

# Portraiture's Breaking

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REED'S VISUAL ART MUSEUM

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THROUGH DECEMBER 5, 2021
REED CLASSES WELCOME

Organized by the Reed student and faculty curators of the **No Face No Case Collective.** 

All works generously donated by **The Peter Norton Collection** to the Reed College Art Collection.

Laura Aguilar
Nayland Blake
Georganne Deen
Omer Fast
Ann Hamilton
Jim Hodges
Y.Z. Kami
Mariko Mori
Yasumasa Morimura
Catherine Opie
Andres Serrano
Gary Simmons
Nari Ward

## No Face, No Case: Portraiture's Breaking

September 9 – December 5, 2021

For visiting appointments, please email: <a href="mailto:cooley@reed.edu">cooley@reed.edu</a>

Organized by the curators of the No Face, No Case Collective

ARTISTS: Laura Aguilar; Nayland Blake; Georganne Deen; Omer Fast; Ann Hamilton; Jim Hodges; Y.Z. Kami; Mariko Mori; Yasumasa Morimura; Catherine Opie; Andres Serrano; Gary Simmons; and Nari Ward

How do we relate to images of the self when the self is in a state of breakdown? How do we contend with artworks that claim to represent others? These are some of the central concerns of the Cooley Gallery exhibition *No Face, No Case: Portraiture's Breaking.*Composed of painting, photography, sculpture, and video, the works in the exhibition confront portraiture's complex historical status as a site of power, capital, and innocence. Made by a group of visionary artists between 1990 and 2005, the works in *No Face, No Case* demand a reconsideration of portraiture's agency and legibility. The works also speak to police and government surveillance tactics intended to accuse individuals by capturing their faces. So while many of the works in *No Face, No Case* may not look or feel like portraiture, they all force an encounter with the self.

The works in the exhibition were donated to the Reed College Art Collection by the Peter Norton Collection. Peter Norton is a Reed College alumnus (class of '65), emeritus trustee, celebrated arts patron, and philanthropist who became a serious art collector in the late 1980s, commissioning the work of LGBTQ+ and BIPOC artists during the AIDS crisis and the Culture Wars, and supporting major museum exhibitions—most notably the *Black Male* exhibition organized by then Whitney curator Thelma Golden, which took place at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1994.

**No Face, No Case: Portraiture's Breaking** was organized by the *No Face No Case Collective*—the fifteen students and three instructors of the fall 2020 Reed College Art

History course Making an Exhibition. including Cooley curator Stephanie Snyder. The collective carefully researched and considered the more than seventy works of art donated to the college by Norton. This included the close reading of art historical, philosophical, and critical texts that elucidated the conceptual underpinnings of Norton's collecting project. The curators' experience of researching *No Face, No Case* was incontrovertibly influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the national reckoning with anti-black racism that defined 2020. Working over Zoom, the curators struggled to communicate through the software's often pixelated, uncanny limitations. These conditions mirror the increasingly refracted, serialized, and revolutionary nature of contemporary visual culture.

**No Face, No Case: Portraiture's Breaking** is presented as part of the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art's 2021 Time-Based Art Festival. The Cooley extends its warmest thanks to PICA for over fifteen years of generative collaboration.

Stephanie Snyder (she/her)
Anne and John Hauberg Director and Curator
Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery
Reed College
3203 SE Woodstock Blvd.
Portland, OR 97202

Instagram: @cooleygallery Cooley office: 503.517.7851

www.reed.edu/gallery



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No Face No Case, Portraiture's Breaking is an exhibition and related events organized by the No Face No Case Collective, the fifteen students and three instructors of the fall 2020 Reed Art History course Art 353: Making an Exhibition.

The Collective researched the more than seventy works of art donated to the college by renowned contemporary collector and Reed alumnus Peter Norton (class of '65). This included identifying and discussing art historical, philosophical, and critical texts that broadened, critiqued, and illuminated the conceptual underpinnings of Norton's collecting practices and the exhibition.

The curators' experiences were shaped by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the national reckoning with anti-black racism that defined 2020. Working over Zoom, the curators struggled to communicate through the software's pixellated, often uncanny environment.

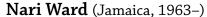
No Face No Case Collective: Anika Banister '22, Sherry Chiang '22, Hannah Cohen '23, Iki Edreva '22, Harriet Enriquez '21, Pixie Freeman '21, Emma Ganger-Spivak '21, Anna Guyton '22, Ruby McShane '22, Bhavana Panchumarthi '23, Aliza Phillips '21, Ben Read '21, Annaje Rious '23, Victoria Wolf-Llop '21, Victoria Xiao '22, art historian Kris Cohen, art historian William Diebold, and curator Stephanie Snyder '91.

No Face, No Case is dedicated to Reed art historian William J. Diebold on the occasion of his retirement from the college after four decades of dedicated and inspired teaching, as well as his outstanding work collaborating on exhibitions, seminars, and other artistic mischief with the Cooley Gallery.

Special thanks to Cooley collections manager and exhibitions coordinator Colleen Gotze, for her careful and dedicated work without which the exhibition would not have been possible.







Lorraine, 1999
Screen printing, thermography, photography, business card, and photograph on Somerset Velvet 300g 38.25 x 30.25 in. (97.16 x 76.84 cm)
Edition 20/50, from the "Exit 99" portfolio published in 1999 by Exit Art, New York, NY (1982–2012)
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

Andres Serrano (New York, NY, 1950–)
Blood and Semen V, 1990
Silver dye bleach print
25.25 x 32.25 in. (64.14 x 81.92 cm)
Edition 7/25, from the "In a dream. . ."
portfolio published in 1991 by Photographers and Friends United against AIDS (1989–1995)
Reed College Art Collection
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Andres Serrano (New York, NY, 1950–)

Red River #10, 1992 [menstrual blood]

Four-color serigraph

27.75 x 27.75 in. (70.49 x 70.49 cm)

Edition 34/100, from the "10: Artist as Catalyst"

portfolio published in 1992 by the Alternative

Museum, New York, NY (1975–)

Reed College Art Collection

Gift of the Peter Norton Collection





### Yasumasa Morimura (far left)

(Osaka, Japan, 1951–)

Psychoborg 18, 1994

Color photograph on aluminum

61 x 39.75 in. (154.94 x 100.97 cm)

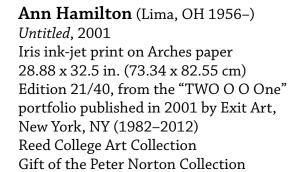
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Yasumasa Morimura (left, in Cooley foyer)
(Osaka, Japan, 1951–)
Self-Portrait (Actress), After Charlotte
Rampling, The Night Porter, 1994
Cibachrome print
29.5 x 24.5 in. (74.93 x 62.23 cm)
Edition 19/25
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection







Catherine Opie (Sandusky, OH, 1961–)
Daddy Irwin and Mark, 1994
Chromogenic print
41 x 31 in. (104.14 x 78.74 cm)
Edition 1/8
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection





far left:

Catherine Opie (Sandusky, OH, 1961–)
Ron Athey/Sebastian from the series
Martyrs & Saints, 2000
Unique Polaroid
110 x 43.5 in. (279.4 x 110.49 cm)
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

left:

Catherine Opie (Sandusky, OH, 1961–)
Ron Athey/Pearl Necklace from the series Trojan Whore, 2000
Unique Polaroid
108 x 43.5 in. (274.32 x 110.49 cm)
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

note: The artist's gallery insists that we use these exact images for our exhibition publication. The image quality is wonderful, but the images have been cropped at the bottom. The installation shots from the Cooley show the entire work, there will be two "versions" of the work in the catalog.



**Georganne Deen** (Fort Worth, TX, 1951–)

If I'm Possessed, 1998

Oil, collage on linen

36 x 24 in. (91.44 x 60.96 cm)

Reed College Art Collection

Gift of the Peter Norton Collection



**Georganne Deen** (Fort Worth, TX, 1951–) *A Child's Garden of Criticism*, 1996 Oil, collage on linen 60 x 96 in. (152.4 x 243.84 cm) Reed College Art Collection Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

Nayland Blake (New York, NY, 1960–)

Cart, 1994

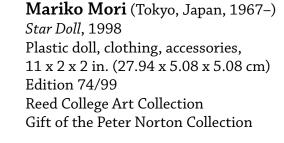
Stuffed bunny, wooden "coffin," wheels

10 x 4.5 x 14.5 in. (25.4 x 11.43 x 36.83 cm)

Edition 1/2

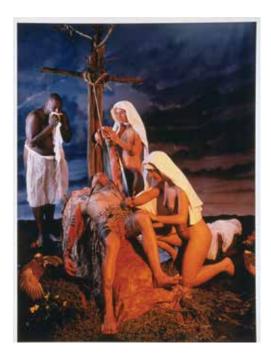
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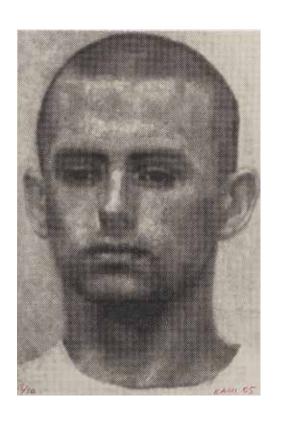




Catherine Opie (Sandusky, OH, 1961)
Saints, 1997
Chromogenic print
62 x 40 in. (157.48 x 101.6 cm)
Edition 2/5
Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

Omer Fast (Jerusalem, Israel, 1972–) CNN Concatenated, 2002 Video on DVD, 18:00 min. Dimensions variable Edition 3/5 Reed College Art Collection Gift of the Peter Norton Collection





Y.Z. Kami (Tehran, Iran, 1956–)

Untitled, 2005

Iris ink-jet on Somerset Velvet

Edition 18/50, from the "Tantra portfolio"
published in 2005 by Exit Art,

New York, NY (1982–2012)

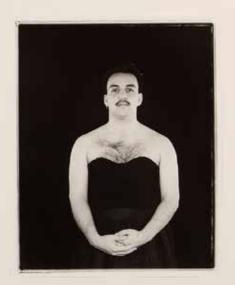
39.75 x 28.75 in. (100.97 x 73.03 cm)

Reed College Art Collection

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# above:

Laura Aguilar (San Gabriel, CA, 1959–2018) Clothed / Unclothed Series No. 20, 1993 Gelatin silver prints 29 7.8 x 59.75 in. (73.66 x 151.77 cm) Edition of 10 Reed College Art Collection Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

### below:

Laura Aguilar (San Gabriel, CA, 1959–2018) Clothed / Unclothed, Series No. 34, 1994 Gelatin silver prints 29.88 x 42.25 in. (75.88 x 107.32 cm) Edition of 10 Reed College Art Collection Gift of the Peter Norton Collection











Jim Hodges (New York, NY, 1957–)

Really (for Felix Gonzalez-Torres), 2000

Double-sided Iris print with custom pedestal
22.88 in. (70.49 x 58.1 cm)

Dimensions variable

Reed College Art Collection

Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

below:

Gary Simmons (New York, NY, 1964–) again and again, 2001
Silkscreen print, silkscreen mesh, rubber squeegee Dimensions variable
Edition 21/50, from the "TWO OO One" portfolio published in 2001 by Exit Art, NY, NY (1982–2012) Reed College Art Collection
Gift of the Peter Norton Collection

note: Artist Gary Simmons defines the work of art entitled again and again as consisting of both object-based and human elements that must all be realized for the artwork to exist. The framed print on the wall relays instructions that curators must follow in order to silkscreen the words "again and again" in the space; but museums are neither required nor encouraged to display the silkscreen fabric (see the blue screen at left).





