

For immediate release

The Architectural League of New York names Carrie Mae Weems as speaker for the 2024 Wendy Evans Joseph Lecture on Art and Architecture.



Speakers

Carrie Mae Weems
Mabel O. Wilson

Information

Saturday, December 7
2 p.m.
The Cooper Union's Great Hall
General admission: \$15

Contact

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NEW YORK, NY, November 12, 2024—The Architectural League of New York is thrilled to announce artist **Carrie Mae Weems** as speaker for this year's Wendy Evans Joseph Lecture on Art and Architecture. Over the past forty years, Weems has created a body of work using photographs, text, fabric, audio, digital images, installation, and video. In the lecture, Weems will discuss her innovative explorations of history, identity, and cultural narratives. The recipient of the 2022 National Medal of Arts, Weems has made significant contributions to the visual arts and beyond, using her practice to address the most pressing social issues of our time. Her work challenges existing power structures and reimagines how Black identity is represented in art and society.

A now annual event, the re-launch of this important lecture series reflects The Architectural League's long standing commitment to fostering interdisciplinary dialogue around architecture, art, and the built environment. Carrie Mae Weems's exploration of how power, culture, and community are represented through artistic practices will resonate deeply with audiences interested in the intersections of art, activism, and urbanism.

“[Weems’s] work, from the *Kitchen Table Series*, to *Roaming*, to the multidisciplinary installation and profound 2021 convening for *The Shape of Things*, to the *Painting the Town* series made in the wake of the murder of George Floyd, situates our lives as social and political beings. Space is not neutral, but rather it is key to orienting human relationships at the domestic and urban scale—in the rooms, monuments, and stage sets she records and creates.”

— Mario Gooden, President, The Architectural League

The event will take place at 2 p.m. in The Cooper Union's Great Hall on Saturday, December 7 with a public reception to immediately follow. This lecture offers a unique opportunity to hear from one of today's most influential and celebrated contemporary artists. The lecture will be followed by a conversation with **Mabel O. Wilson**, chair of Architecture and African American and African Diaspora Studies and the Nancy and George Rupp Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University GSAPP.

General admission tickets are available for \$15. Architectural League members and Cooper Union students, faculty, and staff receive free admission with prior registration. For more information and to register to attend, visit archleague.org.

Support

This lecture is endowed by Wendy Evans Joseph.

This event is organized by The Architectural League and co-presented by The Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture at The Cooper Union. League programs are also made possible, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

About Carrie Mae Weems

Since the 1980s, Weems's work has been seen around the world in exhibitions that include *Reflections for Now* at Barbican Art Gallery in London and *The Evidence of Things Not Seen*, organized by Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart and shown at Kunstmuseum Basel. Her panoramic video installation *The Shape of Things*, shown almost continuously in museum venues since its 2021 premiere at the Park Avenue Armory, was on view in New York City at Gladstone Gallery through November 9, 2024. In addition to her solo work, Weems has led multiple collective public art projects and multidisciplinary performances, collaborating with activists, artists, students, musicians, poets, theorists, and writers.

Weems's many accolades include a MacArthur Foundation fellowship, a U.S. State Department's Medal of Arts, a Joseph Hazen Rome Prize Fellowship from the American Academy in Rome, and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award. Her work is included in the collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA); The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; and Tate Modern, among others. Weems works and lives in Syracuse, New York.

About Mabel O. Wilson

Mabel O. Wilson is the Nancy and George Rupp Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and chair of African American and African Diaspora Studies at Columbia University GSAPP. With her practice Studio&, she was a member of the design team for the Memorial to Enslaved Laborers at the University of Virginia. In 2021, she co-curated the exhibition *Reconstructions: Architecture and Blackness in America* at the Museum of Modern Art. Among her many publications, Wilson most recently co-edited the volume *Race and Modern Architecture: From the Enlightenment to Today* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2020).

About the Wendy Evans Joseph Lecture Series

The Wendy Evans Joseph Lecture on Art and Architecture is an annual lecture that showcases artists whose work addresses the built environment, and humanity's impact on the earth and other living things.

About The Architectural League

The Architectural League of New York supports critically transformative work in the allied fields that shape the built environment. As a vital, independent forum, the League stimulates thinking, debate, and action on today's converging crises of racism, inequity, and climate change, in service of a more livable and just world.

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