



Firelei Báez, *Untitled (Le Jeu du Monde)*, 2020

Seminar on Contemporary Art

Topic: Black Ecologies in Contemporary Art

ARHS 4349
Spring 2023

Wednesday 2:00 pm - 4:50 pm

This course examines how the art of black ecologies functions to highlight several crises including: industrial pollutants, food insecurities, contaminated water supplies, asbestos problems, lead poisoning, toxic/hazardous wastes, governmental apathy and negligence in ways that also consider creative solutions and alternatives. The visual arts, visual and material culture, and performance provide an exceptional lens to address black ecologies. Many contemporary artists are responding to environmental crisis, colonial legacies, the trappings of eco-tourism, agrarian labor rights, neo-colonial tropes of landscape, and other black ecological concerns in their aesthetic practices. The visual archive is a generative resource that supports the immediacy of these issues through active learning, technologies, and work to accommodate diverse learning styles.

Dr. Tashima Thomas