

Sojourn
Allen-Golder Carpenter
April 25-26 , 2026
Camden Art Centre, London, UK

Working across film, sound, installation and performance, Carpenter's interdisciplinary practice explores memory, erasure and the unstable conditions through which histories are constructed and transmitted. Sojourn unfolds these concerns through layered temporal and material registers.

Sojourn marks Allen-Golder Carpenter's UK debut at Camden Art Centre. First presented within his largest solo exhibition to date at Tick Tack, Antwerp, the film will be shown alongside a new installation and a debut live performance including a live interpretation of the film's score performed by Richie Culver.

The evening will open with a conversation between Carpenter and Cynthia Igbokwe, followed by a screening and reinterpretation of the score featuring a chain guitar performance by Richie Culver, and concluding with a live performance from Carpenter set to the back drop of the film, as well as new installation that contextualizes the film, the installation titled "A Burial At The Black Sea, For A Civil Death", large scale paintings mounted on black structures housing a projection within of depictions of Hip-Hop culture, the large scale black paintings act as a wall of "Blackness" asserted in physical space, hiding and attempting to protect the cultural artifacts behind it. The installation is surrounded by a sea of urine test cups used for drug testing of those on criminal probation, it operates as a monument to those that have suffered a "civil" death, the state of living through incarceration, surveillance, persecution, and the deprivation of civil liberties.

Sojourn is heavily inspired by the film Evangelion: 2.0 You Can (Not) Advance, Sojourn weaves these elements into a layered meditation on memory, transformation, and the instability of historical perspective. In the film, Carpenter constructs a fractured cinematic language to explore the fragility of memory and the violence of erasure. Through a poetic interplay of image, text, sound, and spoken word, the film reflects on the cyclical nature of life and death—not as abstraction, but as lived experience shaped by systemic neglect and historical distortion. Following the titular character on their journey from the afterlife to the living world and back again, encountering several spirits while on a quest to find fragments of their lost name. Sojourn presents a layered, unresolved attempt to hold onto what history often pushes aside—especially the lives, voices, and losses of Black communities whose stories are too often overwritten.

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