

RUSSO ▲ LEE GALLERY

WILLIE LITTLE

- Education:** Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Awards:** Oregon Community Foundation Creative Heights Grant, 2022
Glean Portland Residency, 2021
Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art Black Lives Matter Artist Grant, 2020
Ash Street Project Ceramics Residency, Portland, OR, 2019
Regional Arts & Cultural Council Project Grant, 2019
Pop-Up Residency, McColl Center Charlotte, NC, 2016
Haven Foundation Grant, 2012
Gottlieb Foundation Emergency Grant, 2012
Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant 2010, 2006
Special Grant, Arts & Science Council, 2003
Headlands Center for the Arts Residency, Sausalito, California, 2002, 2019
Creative Fellowship, NC Arts & Science Council 2000
Caversham Press Printmaking Residency, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa, 2000
Chivas Regal Artist-In- Residence and Commission, 2000
Cultural Heritage Artist of the Year, 1999
Artist Residency at Tryon Center for Visual Art, 1999
Artist Project Grant from the NC Arts Council, 1996
Emerging Artists Grant from the NC Arts & Science Council, 1994

Solo Exhibitions:

- 2023** I Do Not Want What I Have Not Got, Russo Lee Gallery, Portland, OR
In the Raw, Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2022** In My Own Little Corner, Oregon Contemporary, Portland, OR
- 2021** Beneath the Surface, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
America's Original Sin, Rosa Parks Museum, Montgomery, AL
- 2020** The Shacks My Daddy Built, Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon
- 2019** And Miles to Go Before We Sleep, Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon
Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2018** Nodder Doll/Living Doll/Kinfolks preview, Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon
Nodder Doll/Living Doll, SFMOMA Artists Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2017** Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2016** 10th Annual Black History Exhibition, Arts Center of Greenwood, Greenwood, SC
- 2015** Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2014** In the Hood, The New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC

- 2011 Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2011 **Totems to a Past:**
Pounder Kone' Artspace, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 **Juke Joint Installation:**
Diggs Gallery, Winston Salem State University

Group Exhibits:

- 2023 Friends of Dorothy, Patricia Reser Center for the Arts, Beaverton, OR
- 2022 Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2021 SFMOMA Artists Gallery, featured artist, Feb 2021: Celebrating Black History Month, San Francisco, CA
- 2020 Making Waves: Artists Speak Out, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
Hamptons Virtual Art Fair
- 2020 Ungodly: The Spiritual Medium, Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland, Oregon
- 2019 SFMOMA Artists Gallery, Celebrating Contemporary Black Artists: An Exhibition at TPG Global, San Francisco, CA
SFMOMA Artists Gallery, Celebrating Contemporary Black Artists: An Exhibition at Asana, San Francisco, CA
America's Whispered Truths, Clark College, Vancouver, WA
- 2018 Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon
Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2016 NX/2 Quadratfuss Exhibition, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2015 Art + Dialogue, Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC
- 2014 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2014 Evolve, the Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- 2013 New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2012 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2011 Temporay Contemporary Gallery, Sacramento, CA
Sculpture Today: New Forces, New Forms, Frederick Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- 2010 Some Assembly Required, Craft and Folk-Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, Ma
- 2010 Past Forward, African American Culture Complex, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 Infix: The Grammar of Insertion, SFMOMA Artist's Gallery
- 2009 Here & Now, New South, A Joie Lassiter Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 2009 Decade; Center's First 10 Years, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2009 Some Assembly Required, Sesnon Art Gallery, UC Santa Cruz

Lectures/Workshops:

- Rosa Parks Museum, Montgomery, Ala, 2021
Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon, 2019
Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon, 2019
SFMOMA Artist's Gallery, San Francisco, CA 2019
Froelick Gallery, Portland, Oregon, 2018
SFMOMA Artist's Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2018
Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA
Craft and Folk-Art Museum forum with Betye Saar, Los Angeles, CA

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Sesnon Gallery, Porter College, UC Santa Cruz, CA
Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC
CCAC, Oakland California
Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
University of Capetown, Capetown, South Africa
Bittney Springs High School, Nevada City, CA
University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA
Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC
Piedmont Middle School, Charlotte, NC
Northwest School of the Arts, Charlotte, NC
Afro American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC
Tryon Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC
Cabarras Art Guild, Concord, NC

TV Appearances:

Open Air; A Conversation with Willie Little, Harvey B. Gantt Center
Charlotte, NC, 2021
Oregon Public Broadcasting Art Beat, A Love Letter to My Past, 2021
Willie Little & Anya Montiel in Conversation, YouTube, 2020
WLOS 13, ABC Affiliate Asheville, NC
Out of the Ashes, WTVI Public Television Documentary
North Carolina Now, WUNC Public Television
Assignment Carolinas, WJZY 46
South Carolina Public Television
WBTB 3 News, story on Hugh McColl
WBTB 3 News, Black History Month Showcase

Radio Appearances:

Public Radio, Troy University, Montgomery, AL, 2021
Future Prairie Podcast, Portland, OR 2020
KXL, Speaking Freely, Portland, OR 2019
KBOO, Public Radio, Portland, OR, 2018
KWMR, Public Radio, Point Reyes, CA, 2018
WUNC, NPR 2002
Radio Disney 2002
KERA, NPR Dallas, Texas 2000
Mike Collins, WFAE, NPR 1998, 2000, 2008
WSOC Morning Show, 1999
Todd Muncie Show, NPR, Detroit MI. 1998

Collections:

Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
Smithsonian NMAAHC
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC
Ambassador of Madagascar
Jeff Warner Designs, San Francisco, CA, Hawaii
Peter Luder, Howard Kanini, London, England
Traveling Collection of Judy Norell, **Myth, Memory and Imagination**
(Washington, DC)
Bank of America Corporate Offices, Charlotte, NC
Jon D. Lowly, SF, CA
Betsy Schmidt, Sacramento, CA
Allison Knapp SF, CA
Emily Leff Granite Bay, CA
Aynesh Johnson NY, NY

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Patty and Jeff Baird- Cedar House Sport Hotel, Truckee, CA
Sara Harris L.A., CA
Lisa Eisenpresser L.A., CA
Tanya Jordan-Taylor, Buchanan and Jordan Inc-Reno, CA
Shaye Whittlesey, Nevada City, CA
Wendy Whitson Asheville, NC
Paul Geenty Nevada City, CA
Danny Simmons, NYC
Robert Gray, Palm Springs, CA
Rick Wulff, Berkeley, CA
Dr. Nicholas Daniels and Dr. John Eckels, San Francisco, CA
First Charter Bank Headquarters, Charlotte, NC
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Kenly NC
Afro- American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC
Davis Steel, Matthews, NC
Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC
Mary Tribble, Charlotte, NC
Jodie and Frank Turner, Charlotte, NC
McColl Center for Visual Art
Headlands Center for the Arts

Bibliography:

Rabin, Jennifer, Art Review: Willie Little at Oregon Contemporary, [Oregon Artswatch](#), September 14, 2022

Van Der Wende, Andre, *Willie Little, the Alchemist*, His Oxidized Paintings are Encrusted with Meaning, [The Provincetown Independent](#), July 21, 2021

Karren, Howard, *An Exhibit Makes Waves in Provincetown*, [The Provincetown Independent](#), October, 15, 2020

Driscoll, Kathi Scrizzi, *Provincetown Galleries, Artists Speak Out About Unprecedented Times*, [Cape Cod Times](#), October 14, 2020

Larimore, Phillip *On Willie Little: Proof of Promises Kept*, [Charlotte Viewpoint Metropolitan Ideas & Art](#), July, 2016

Schreiber, Barbara, [Willie Little Takes on Tea Party, Klan in Exhibition](#), Charlotte News and Observer, September 2014

Titcombe, Tara, *Best of Winston Salem*, [US Airways Magazine](#), September 2010

Kopp, Bill, *Willie Little's Juke Joint: A Slice of the 50s*, [Laurel of Asheville](#), February 2010

Kopp, Bill, *Juke Joint: Hookers, Batwings, Pigs' Feet and Hair Tonic*, [Mountain Express, Asheville](#), 12/16/2009

Motsinger, Carol, *Juke Joint Revisited: Interactive YMI Exhibit re-creates lost culture*, [Citizen Times, Asheville](#), 12/13/2009

Other Experience

Washington Art Committee, Portland State University (Memorial Advisory Board, for slain former student Jason Erik Washington (1973-2018))
National Advisory Board, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC, Emeritis
National Advisory Board, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC, 2011-2015
Board of Directors, McColl Center, formerly (Tryon Center for Visual Art), Charlotte NC, 2001-2002, Advocate for fellow artists, Strategic and Diversity committees

Artist Selection Panels:

Oregon Arts Commission Grant, 2023
Oregon Community, Creative Heights Grant, 2023
Glean Portland Residency, 2022
ArtFields, Lake City, South Carolina, 2020
Gaston County Art Guild, Gastonia, NC, 2001