



## ***THE BUCKET***

Otis College of Art and Design

9045 Lincoln Blvd | Los Angeles | 90045

May 8 - May 14, 2023



The Senior Fine Arts class of Otis College of Art and Design brings to you the group show, *The Bucket*, including works by the American artist SUNI MULLEN. Over three years in thought and planning, the exhibition will include a selected culmination of MULLEN's art produced to date while at Otis College of Art and Design. Much of MULLEN's work deals with advocating for critical thinking as a vessel towards self-determination and the affirmation of the black woman's agency as a signifier for purpose, meaning, and the invitation to imagine.

SUNI MULLEN to a great degree is one of the most audacious artists working today. Through close to a decade, she has investigated language, surreal landscapes in video editing, and diaristic paintings, scaling investments in the mediums that best articulate her ideas. Despite pulling from global perspectives, she is driven to develop imaginative landscapes often of rebellion, care, vengeance, and empathy for Black Americans and niggas alike. Embracing "the spectrum of dissonance in pursuit of [her] own curiosity" MULLEN is invested in capturing contemporary languages in the mediums they present themselves; somatically, socially culturally, economically, satirically, ironically-- negotiating those flexibilities and highlighting temporal drags that are culturally accepted colloquially.



## ***THE BUCKET***

Otis College of Art and Design

9045 Lincoln Blvd | Los Angeles | 90045

May 8 - May 14, 2023

### **LANGUAGE AND HUMOR**

The history of American slavery with its perpetuation into contemporary times is a driving force for the artist. In her work, both linguistically and conceptually the artist applies humor in a perspective that rests in arming themselves with the ability to fight back both physically and psychologically. Her new-found landscape is without repercussions liberating herself from arrestment in the practical and very real-world of America. Language is manipulated and used boldly as it naturally expresses itself in intimate settings now broadcasted in sterile spaces exercising somatic, cultural, and linguistic powers. In her latest essay, *Properly, American: The Genius Effect and "The Posture of Openness" | Black, Female, and Academic- An Earthquake in Whiteness*, she writes, "whiteness is not the plot over here". Likening herself to a comedian, Mullen explores all the ways in which she is able to maximize her agency in critically expressing the importance of navigating the apex of discussions back in her court leaning into radical acceptance of difference without the need for permission.