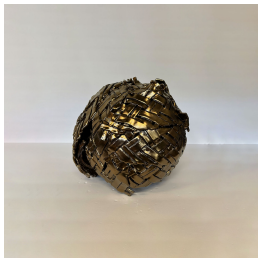
ANINA MAJOR

Anina Major (she/her) is a visual artist from the Bahamas. Her decision to establish a home contrary to the location in which she was born and raised motivates her to investigate the relationship between self and place as a site of negotiation. By utilizing the vernacular of craft to reclaim experiences and relocate displaced objects, her practice exists at the intersection of nostalgia, and identity. Major holds an MFA from Rhode Island School of Design. She is the recipient of numerous awards and residencies, including being a 2026 USA Fellow, finalist in the 2025 Loewe Craft Prize, winner of the Armory Show 2024 Pommery Prize, the 2023 Joan Mitchell Fellowship and the EKWC, Centre-of-excellence for ceramics international artist-in-residency. Major's work has been exhibited in The Bahamas, Europe and across the United States, with a permanent display at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC.



ANINA MAJOR

Exhibitions

2026 "Soon Come Home" – Tern Gallery, Nassau, The Bahamas
2026 "Tender Seedlings" – Larkin Durey, London, UK
2026 "Moments of Being" – Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2024 "Design Miami" – The Future Perfect, Miami, FL
2024 "All Us Come Across Water" – Pamela Salisbury Gallery, Hudson, NY
2023 "I Land Therefore I Am" – Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Brattleboro, VT
2023 "Old Week Home" – Tern Gallery, Nassau, The Bahamas
2022 "Inheritance" – Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2022 "Garden Hills: Reflections in Memory Yard" – Wavehill Public Garden & Culture Center, Bronx, NY
2021 "Everywhere and Here" – Artspace New Haven, New Haven, CT
2020 "Among Other Things…" – Landmark College, Putney, VT
2020 "No Vacancy in Paradise" – Hudson D. Walker Gallery, Provincetown, MA
2019 "Rhythm of Hybrid Interactions" – Gallery 51, MCLA, North Adams, MA
2019 "Sand Swallows Beneath My Feet" – Foster Art Gallery of Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA

Group Exhibitions

2026 "Ascendancy: The Self in Contemporary Art" – Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, CT
2026 "Absence Takes Form" – Wasserman Projects, Detroit, MI
2025 "Not Done Yet Colonial Continuities" – Museum für Gegenwartskunst Siegen, Siegen, Germany
2025 "Body Vessel Clay: Black Women, Ceramics & Contemporary Art" – Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, NY
2025 "For Liberation and for Life: The Legacy of Black Dimensions in Art" – Albany Institute of History & Art, Albany, NY
2025 "Thyssen-Bornemisza National Museum, Madrid, Spain
2025 "Banshee Remix" – Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
2025 "Mélodies en Sous-sol: Expérience Pommery #18" – Reims, France
2025 "Circumstances Held Me To Threads" – Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2025 "Holding Space" – Larkin Durey, London, UK
2024 "Flow States – LA TRIENAL 2024" – El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY
2024 "Objects: USA 2024" – R & Company, New York, NY
2024 "It Comes From the Head: A Straw Heritage" – National Art Gallery of the Bahamas, Nassau Bahamas
2024 "The Selves" – Nicola Vassell, New York, NY
2024 "Holding Space: Woven Works" – Fowler-Kellogg Art Center, Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY
2024 "Uncontained: Reimagining Basketry" – Hunterdon Art Museum, Clinton, NJ
2024 "Unruly Navigations" – The Museum of African Diaspora (MoAD) San Francisco, CA
2024 "Stop & Stare" – UTA, Atlanta, GA
2023 "Tender Loving Care" – Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Boston, MA
2023 "Crossing Borders Revisited" – Arts Westchester, White Plains, NY
2023 "Inventing the Rest: New Adventures in Clay" – Maximillian William Gallery, London, UK
2023 "Underneath Everything: Humility and Grandeur in Contemporary Ceramics" – Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, IA
2023 "Underneath Everything: Humility and Grandeur in Contemporary Ceramics" – Grand Rapids Art Museum, Grand Rapids, MI
2023 "On the Grounds 2023" – River Valley Arts Collective, Al Held Foundation, Boiceville, NY
2023 "Sparkling Islands, Another Postcard of the Caribbean" – High Line Nine Gallery, New York, NY
2023 "Art and Design 1900 to Now" – RISD Museum, Providence, RI
2022 "Making History: Recent Acquisitions from the Permanent Collection" – Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA
2022 "Fragile Earth" – Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ
2022 "The New England Triennial 2022" – deCordova Sculpture Park & Museum, Lincoln, MA
2022 "The Universe Within" – Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami, FL
2021 "Ceramic in the Expanded Field" – MassMOCA, North Adams, MA
2021 "The Socrates Annual 2021" – Long Island City, NY
2021 "Coil Pot Show" – Greenwich Pottery, New York, NY
2021 "Everywhere and Here" – Artspace New Haven, New Haven, CT
2021 "Above & Below" – Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2021 "Collide & Scope, Knowhere Gallery" – Martha's Vineyard, MA
2021 "Chorus of Marks & Artifacts" – LaiSun Gallery, Boston, MA
2021 "Possibility Made Real: Drawing & Clay" – Gallery 12.26, Dallas, TX
2021 "Floating Rib" – National Gallery of The Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas
2021 "Asterisks in the Grand Narrative of History" – The Longwood Center for the Visual Arts, Farmville, VA
2020 "Inherited Values" – Tern Gallery, Nassau, Bahamas
2020 "Forms Fired" – Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2020 "Nature/Nurture" – Ferrin Contemporaries, North Adams, MA
2020 "(im)materiality" – GAA Gallery, Provincetown, MA
2020 "Currency" – BAIT15, Abu Dhabi, UAE
2020 "The 2020 FAWC Visual Arts Fellows" – Provincetown Art Association & Museum, Provincetown, MA
2019 "Refuge" – National Gallery of The Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas
2019 "Love in the Time of Hysteria" – PRIZM Art Fair, Miami, FL
2019 "Creative Artifacts" – Providence Children Museum, Providence, RI
2019 "Striking Gold" – Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA
2019 "VERIFIED" – Loud Cow Art Space, Rochester, NY
2018 "NE9: The Fruit and The Seed" – National Gallery of The Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas
2018 "The Dark Horse" – PRIZM Art Fair, Miami, FL
2018 "Highlights" – Sol Koffler Gallery, Providence, RI
2018 "The Ecology of Relationships" – Firehouse Gallery, Rochester, NY
2018 "Suffer to Remain" – curated by Holly Bynoe National Gallery of The Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas
2017 "Universal Belonging" – curated by Mikhaile Solomon at PRIZM Art Fair, Miami, FL
2017 "New Visions, New Voices Emerging Artists" – St. Botolph Club, Boston, MA
2017 "New Contemporaries: RISD Class of 2017" – Select Works, Providence, RI

2016 “Fort Adams: Drawing Parallels, Listening for Echoes” – Newport, RI
2016 “Drive-by Projects: Saturday Evening Girls” – Boston, MA

Education

2017 MFA in Ceramics, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
2003 BS in Graphic Design, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Awards and Residencies

2026 USA Fellowship Award
2025 Loewe Foundation Craft Prize Finalist
2024 The Armory Show Pommery Prize, New York, NY
2024 The Futures Perfect Prize, New York, NY
2023 Joan Mitchell Fellow, USA
2023 The Lighton International Artists Exchange Program (LIAEP) Award
2023 EKWC, Centre-of-excellence for ceramics, Oisterwijk, NL
2021 Socrates Sculpture Park, Artist-in-Residence, Queens, NY
2021 Women Studio Workshop, Studio Residency Grant, Rosendale, NY
2020 Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts Studio Program, NY
2019 Provincetown Fine Arts Center Fellow, Provincetown, MA
2018 36 Chase & Barns Artists and Art Historians Residency
2017 Flower City Arts Center, Artists-in-Residence
2017 MassMOCA Studio Artists in Residence
2017 St. Botolph Club Foundation Emerging Artists Award, Boston, MA
2017 Watershed Summer Residency Zenobia Award, Newcastle, ME
2017 Anderson Ranch Residential Summer Workshop Scholarship, Snowmass Village, CO

Institutional Collections

Bowdoin College Museum of Art
Carnegie Museum of Art
D’Aguilar Arts Foundation
Detroit Institute of Arts Museum
Fuller Craft Museum
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Museum of Fine Arts Boston
National Art Gallery of The Bahamas
Pérez Art Museum of Miami
Rhode Island School of Design Museum
Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture
York Art Gallery

Publications & Features

2025 “Mémoire Tressée,” Caroline Coiffet, La Revue de la Céramique et du Verre, October-November 2025
2025 Contemporary Basketry New Directions from Innovative Artists Worldwide, Schiffer Publishing
2025 “Artist Anina Major …One Clay Plait at a Time,” Steven Vargas, Observer Arts, 3 April 2025
2025 “Body Vessel Clay… at Ford Foundation Gallery, New York,” Ceramics Now, 30 October, 2025
2025 “At the Ford Foundation… a Landmark Ceramics Exhibition,” Jenna Adrian-Davis, Surface Magazine, 16 September, 2025
2025 “I could speak to one… or be one of many” Xuezhu Jenny Wang, Impulse Magazine, 17 January, 2025
2025 “Anina Major | Ceramicist,” Camilla Frances, Cabana Magazine
2024 Great Women Sculptors, Phaidon Press
2024 Crafted Kinship: Inside the Creative Practices of Contemporary Black Caribbean Makers, Artisan Books
2024 New Women’s Work: Reimagining feminine craft in contemporary art, Smith Street Books
2024 Objects: USA 2024, R & Company and August Editions
2024 “From Basketry to Clay, the Bahamas to New York” Sarah Archer, New York Times, 8 Nov, 2024
2024 “Five artisans from the Caribbean diaspora to have on your radar” Alicia Sheber, Wallpaper*, Dec, 2024
2023 “Inventing the Rest: New Adventures in Clay at Maximillian William, London”, Ceramics Now, July 2023
2023 “3 Artists on the Role of the Caribbean in Environmental Art” Ayanna Dozier, Artsy, April, 2023
2022 “Tropical is Political: Caribbean Art Under the Visitor Economy Regime”, Marina Reyes Franco, Sept, 2022
2022 “Thinking Through Place: A Conversation with Anina Major” Sculpture Magazine, Sept/Oct 2022
2022 “Pick of the week: Anina Major” Artillery Magazine, 29 Sept, 2022
2021 “At Mass MoCA, ceramic art proves its power” The Boston Globe, 16 Dec, 2021
2021 “Artist Find Sanctuary at Socrates Sculpture Park” Hyperallergic, 5 Nov, 2021
2021 “Above & Below at Shoshana Wayne” Art and Cake LA, Aug 2021
2021 “At LaiSun Keane, Two Artists Investigate Identity And Belonging” WBUR News, 1 June, 2021
2020 “Anina Major Finds ‘No Vacancy in Paradise” The Provincetown Independent, 6 Feb, 2020
2019 “Love in the Time of Hysteria” Document Journal, 4 Dec, 2019
2018 “A Body of My Own” The Nassau Guardian, 7 July 2018
2018 “Troubling Narratives” The Nassau Guardian, 25 May 2018
2018 “My mouth is a heartbreak” The Nassau Guardian, 28 April 2018
2018 “Locked in our bodies, a resurrection of voices” 24 March 2018
2017 Emergency Index – an annual document of performance practice, Vol.6
2017 “Heavy Crown To Bear” The Nassau Guardian, Jan 7, 2017