

*a plastic vase painted silver
if life has a base that it stands upon
the least important of materials*

Jared Buckhiester, Walker Evans, Robert Gober, and Nancy Shaver

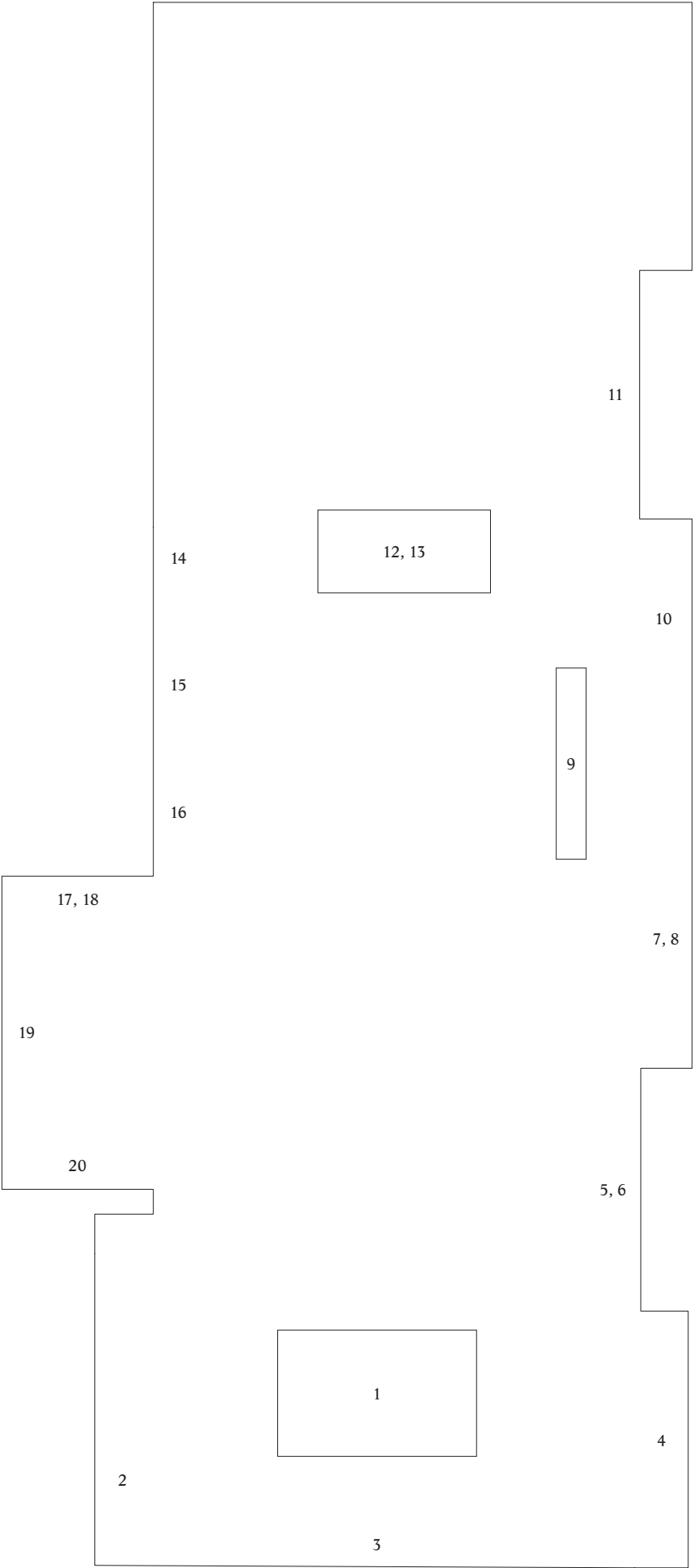
A plastic vase painted silver consists of three discrete installations, and runs through February 10, 2026. The exhibition, and each of its installations, includes works by Jared Buckhiester, Walker Evans, Robert Gober, and Nancy Shaver—four artists who began their adult lives using a camera, all from the United States, with this country foregrounded in nearly all of the subjects they chose. Shaver’s direct and personal relationship with the other three artists in this show is the initial tether for the group.

Years before developing a friendship with Evans, Shaver purchased a copy of *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men* from the MoMA bookstore. The Evans photograph of Floyd Burroughs’s bedroom fireplace, as decorated by his wife, Allie Mae, printed inside the book, affirmed what Shaver was coming to understand in her early life as an artist.

In an artist talk given at Virginia Commonwealth University in 2012, Shaver revealed, “This interior and this photograph taught me that I could look for art in the least important of materials.”

This statement serves as a guide for the selection of works in this exhibition. The three installations are loosely grouped into themes that connect the four practices—both disparate and intertwined. These themes include, but are not limited to, beauty, honesty, respect or objectivity, literature, complexity, and love. This installation is the first iteration of the three, and like the other two that follow, represents 98 years of continued making.

Following the exhibition, a catalogue will be published featuring texts by the four contributing artists, alongside images of the artworks, installation views, and research materials related to the exhibition.



1. Robert Gober
Untitled, 2004–2025
Bronze and paint
6 ½ × 25 ¼ × 47 inches
(16.5 × 64.1 × 119.4 cm)
2. Jared Buckhiester
And Not Knowing a Soul in Town, 2017
Oil on canvas in artist frame
13 ⅞ × 16 inches (35.2 × 40.6 cm)
3. Nancy Shaver
The Making of Americans, 1975-6
Black and white photograph
10 ⅞ × 13 ⅞ inches (27.6 × 35.2 cm)
4. Walker Evans
[Table, Fireplace, and Pictures on Wall of Floyd Burroughs's Bedroom, Hale County, Alabama], 1936
Silver gelatin print
image: 9 ¾ × 7 ¾ inches (24.8 × 19.7 cm)
5. Nancy Shaver
In The Garden, 1975-6
Black and white photo in found frame
overall: 11 × 14 ¼ inches (27.9 × 36.2 cm)
6. Nancy Shaver
4 Naples Yellow squares, 2018
Wooden blocks, dress fabric, paper, Flashe acrylic
14 × 14 ¼ × 3 ¼ inches (35.5 × 36.2 × 8.3 cm)
7. Nancy Shaver
Sears Catalog, c. 1970
Photo collage
overall: 13 ½ × 13 inches (34.3 × 33 cm)
8. Jared Buckhiester
King Flower of His Flock (Soup) I, 2021
Archival inkjet print
8 × 12 inches (20.3 × 30.5 cm)
framed: 22 × 20 inches (55.9 × 50.8 cm)
9. Nancy Shaver
Drawing post #5, 2020-2021
Metal, cardboard, fabric, paper,
newspaper, Flashe acrylic, pencil, and oil pastel
59 × 36 × 2 inches (145 × 91 × 5 cm)
10. Jared Buckhiester
Counting The General Good, 2024
Charcoal on newsprint
36 × 24 inches (91.4 × 60.9 cm)
11. Robert Gober
Untitled, 1976–1977
Black and white photograph
image: 6 × 9 inches (15 × 23 cm)
12. Jared Buckhiester
The Remembered Part, 2025
Glazed stoneware and mason stain and walnut
13 × 15 × 5 ½ inches (33 × 38.1 × 14 cm)
13. John Jackson
[Childhood drawing], 1956
Pencil on paper
8 ½ × 10 ½ inches (21.6 × 26.7 cm)
14. Robert Gober
Death Mask, 2008
Plaster, watercolor, graphite
10 × 6 ¼ × 7 inches (25 × 16 × 18 cm)
15. Nancy Shaver
Untitled, 1973
Gelatin silver print
overall: 11 ½ × 9 ½ inches (29.2 × 24.1 cm)
16. Nancy Shaver
Crooked Box, White Curve, 2006
Wooden box, cardboard boxes, flashe acrylic
9 × 13 × 6 inches (22.8 × 33 × 15.2 cm)
17. Nancy Shaver
My Fathers Collection, 1975-6
Black and white photo in found frame
overall: 10 ⅞ × 14 inches (27.6 × 35.6 cm)
18. Robert Gober
Untitled Shoe, 1990
Red casting wax
3 × 2 ⅝ × 7 ½ inches (8 × 7 × 19 cm)
Edition 32 of 35
19. Nancy Shaver
Landscape, 2018
Canvas panels, cotton tapestry fabric made in Italy
overall: 29 ½ × 28 ¾ inches (74.9 × 73 cm)
20. Walker Evans
[Painting Under Tree], 1973-74
Polaroid facsimile
3 ⅛ × 3 ⅛ inches (7.9 × 7.9 cm)