

*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

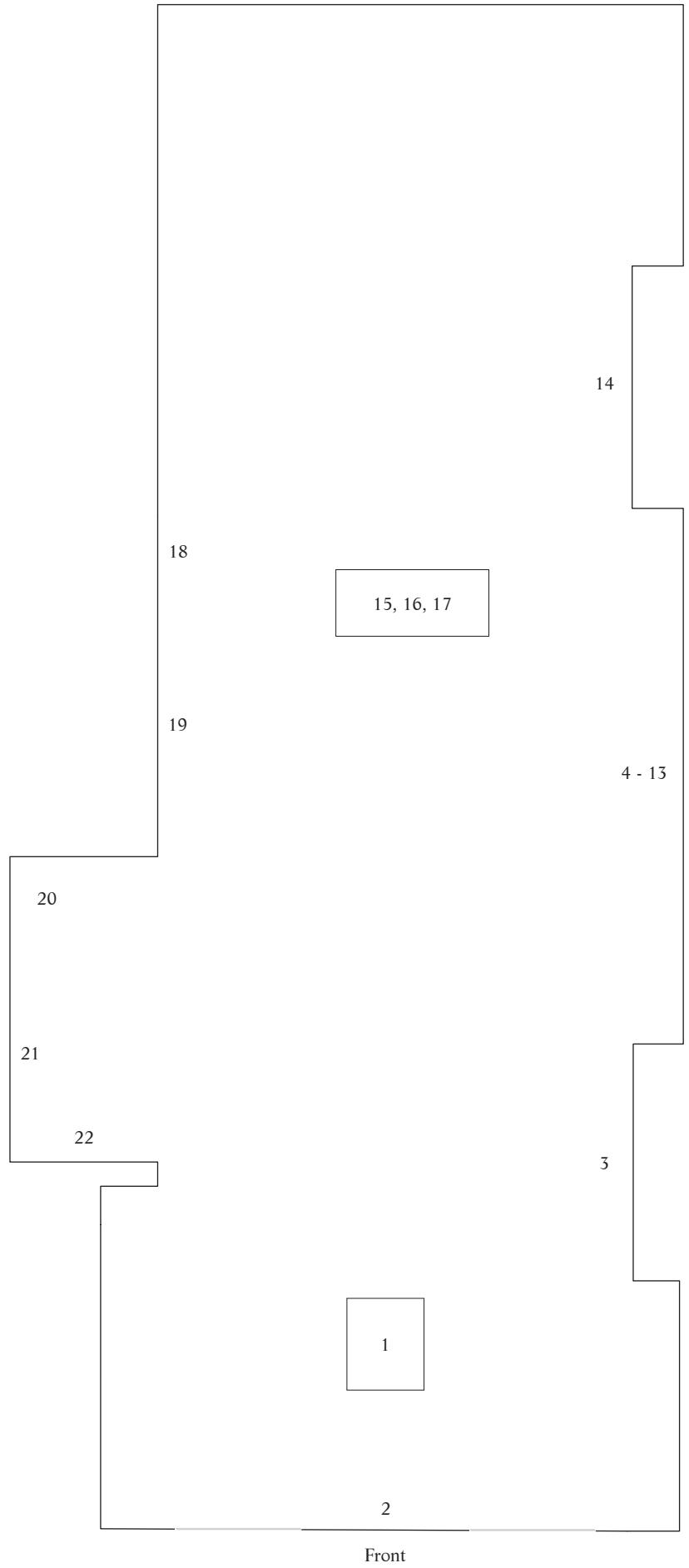
A plastic vase painted silver consists of three discrete installations, and runs through February 14, 2026. The exhibition, and each of its installations, includes works by Jared Buckhiester, Walker Evans, Robert Gober, and Nancy Shaver—four artists who began their adult lives using a camera, all from 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 third iteration of the three, and like the other two, represent 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. Jared Buckhiester
A wish to travel blind, 2025
Porcelain
18 x 9 x 8 inches (45.7 x 22.8 x 20.3 cm)

2. Robert Gober
Untitled, 2021
Graphite, colored pencil,
and pastel on found drawing
8 3/8 x 6 7/8 inches (21 x 18 cm)

3. Nancy Shaver
From the Wall Project, 2022 - 2025
Wooden blocks, dress fabric, paper, Flashe acrylic
10 x 10 1/4 x 3 inches (25.4 x 26 x 7.6 cm)

4 - 13. Nancy Shaver
Untitled, 1973
Gelatin silver print
image: 4 1/4 x 6 1/4 inches (10.8 x 15.9 cm)

14. Walker Evans
Untitled [Bicycle Drawing], 1974
Pencil on brown paper bag
sheet: 15 1/4 x 11 inches (38.7 x 27.9 cm)

15. Robert Gober
Untitled, 1996 - 2025
Painted plaster, Plastilina, acrylic paint
8 1/2 x 7 x 4 inches (22 x 18 x 10 cm)

16. Nancy Shaver
Untitled, 1973
Gelatin silver print
image: 4 1/4 x 6 1/4 inches (10.8 x 15.9 cm)

17. Nancy Shaver
Inherited Table, 1970
Wood, spools
24 1/2 x 12 1/2 x 28 inches (62.2 x 31.6 x 71.1 cm)

18. Jared Buckhiester
Untitled, 2025
Oil on linen
12 x 11 inches (30.5 x 27.9 cm)

19. Jared Buckhiester
Don't believe them if they said
I never loved you, 2023
Oil on linen
13 x 11 inches (23.3 x 27.9 cm)

20. Robert Gober
Untitled, 1984
Plaster, wire lath, wood, semigloss enamel paint
12 x 16 1/2 x 16 1/2 inches (31 x 42 x 42 cm)

21. Nancy Shaver
Courtesy, 1975-6
Black and white photograph
10 7/8 x 13 7/8 inches (27.6 x 35.2 cm)

22. Nancy Shaver
Untitled, 1973
Gelatin silver print
image: 4 1/4 x 6 1/4 inches (10.8 x 15.9 cm)