

2022 *A Other Crossing*, Dowling Walsh Gallery, Rockland, Maine

2021 *Rootwork*, Lynden Sculpture Garden, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2020 *STATES OF…?*, Greenhut Galleries, Portland, Maine

2019 *Othered: Displaced from Malaga*, Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

2018 *Othered: Displaced from Malaga*, University of Southern Maine Art Gallery, Gorham, Maine

2017 *A Distant Holla*, Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

2017 *CARVING*, Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, Washington

2015 *Water Road*, Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

2014 *The Art of Daniel Minter*, Reed Fine Art Gallery, University of Maine at Presque Isle, Presque Isle, Maine

2012 *A Shallow Home*, Soren Christensen Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

2011 *A Heavy Grace, A Shallow Home*, Hammonds House Museum, Atlanta, Georgia

2008 *A Shallow Home*, Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, Washington

2008 *A Shallow Home*, Museum of African Culture, Portland, Maine

2005 *A Heavy Grace*, Running With Scissors Gallery, Portland, Maine

2005 *A Heavy Grace*, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine

1997 Bambara Gallery, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

1996 *Crossing Paths*, MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington

1994 MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington

1994 *Mixed Media Paintings on Carved Wood*, Northview Gallery, Portland, Oregon

1993 *Cross Currents*, Index Gallery, Clark College, Vancouver, Washington

1992 MIA Gallery, Seattle, Washington

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Thresholds*, part of *The Otherworld Is Home*, Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2026–27 *MAINE: A Force Within American Art (1890–2026)*, Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine

2025–27 *Re|Sounding*, Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine

2025–26 *Offshore Winter*, Dowling Walsh Gallery, Rockland, Maine

2024–28 *In Slavery's Wake: Making Black Freedom in the World*, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, D.C.; international tour through 2028

2024 *The Wake / L'Éveil*, Dak'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal
Featured artist in the U.S. presentation *The Work of the Wake*, drawn from *In Slavery's Wake*

2023 *The Farnsworth at 75: New Voices from Maine in American Art*, Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine

2022 *Abstracting Reality*, Band of Vices Gallery, Los Angeles, California

2022 Spillman Blackwell Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

2021 *Quiet Reach*, 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

2020 *Stories of Maine: An Incomplete History*, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine

2020 *Queen*, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, Michigan

2019 *New Acquisitions*, Portland Museum of Art, Portland, Maine

2018 *Portland Museum of Art Biennial*, Portland, Maine

2012 *The Material Calls*, Hedreen Gallery, Seattle, Washington

2008 *Our Stories: Block Print Images*, Museum of African Culture, Portland, Maine

2001 *National Black Fine Art Show*, New York, New York

1999 *National Black Fine Art Show*, New York, New York

1998 *Altered Beliefs*, 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 **Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts**, Colby College, Waterville, Maine

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 **Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts**, Maine College of Art & Design, Portland, Maine

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 Ikiṣẹ, Nigeria
Eight-week residency divided between G.A.S. Lagos and the G.A.S. Farm House in Ikiṣẹ

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