Tony M. Bingham

Multi-disciplinary artist Tony M. Bingham lives and works in Birmingham, AL. Bingham received his B.A. in Communications from Antioch College, an MA in Film and Community Media from Goddard College, and an MFA from Georgia State University. Bingham's research and resulting work explore communities and public space – sites of enslaved, extractive, or industrialized labor – throughout Alabama including Fairfield, Helena, Panola, Tannehill, and Titusville. Through his sculptures, large-scale photography, and found audio work, Bingham makes reference to unmarked burial sites and vernacular headstones and calls into question where, how, and who we collectively remember. Bingham currently teaches humanities and studio art at Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama. "I hope to be in conversation with like minded people who incorporate ancestral spirits in their thoughts and art making."



Root Work Journal - Convening in the Ark - Volume 1, Issue 1

Ancestral Light Capture: Camera Obscura

Tony M. Bingham Miles College - Birmingham, Alabama tonymbingham@yahoo.com

To cite this work: Bingham, T. M. (2020). Ancestral Light Capture: Camera Obscura. Root Work Journal, 140–141. https://doi.org/10.47106/4rwj.11044739

To link to this work: https://doi.org/10.47106/4rwj.11044739

Ancestral Light Capture: Camera Obscura -...light rays entering the eye and light rays entering the glass globe placed inside a small camera obscura - Codex Atlanticus, fol 337, ca 1500 Leonardo Da Vinci..".I select cast off materials to create my cameras, and with them, construct an imagery that interprets the humanity of a cast off people". "A Second of Your Time" Prospect 1.5 Biennial 2010, New Orleans. I found fragments of glass bottles and glass shards, through wanderings in the back spaces of buildings behind the town square in Marion, Alabama and in the East Smithfield community in Birmingham. a community erased through highway construction. Those glass fragments (Da Vinci's" Glass Globe"), functioned as a lens for allowing the light to pass through, capturing the spiritual memories of those black folks who last touched the glass. The passage of the light from the glass fragments was embedded onto the film, which had been placed inside my small camera obscura/pinhole camera.

