



The Phygital Funk

DIGITAL CREATORS

GALLERY GUIDE

March 24 - May 28, 2023



About **moda**

MECCA OF
DIGITAL ARTS

The Phygital Funk: Digital Creators exhibition opening aligns with a significant moment in the Gantt's pursuit of digital transformation. Mecca of Digital Arts (MODA) is a new addition to the Gantt's second floor corridor featuring a unique state-of-the-art studio and innovation lab designed to facilitate various forms of digital art by providing cutting-edge equipment, software, and mentorship. By creating a safe space for exploration, personalized education, and meaningful discussions with peers and mentors, MODA fosters a community built on shared accountability, visibility, and collaborative success. This exhibition features an engaged group of artists who are using MODA's technology to continue to evolve their creative processes.

SCAN TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MODA



Photography by Ben Premeaux



The Phygital Funk: Digital Creators Exhibition

March 24 - May 28, 2023

The Phygital Funk: Digital Creators exhibition, organized by Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts+Culture, is a unique exhibition that will showcase the diverse and dynamic works of digital creators from our community.

From interactive installations to multimedia works, this exhibition celebrates innovative ways that artists are using technology to push the boundaries of creativity. This exhibition includes works that explore a wide range of themes and techniques, from the use of virtual reality to the implementation of artificial intelligence (AI).

Upon exploring the exhibition, viewers will encounter works that challenge perceptions of reality and interact with art in new and exciting ways.

THE PHYGITAL FUNK FEATURED ARTISTS

[ADomOriginal](#)

[Junior Gomez](#)

[Ori.Jai](#)

[Dominique Katan](#)

[Lavon \(EV\)](#)

[Quincy Woodard](#)

[FART.PDF](#)

[Nigel Malone](#)



Nigel Malone, *True & Living*, 2022.



Quincy Woodard, *Unspoken Mask (detail)*, 2023.

QUINCY WOODARD

ARTIST STATEMENT

"Born and raised in Long Island, New York, I grew up in a city richly rooted in African and African American traditional art, and found myself inspired by local museums and the city's large graffiti scene. My work is heavily influenced by the art I was exposed to in my youth. My goal as an artist and an educator is to bring representation to the field of design through the use of cultural iconography like symbols, language, norms, values, and artifacts."

"The Phygital Funk is not only a celebration of our new Digital Arts Studio but also an exciting partnership with the creative community that we seek to support. Many of the artists featured in this exhibition are open to mentoring emerging artists and providing learning opportunities for the broader community."

- **Angel Butler**, *The Phygital Funk: Digital Creators Exhibition Curator*

NIGEL MALONE

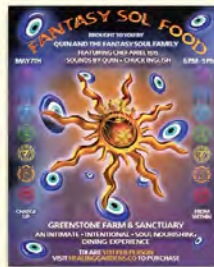
ARTIST STATEMENT

"As an artist contributing to the museum exhibit, *The Phygital Funk*, I am proud to showcase my film photography and graphic work that represent my black family and the powerful people that made me the man I am today. Through my artwork, I aim to convey the message that positive imagery of black families is crucial. In the mainstream media, we are often bombarded with depictions of broken black families and the trauma that comes with it. I want to counter that narrative by highlighting the beauty and strength of black families."

FART.PDF

ARTIST STATEMENT

“Event flyers and adverts combine esoteric references for the purpose of summoning many to a specific time and location. Their effectiveness relies not purely on the information provided but a collective memory and cultural appeal. Music lyrics are similar in the way they appeal to my subconscious ideals. By following the breadcrumbs of my glee as it matures and refines, I am able to distill these influences to showcase a variety of creative outcomes.”





Dominique Katan, *Lajè De Vi / Breadth of View (detail)*, 2023.

Blending Technology and Artistic Expression

“As the digital arts program coordinator at the Gantt, I strive to encourage creativity and innovation in our students by exploring how technology and art intersect. We equip artists and creatives with the necessary technical skills and conceptual knowledge to succeed in a rapidly changing digital world. At the same time, we understand the importance of presenting, preserving, and celebrating traditional art forms and techniques. By recognizing the unique value of each approach, we encourage creatives to integrate these approaches in their work, spark conversations, provoke thought, and inspire others to see the world through a new lens.”

- **Dominique Katan**, Digital Arts Program Coordinator

About the Gantt Center

The Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture is a multidisciplinary arts institution located in the heart of Charlotte, North Carolina. Founded in 1974, the Gantt Center’s mission is to present, preserve, and celebrate excellence in the art, history, and culture of African-Americans and those of African descent through visual and literary arts, dance, music, film, educational programs, theatre productions, and community outreach. The Gantt Center features fine art exhibitions from around the world and is home to the nationally celebrated John and Vivian Hewitt Collection of African-American Art, which was generously donated by Bank of America, and is accessible online.

Join us on socials! @HBGanttCenter



Harvey B. Gantt Center
for African-American Arts+Culture

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