



**Media Alert:**

**Conceptual Artist Rodney McMillian Brings His *Hanging with Clarence*  
Theatrical Performance to Park Avenue Armory's Artists Studio, October 15**

**Work Resurfaces Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas'  
Conservative Views on Social Programs, Race, and Sexual Harassment as  
Recent SCOTUS Decisions Veer Country Right**

**WHAT:** Park Avenue Armory presents conceptual artist, writer, and performer **Rodney McMillian's** *Hanging with Clarence* on **Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 7pm and 9pm** in the Veterans Room as the next program in the acclaimed Artists Studio series. Based on Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas' polarizing 1985 commencement address at Savannah State University—rich with conservative views on social programs and race—this performative work weaves Thomas' words with funk-rock songs written by McMillian, George Clinton, and Fuzzy Haskins to blow open the current discourse on history, race, and identity politics.

Supported by backup singers Shauna Howard and Tekeytha Fullwood, McMillian invites the audience to remember, analyze, and rework history to inform both the current and future discourses. The resulting happening is part musical theater salon, part rock concert, and part spiritual testimony that all perfectly intertwine to further the artist's ongoing exploration of history, race, and identity politics.

The Armory presentation will be the New York premiere of *Hanging with Clarence*. McMillian has previously performed this work at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Compton, California, presented by The Underground Museum and the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

**WHERE:** Veterans Room  
Park Avenue Armory  
643 Park Avenue between East 66<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> Streets  
New York, NY 10065

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 15, 2022  
7:00pm and 9:00pm show times

**TICKETS:** \$45 (plus fees)  
Tickets are available for purchase online at [armoryonpark.org](http://armoryonpark.org), through the Box Office in person at 643 Park Avenue, or by phone at (212) 933-5812, from 10am to 6pm, Monday through Friday.

**WHO:** Rodney McMillian (b. 1969) is a conceptual artist known for his multimedia works that explore the politics of race, gender, and class. He received a BA in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia in 1991 and then studied art at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, and the

California Institute of the Arts, where he received an MFA in 2002. He is now a professor of sculpture at the School of Arts and Architecture at UCLA. McMillian's work has been shown in numerous exhibitions around the world, including the UCLA Hammer Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Hering Art Museum in Denmark, the Royal Academy in London, Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art, and the Whitney.

**HEALTH & SAFETY:** As of September 26, the Armory will no longer require audience members to show proof of vaccination to enter the building. Additionally, masks will be encouraged but will no longer be required at performances. We will continue to follow government and CDC guidelines and adjust policies as needed for the safety of our staff, artists, and audiences.

**SPONSORS:** Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Armory's 2022 Season Sponsor.

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**Media Contacts**

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