

Related Program:

A Familiar and Familial Vessel: An Artist Presentation and Workshop with Lola Ayisha Ogbara
September 24 at Center Days
Artist Presentation at 1pm
Workshop at 2pm

Join us for an artist presentation followed by a hands on workshop at 2pm in the Ceramics Studio. Artist Lola Ogbara will discuss the themes of her exhibition, the inspiration behind her practice, and lead guests through the process of making a clay picture frame for family portraits. The Artist Presentation is open to all. Registration is required for the workshop. Learn more at hydepartart.org/events.

About the Ceramics Apprenticeship:

The Ceramics Apprenticeship Program at Hyde Park Art Center provides a unique opportunity for ceramic artists to work in a community-based arts center during the course of a year. The Ceramics Apprentice receives training by the Ceramics Department Staff in advanced studio skills while developing their work in a supportive environment.

Lola Ayisha Ogbara

Hues of Black & Blue

Gallery 2 and Cleve Carney Gallery
April 10 - September 3, 2022



Lola Ayisha Ogbara, Mabel, 2022, ceramic stoneware with glaze. Photograph by Kalaija Mallery. Courtesy of the Luminary.

Hyde Park **ARTCENTER**

5020 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615 773.324.5520 www.hydepartart.org. Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. The Art Center is funded in part by the: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harpo Foundation; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; Polk Bros. Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of people like you.

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Hues of Black & Blue presents new work by artist Lola Ayisha Ogbara made during her year-long Ceramics Apprenticeship at the Art Center in 2021. Playing on the conceptual and literal contexts of the colors black and blue, Ogbara's sculptural assemblages combine ceramic vessels, along with imagery, sound and domestic objects like stools and tables. Using familiar and unfamiliar spatial aesthetics while pointing out the complexities of emotion, Ogbara resists the flattening of Black feminine identity and reinforces its interstitial dynamism by complicating gazes that reinforce systems of oppression.

“My practice explores the multifaceted implications and ramifications of being in regard to the Black experience. I work with clay as a material in order to emphasize a necessary fragility which symbolizes an essential contradiction implicit in empowerment,” says the artist.



Lola Ayisha Ogbara, *A Bellow of My Laughter Pt. 1*, 2021, Glazed Stoneware

LOLA AYISHA OGBARA (cultural worker & artist) born and raised in Chicago, Illinois holds many talents under her belt, i.e. sculpture, sound, design, photography and installation art. Ogbara holds a Bachelor of Arts in Arts Entertainment & Media Management from Columbia College Chicago in 2013 and a MFA in Visual Arts from Washington University Sam Fox School of Art & Design.

In 2017, Ogbara co-founded Artists in the Room, a collective of artists and scholars who host artists, emerging and established, in hopes of serving as a catalyst for artist development and networking. Ogbara has also received residencies, awards and speaking engagements, including but not limited to, the Multicultural Fellowship sponsored by the NCECA 52nd Annual Conference, the Arts + Public Life and Center for the Study of Race, Politics & Culture Residency at the University of Chicago, and *If It Wasn't for the Woman: Reimagining Portraiture and Power* lecture at the St. Louis Art Museum.

Ogbara has exhibited in art spaces across the country and is currently based in Chicago, Illinois.

