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Tony Lewis Selected for Rose Art Museum Artist-in-Residence Award

By Grace Halio

The Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, has named Tony Lewis as the winner of its Ruth Ann and Nathan Perlmutter Artist-in-Residence Award. For his residency, Lewis will create a site-specific mural next week that will go on view at the Rose. It will be the Chicago-based artist's first solo museum presentation in the Northeast. The exhibition, to open October 15 and continue into June 2018, will showcase Lewis's consideration of the relationships between drawing, language, and abstraction, according to an announcement.

Lewis creates large-scale drawings, often in monochromatic tones, that manipulate the meanings of words, letters, and phrases in the service of work about language systems and means of communication. His site-specific piece for the Rose, titled *Plunder*, draws inspiration from Ta-Nehisi Coates's book *Between the World and Me* (2015), in which the author writes of "the plunder of black life" as "an heirloom, an intelligence, a sentience, a default setting to which, likely to the end of our days, we must invariably return."



Tony Lewis Courtesy Rose Art Museum

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