

Shikeith: People Who Die Bad Don't Stay in the Ground

September 11 – November 22, 2025

On-View: September 11 – November 22, 2025

Opening Reception: September 11, 2025, 6-9 PM



Shikeith (American, b. 1989)

Phantasmatic Apparatus, 2025

Archival Inkjet Print on Photo Rag Baryta Paper 48" x 60" (124.5 x 152.5 cm)

Inspired by a resonant line from Toni Morrison's seminal novel *Beloved*, *People Who Die Bad Don't Stay in the Ground*, delves deeply into visual artist Shikeith's ongoing investigation of the hauntological encounters and lived realities of Black men and boys. Through a rich and varied multidisciplinary practice encompassing photography, video, and installation, the exhibition chronicles the enduring legacy of historical traumas and their persistent reverberations across successive generations, actively resisting attempts at erasure and historical amnesia. Shikeith's otherworldly aesthetic intricately situates the experiences of Black men and boys within a disquieting temporal collapse, where the weight of the past does not merely inform the present, but relentlessly intrudes upon it, perpetually reshaping contemporary existence. This exhibition offers a space to contemplate the intergenerational impact of injustice within the backdrop of a fraught history that remains unreconciled and continues to impact the lives of those whose narratives have often been silenced, yet continue to call out to us from beyond.

TILT Institute for the Contemporary Image
Gallery Open Wed. - Sat. 12 to 6pm
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