In Their Own Form features artists who explore the idea of existence devoid of oppression, racism, and stereotypes, mediated through Afrofuturist themes including time-travel and escapism. With close focus on Afrofuturism—a cross-disciplinary genre that combines science fiction, Afrocentrism, fantasy, technology, and non-Western mythologies—the themes presented in this exhibition deploy intellectual and artistic strategies to reimagine and repurpose the fraught past and present of the transnational black experience.

Speculative futures, re-contextualizing the past as means of navigating the present, and re-imaging the future are themes deeply entrenched within the Afrofuturist movement and are part of each artist's work. In his foundational text Black to the Future: Interviews with Samuel Delany, Greg Tate and Tricia Rose, Mark Dery poses the question “Can a community whose past has deliberately been rubbed out, and whose energies have subsequently been consumed by the search for legible traces of its history, imagine possible futures?” Favoring personhood, both fantastical and actual, over perceived realities, In Their Own Form gathers works by artists who contemplate the past—and in the process reveal possible futures.

Highlights of the exhibition include Passage (2017), a video installation by South African artist Mohau Modisakeng, a three-channel, immersive work that examines the historical trauma of slavery, using science fiction themes of time travel and abduction to unpack how forced migration during the slave trade continues to impact the present-day black experience. Using Afrofuturist imagery, Senegalese artist Alun Be’s project Edification Series (2017) explores the impact of technology on contemporary African society, grappling with the complexities of possible futures while re-contextualizing the Western media’s static representation of the African continent. Multi-disciplinary French-Brazilian artist Alexis Peskine references the personal and collective African diasporic experience as well as black masculinity in his Aljana Moons (2015) series, which chronicles a coming-of-age festival in a Senegalese village, filtered through a sci-fi lens with a markedly futuristic visual aesthetic. Other artists in the exhibition include Kudzanai Chiurai, Jim Chu Chu, Teju Cole, Ayana V. Jackson, Fabrice Monteiro, Zanele Muholi, Aida Muluneh, Paulo Nazareth, Zohra Opoku, and Mary Sibande.

Curated by Sheridan Tucker Anderson, former MoCP Curatorial Fellow for Diversity in the Arts, In Their Own Form brings together 13 artists and over 40 photographic and video works that negotiate a range of Afro-Diasporic experiences.
Traveling Exhibitions Fact Sheet

**IN THEIR OWN FORM**

**Specifications:**
*In Their Own Form* is 28 framed works and 2 videos. Dimensions can be found on the exhibition checklist. Exhibition requires a minimum of 300 running feet but is adaptable between 200 and 400 running feet.

**Accompanying Materials:**
Labels and wall text will be provided electronically, and a press packet with images will be included. Adaptable educational materials in the arts, humanities, and social sciences will be provided. Adaptable film and musical programming will also be available.

**Availability:**
Exhibition is available for travel from January 2019-December, 2022.

**Security:**
Security and fire protection systems, and temperature controls must be operable. Facility reports to be completed by participating institutions.

**Loan Fees:**
*In Their Own Form* are available for a rental fee of $15,000 plus shipping and travel expenses for one museum staff member. The exhibition curator, Sheridan Tucker Anderson, is available to lecture for an additional fee.

**Contact:**
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Mohau Modisakeng  
(South African, b. 1986)  
*Endabeni 1*, 2015  
Inkjet print on Epson Hot Press Natural  
59 × 78¾ inches

Mohau Modisakeng  
(South African, b. 1986)  
*Passage*, 2017  
Short film

Paulo Nazareth  
(Brazilian, b. 1977)  
*Untitled*, from *For Sale* series, 2011  
Photo printing on cotton paper  
27½ x 36½ inches

Paulo Nazareth  
(Brazilian, b. 1977)  
*Untitled*, from *Objetos para tampar o Sol de seus olhos (Objects to Keep the Sun out of Your Eyes)* series, 2010  
Photo printing on cotton paper  
35½ x 23½ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Zohra Opoku
(German, b. 1977)
Rhododendron, 2015
Pigment print on Hahnemüle photo rag
43¼ x 57 inches

Ayana Jackson
(American, b. 1977)
Wild as the Wind, 2015
Archival Pigment Print on German Etching Paper
43 x 46¾ inches

Ayana Jackson
(American, b. 1977)
Moments of Sweet Reprieve, 2017
Archival Pigment Print on German Etching Paper
39¼ x 51 inches

Fabrice Monteiro
(Belgian-Beninese, b. 1972)
The Prophecy Untitled #2, 2013
Digital Print
31½ x 47 inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Fabrice Monteiro
(Belgian-Beninese, b. 1972)
The Prophecy Untitled #6, 2013
Digital Print
31½ x 47 inches

Fabrice Monteiro
(Belgian-Beninese, b. 1972)
The Prophecy Untitled #4, 2013
Digital Print
31½ x 47 inches

Jim Chuchu
(Kenyan, b. 1982)
Pagans VIII, 2014
39½ x 39½ inches

Jim Chuchu
(Kenyan, b. 1982)
Pagans XIV, 2014
39½ x 39½ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Teju Cole  
(American, b. 1975)  
*Brazzaville,* 2013  
Archival pigment print, printed 2017  
19 x 32½ inches

Teju Cole  
(American, b. 1975)  
*Black Paper,* 2017  
Archival Pigment Print, printed 2017  
48 x 84 inches

Teju Cole  
(American, b. 1975)  
*Beirut,* May 2016  
Archival pigment print, printed 2017  
26 x 25½ inches

Teju Cole  
(American, b. 1975)  
*Beirut,* May 2016  
Archival pigment print, printed 2017  
19 x 32½ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Mary Sibande
(South African, b. 1982)
A Terrible Beauty, 2013
Archival Digital Print
46½ x 44½ inches

Aida Muluneh
(Ethiopian, b. 1974)
Dinknesh Part One, 2016
Digital Photograph
31½ x 31½ inches

Aida Muluneh
(Ethiopian, b. 1974)
Dinknesh Part Three, 2016
Digital Photograph
31½ x 31½ inches

Aida Muluneh
(Ethiopian, b. 1974)
Dinknesh Part Two, 2016
Digital Photograph
31½ x 31½ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Kudzanai Chiurai  
(Zimbabwean, b. 1981)  
*We Live in Silence III*, 2017  
Pigment ink on Fibre paper Image  
10½ x 8 inches

Alexis Peskine  
(French, b. 1979)  
*Aljana Moons-Twin Carriage*, 2015  
C-Print on Hahnemüle 308gsm paper  
32½ x 48½ inches

Alexis Peskine  
(French, b. 1979)  
*Aljana Moons-Twin Sleeping*, 2015  
C-Print on Hahnemüle 308gsm paper  
32½ x 60½ inches

Alexis Peskine  
(French, b. 1979)  
*Aljana Moons-Twins Horse (detail)*, 2015  
C-Print on Hahnemüle 308gsm paper  
32½ x 48½ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Alexis Peskine
(French, b. 1979)
Aljana Moon- Doudou, 2015
C-Print on Hahnemüle 308gsm paper
33 x 59 inches

Alexis Peskine
(French, b. 1979)
Aljana Moons
Video
6:10 minutes

Alun Be
(French-Senegalese, b. 1981)
Absolution
33 x 46¾ inches

Alun Be
(French-Senegalese, b. 1981)
Kinship
33 x 46¾ inches
IN THEIR OWN FORM

Alun Be
(French-Senegalese, b. 1981)
Potentiality
33 x 46⅝ inches

Zanele Muholi
(South African, b. 1972)
Somnyama IV, Oslo*
39¼ x 32½ inches

*Travel approval pending