

Ta-coumba T. Aiken

ta-coumbataiken.com

(b. 1952, US)

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Public Fine Artist

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Education

1970-74 Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN

Public Art

2021 *Authentic Dialogue*. Youthprise, Minneapolis, MN

2019 *Shadows at the Crossroads*. Walker Art Center- Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Minneapolis, MN; collaboration with Soyini V. Guyton and Seitu Jones

2019 *Flow*. Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD), Saint Paul, MN

2019 The Selby Milton Victoria Project- Rondo Community Land Trust (exterior enameled murals), St Paul, MN

2018 *Music Lives Here*. Walker West Music Academy, St. Paul, MN

2018 The John Bigger's Seed Project, City Of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN

2018 *Shadow Spirit*. Sculptor Garden, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN: collaboration with Seitu Jones

2017 Hagsfor Center For Science, Business, and Religion, Augsburg University, Minneapolis, MN

2017 *See for Yourself*. The McKnight Foundation Art Collection, Minneapolis, MN

2015 *Celebration*. Ramsey County Human Resources, Saint Paul, MN

2015 *TV Takeover*. Saint Paul Almanac- Live Mural on TPT, St. Paul, MN

2015 *Forever Saint Paul Challenge*. St. Paul Foundation- MN Idea Open, St. Paul, MN; Lite-Brite Mural (reinstallation)

2014 *Biggers Seed Project*. Plan-It Hennepin, Minneapolis MN; co-lead artist with Seitu Jones, master artists John Onye Lockhart, Bing Davis and thirteen merging African American public artists

2013 *March On*. 50th Anniversary of The March on Washington, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Park Recreational Center, Minneapolis, MN

2013 *Forever Saint Paul Challenge*. St. Paul Foundation- MN Idea Open, St. Paul, MN; Lite-Brite mural

2012 *What Is Great?* Great Clips- 30TH Anniversary Mural, Minneapolis, MN

2012 *Peace Mural*. Simply Jane's Studio, Minneapolis, MN

2012 *Charles Landry: A Living Mural*. Talk-It Hennepin, Minneapolis, MN

2012 *Celebrating Our Similarities and Differences*. Institute for Global Citizenship, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

2011 *Absolut Aiken*. Absolut Art Collection, Spritmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden

2011 *Celebrating Our Similarities and Our Differences*. College of St. Scholastica, Duluth Campus, MN

2010 *Paint The Pavement (PTP)*. International Habitat for Humanity Conference and The Rosalind & Jimmy Carter Workforce, St. Paul, MN

2007 *Journey*. Jeremiah Project: Saint Paul Campus, St. Paul, MN

2006 *Living Green Expo*. Collaboration of government agencies, nonprofit groups and businesses, led by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, St. Paul, MN

2006 *Metamorphosis: To Be or Not to Be*. Bloomington Art Center, Bloomington, MN

2006 *On The Move*. Chicago-Lake Transit Station Public Art, Midtown Exchange, Minneapolis, MN

2004 *Stay Nice*. Gillette Children's Hospital, St. Paul, MN; collaborative mural

2003 *Child's Play*. Selby Commons Playground, Twin Cities Housing Corporation, St. Paul, MN

Acquisitions and Commissions

- 2020 *NO WORDS*. Anonymous Gift in Memory of George Floyd (10/14/1973-5/25/2020), Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
- 2020 *Witness: Deep Roots*. Reatha Clark King Award of Excellence- Vocal Essence 30th Anniversary, Minneapolis, MN
- 2019 Jax Apartments- Interior Murals (5), St. Paul, MN
- 2019 Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN
- 2019 Tell Me What You SEE. McKnight Foundation Art Collection, Minneapolis, MN
- 2016 T. B. Walker Acquisition Fund (4), Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN

Grants and Awards

- 2022 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, New York, NY; fellowship- fine arts
- 2017 Award, *Great Minnesota Get Together*. Minnesota State Fair, Saint Paul, MN
- 2013 Guinness World Record, Largest Lite-Brite 596,897 Lite-Brite pegs, Union Depot, St. Paul, MN
- 2005 Kwanzaa People's Award, Rondo Community, St. Paul, MN

Selected Exhibitions

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Just My Imagination*. Red Wing Art's Depot Gallery, Red Wing, MN
- 2022 *Awakening*. DREAMSONG Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2016 *Birth of the Spirit*. TractorWorks, Minneapolis, MN
- 2011 *Breath of Life: Interactive Art / Music Improvisation & Solo Exhibition on Ta-coumba T. Aiken*. McNally Smith College of Music, St. Paul, MN
- 2011 *In The Spirit*. Gordon Parks Gallery - Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN
- 2009 *Healing Hearts Healing Hands*. Inaugural Exhibition Gallery - Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, St. Paul, MN
- 2007-2008 *Call and Response... The Act of Collaboration*. Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MAEP), Minneapolis, MN
- 2005 Thrivent Lutheran Corporation Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2004 *Metamorphosis - To Be or Not to Be*. Bloomington Art Center, Bloomington, MN

Group Exhibitions

- 2022 *Change is God-Take Root Among the Stars: Black Abstraction in the Midwest*. Soo Visual Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN; Curator Gregory J. Rose
- 2022 *ART Speaks*. Minnesota History Center, St Paul, MN
- 2021 *The Fearless Artist-TFAPOPOPUP, Art Basel, Miami Beach, FL*
- 2013 *Dolly Fiterman Collection: Insights into Modern Art*. O'Shaughnessy Educational Center Gallery, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
- 2019 *Five Ways In: Themes from the Collection*. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; Curator Siri Engberg, Senior Curator, Visual Arts; with Jadine Collingwood, Curatorial Fellow, Visual Arts and Alexandra Nicome, Interpretation Fellow, Education and Public Programs
- 2014 *Black and White*. The Gordon Parks Gallery, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN; Joseph Norman
- 2009 *Visual Jazz*. Grand Hand Gallery, St. Paul, MN
- 2007 *Paper Chase: Works on Paper*. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN; Curator Siri Enberg
- 2002 *Return to Spirit House*. Rochester Art Center, Rochester, MN; Ta-coumba T. Aiken, Seitu Jones, and William Slack
- 1977 *2nd World Black and African Cultural Arts Festival (FESTAC)*. National Nigerian Museum, Lagos, Nigeria; International Group Exhibition (USA visual artist representative)